

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

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

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The Scottish Parliament is in recess until 3 September 2018.

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Debate

Family Visitor Visas

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-09/debates/276864D0-6324-4C48-AEE6-AA007C9CB666/FamilyVisitorVisas>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

Immigration: Pausing the Hostile Environment

David Lammy (Labour): May I ask the Minister of State if she will make a statement on the decision to pause the hostile environment ...

Reply from the Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes): I welcome the opportunity to respond to this question, and I want to make our position very clear.

We have put in place additional safeguards to ensure that legal migrants are not inadvertently caught up by measures designed to tackle illegal migration. It is right that we make a clear distinction between those who are here legally and those who are not. We have made it clear that it is not acceptable that those of the Windrush generation have been impacted negatively, and this Government have apologised.

We are keeping under constant review the safeguards that were immediately put in place. We have introduced a temporary pause in the proactive sharing of Home Office data with other organisations, including banks and building societies, for the purpose of controlling access to services. Data on persons over 30 has been excluded from sharing, to ensure that members of the Windrush generation are not inadvertently affected. This is a temporary measure. We are also providing additional support to landlords, employers and public service providers through the Home Office checking service to ensure that we are not impacting the Windrush generation. We have issued new guidance that encourages employers and landlords to get in touch with the Home Office checking service if a Commonwealth citizen does not have the documents they need to demonstrate their status. We have issued similar guidance to other Government Departments providing public services.

The Home Secretary has said that it is his top priority to right the wrongs that have occurred. A lessons learned review, which will have independent oversight, will help to ensure that we have a clear picture of what went wrong and of how we should take this forward. We are carrying out a historical review of removals and detentions. At the same time, our taskforce is helping to ensure that those who have struggled to demonstrate their right to be here are supported to do so, and we have committed to setting up a compensation scheme.

David Lammy: It is important to put on record the fact that immigration has brought considerable benefits to this country. We saw last night in England's World Cup team 11 of the players from black or mixed-race heritage backgrounds. That is a tribute to the modern diversity of this country. When the Secretary of State took up his position a few weeks ago, he said that he wanted a decent system, a fair system and a system that treated people with respect. Is it respectful to slip out this information during yesterday's World Cup spectacle? Is it respectful for the Minister's Department still not to be able to tell us how many people have been detained? Is it respectful not to have any information about a transparent hardship scheme for those who are still in trouble? Is it respectful to have said nothing about whether the Minister is going to allow for a proper appeals system?

Will the Minister confirm that these changes are not just for the Windrush generation and that they are in fact for everyone who has been affected by the hostile environment? She talks about a "pause", but why not scrap the hostile environment that is bringing this country into disrepute? Will she also confirm that we will no longer be asking teachers, nurses, doctors and landlords to act as the country's border enforcement in the months and years ahead?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The right hon. Gentleman has raised a number of important points. First, I want to make it clear that it was the former Home Secretary who requested the pausing of proactive data sharing with other Government Departments, and that that started in April. That is a temporary measure. However, the data sharing cannot be recommenced without my ministerial consent, and it is certainly not something that we will begin again until we are confident that we will not be impacting members of the Windrush generation further.

The right hon. Gentleman mentioned hardship, and of course our first priority has been to help people to secure their status through the taskforce. We have put in place a dedicated team for vulnerable people, whom we are linking up with other public sector bodies to ensure that they get the support they need. I chaired a

cross-ministerial group early on in all this, and I was impressed by the steps that the Department for Work and Pensions in particular had taken to ensure that those affected would be able to have their benefits reinstated, indeed retrospectively, from the moment that they demonstrated that they had an appointment with the Windrush taskforce.

When conducting our review of those who may have been detained, it is important that we are meticulous. It would be wrong to come out with a number that we were not confident about and we will ensure that, as soon as we have figures that we are content are accurate, which will go through the same independent assurance process that we used for removals, they will be made available to the House.

The taskforce's first priority is to ensure that those who are assisted achieve status, and that has happened in the vast majority of cases. Those over whom some question remains will have access to an administrative review and, in due course, could proceed to a judicial review if that were appropriate. Obviously, we do not want it to come to that.

As I have said previously and as the Home Secretary has made clear, we have sought to ensure that mitigations are in place for the measures that are within the compliant environment that have impacted the Windrush generation. As I said earlier, we have paused proactive data sharing for all nationalities for people over 30. However, it is important to reflect that compliant environment policies commenced a significant time ago under a previous Labour Administration, and it is also important that this Government have ways of identifying those who are actively accessing services in this country to which they are not entitled.

John Hayes (Conservative): The right hon. Member for Tottenham (Mr Lammy) deserves the praise and has the admiration of the whole House for how he has championed the Windrush generation, and he is of course right that this was an outrage. However, does the Minister appreciate that that generation, who came here believing this to be, in the words of the shadow Home Secretary, their "mother country" and who are proud patriots, take just as dim a view as any of the rest of us of those who behave illegally or improperly? The point is that the Windrush generation were not illegal or improper and that they do not condone illegality. In doing right by the Windrush generation and being unrelenting in their defence, will the Minister be equally unrelenting in dealing with people who abuse the system and try to cheat them and us?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: I thank my right hon. Friend for his question. He and the right hon. Member for Tottenham (Mr Lammy) have been right to pay tribute to the immigrants who have come to this country and contributed so much to our society and way of life, giving us the multicultural Britain that we enjoy today. However, my right hon. Friend is right to point out that this Government continue to be determined to take action against people who are here illegally, and the suite of measures that enables us to do that remains in place.

To continue reading the very lengthy question and answer session see

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-12/debates/BF264F96-D3C6-4DCB-ADDD-B8F442102EC8/ImmigrationPausingTheHostileEnvironment>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Immigration: Compensation

The following three questions all received the same answer

Anneliese Dodds (Labour Co-op) [160358] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much compensation his Department has paid to persons entitled to reside in the UK for mistakes that were made under the hostile environment policy since October 2010.

Anneliese Dodds (Labour Co-op) [160359] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home

Department, in how many cases compensation has been paid for mistakes under his Department's hostile environment immigration policy since October 2010.

Anneliese Dodds (Labour Co-op) [160360] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether his Department has paid compensation for mistakes under its hostile environment immigration policy with the condition that the recipient did not publicise that payment since October 2010.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Home Office records indicate that £12,360 has been paid in compensation in relation to 8 cases, since 2010. 7 of the payments were made to persons entitled to reside in the UK.

Home Office records indicate that no compensation has been paid with the condition that the recipient did not publicise that payment since 2010.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-03/160358/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-03/160359/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-03/160360/>

Immigration: Appeals

Angela Crawley (SNP) [161209] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what the average wait for an immigration appeal tribunal is from time of decision to tribunal date in the most recent period for which figures are available.

Reply from Lucy Frazer: HM Courts & tribunals service (HMCTS) does not hold data measuring the time from a Home Office decision.

HMCTS has worked extensively to reduce waiting times and in response to a higher level of receipts than forecast, increased the number of judicial sittings to deal with incoming receipts and reduce the live caseload. This has seen the live caseload nearly halve from 64,800 to 36,300 between June 2016 and March 2018 and the average waiting time has now begun to improve from 45 weeks in 2017 to 37 weeks in the period January to March 2018. Further improvement will follow.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-05/161209/>

British Nationality: Applications

Kate Hollern (Labour) [159627] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the reasons are for the disparity between the application cost and the administration cost of applications for child citizenship.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office sets fees at a level that helps provide resources necessary to operate the Border, Immigration and Citizenship (BIC) system.

The Immigration Act 2014 is the primary legislation which gives them statutory powers to set fees. The relevant sections of the Act relating to fees are 68 to 70 which can be found on pages 58 to 61 of the following link:

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/22/pdfs/ukpga_20140022_en.pdf

Section 68(9) states:

(9) In setting the amount of any fee, or rate or other factor, in fees regulations, the Secretary of State may have regard only to:-

(a) the costs of exercising the function;

(b) benefits that the Secretary of State thinks are likely to accrue to any person in connection with the exercise of the function;

(c) the costs of exercising any other function in connection with immigration or nationality;

(d) the promotion of economic growth;

(e) fees charged by or on behalf of governments of other countries in respect of comparable functions; and

(f) any international agreement

We set fees to reflect the wider benefits an individual will receive from a successful application and do not limit fees to the cost of processing an application also. This was a fundamental principle underpinning the fees measures in the Immigration Act 2014, as debated and approved by Parliament.

Working within strict financial limits agreed with HM Treasury and Parliament, application fees are set by taking into account general policy objectives to ensure that fees are fair to customers, and that the Home Office can continue to offer a good level of service.

To ensure that the system is fair and equitable, the Home office believe it is reasonable that those who use and benefit directly from the BIC system make an appropriate contribution towards meeting the associated costs.

Application fees have increased in recent years to help support the Home Office ambition to reduce the overall level of funding that comes from general taxation, by reducing costs and increasing the proportion which is funded by income generated from fees, therefore reducing the burden on the UK taxpayer.

The principle of charging at above cost for immigration and nationality fees was first approved by Parliament in 2004.

The additional income from above cost fees is used to help fund and maintain effective wider immigration system functions, and to ensure the Home Office can set some fees at below cost, where this supports the UK economy (Short-term visit visas), or is otherwise required by international agreement (EEA fees). And it also enables the Department to waive fees in certain individual circumstances, for example where people are destitute and need to access their Human Rights, for example their right to a family life.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-02/159627/>

British Nationality: Ethnic Groups

The following three questions all received the same answer

Afzal Khan (Labour) [160832] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many black and minority ethnic young people as defined by the British Nationality Act 1981 have been refused citizenship due to being judged to be not of good character in each year since December 2012.

British Nationality: Children in Care

Afzal Khan (Labour) [160833] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many young people under local authority care as defined by the (a) British Nationality Act 1981 and (b) Children Act 1989 have been refused citizenship due to being judged to be not of good character in each year since December 2012.

British Nationality: Young People

Afzal Khan (Labour) [160834] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the British Nationality Act 1981, what steps his Department has taken to ensure that the guidance it issues on good character for young persons meets its statutory responsibilities in relation to (a) safeguarding and (b) making the best interests of the child a primary consideration in decisions; and if he will make statement.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The good character test for British citizenship applies to those aged 10 and over, in line with the age of criminal responsibility. Decisions on citizenship applications from minors are made taking into account the Home Office's statutory obligations under Section 55 of the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009 to have due regard to the best interests of the child.

Guidance for caseworkers considering applications for British citizenship is publicly available on Gov.uk. This is in the process of being updated to clarify a

number of issues, including application of the good character requirement for young persons.

Figures relating to citizenship applications, including decisions to refuse where the applicant is found to not be of good character, are included in the latest Home Office quarterly migration statistics published on 24 May and available on Gov.uk.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-04/160832/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-04/160833/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-04/160834/>

British Nationality: Ilois

Catherine West (Labour) [160793] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for citizenship have been made by Chagossians in the last year.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The information available on applications for British citizenship broken down by the applicants' nationality is published in the quarterly Immigration Statistics, Citizenship volume table cz_01_q_a at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-year-ending-march-2018/list-of-tables#citizenship>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-04/160793/>

Visas: Skilled Workers

Kate Osamor (Labour Co-op) [160786] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will bring forward legislative proposals to exclude strike action from limits on unpaid leave for tier-2 visa migrants.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: It is not the Government's policy to prevent migrant workers from engaging in legal strike action. I am not aware of any case where a migrant worker has had their leave curtailed, or been removed, as a result of engaging in lawful industrial action.

However, to put the matter beyond doubt, we will shortly be amending the guidance and Immigration Rules for Tier 2 and 5 migrants and their sponsors. This change will make clear that there will be no immigration consequences for any migrant worker who takes part in legal strike action.

The guidance will be amended as soon as possible, and I will be amending the relevant Immigration Rule at the next available opportunity in the Autumn.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-04/160786/>

Migration Advisory Committee

The following three questions all received the same answer

David Drew (Labour Co-op) [161989] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he has asked the Migration Advisory Committee to publish an interim report on the (a) patterns of EU migration and (b) role of migration in the wider economy.

David Drew (Labour Co-op) [161990] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether his Department offered guidance on any specific recommendations the Migration Advisory Committee may make when it publishes its report on the pattern of EU migration and the role of migration in the wider economy.

David Drew (Labour Co-op) [161991] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the timetable is for the implementation of any recommendations from

the Migration Advisory Committee report on the pattern of EU migration and the role of migration in the wider economy.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We will make decisions on the future immigration system based on evidence and engagement, which why on 27 July 2017 we asked the independent Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to advise on the economic and social impacts of the UK's exit from the EU and also on how the UK's immigration system should be aligned with a modern industrial strategy.

The MAC is due to provide a final report in September and published an interim report on 27 March which is available at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/migration-advisory-committee>

In parallel with recent Tier 2 changes regarding the limit, we have also commissioned the MAC to undertake a full review of the composition of the Shortage Occupation List. This review will enable the MAC to look at which posts are in national shortage and should be given priority within the Tier 2 cap in future. That review will conclude in Spring 2019.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-09/161989/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-09/161990/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-09/161991/>

Migrant Workers: Veterinary Medicine

David Drew (Labour Co-op) [161988] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he discussed the inclusion of veterinarians working in meat hygiene on the Shortage Occupation List in his last meeting with the Migration Advisory Committee; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: On 15 June, the Government announced a temporary change to the Tier 2 (General) cap. This is designed to address particular pressures facing the NHS at the current time but will mean that more spaces will be freed up within the cap for other sponsored high-skilled occupations, including vets. This change came into effect on 6 July and will be kept under review.

In parallel, we have commissioned the independent Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to undertake a full review of the composition of the Shortage Occupation List. This review will enable the MAC to look at which posts are in national shortage and should be given priority within the Tier 2 cap in future. That review will conclude in Spring 2019.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-09/161988/>

Immigration: Windrush Generation

David Lammy (Labour) [160671] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, which third sector organisations will be working with her Department on the Windrush compensation scheme; and what their role in that process will be.

Reply from Caroline Nokes; We are exploring delivery options for the Windrush Compensation Scheme and how third sector or other organisations could help those affected to access the scheme. This will be subject to the results of a public consultation exercise on the compensation scheme, which will be published in due course, and normal procurement rules.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-04/160671/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [161142] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the additional resources the Independent Chief Inspector for Borders and Immigration will require to monitor EU citizens' rights.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration (ICIBI) will continue to inspect the Border and Immigration System, which includes the processing of EU citizens' cases, as set out in statute and the ICIBI's published inspection plan covering 2018-2020.

The ICIBI is resourced to deliver against this inspection plan, and as such there are no immediate plans to undertake an assessment of additional resource requirements.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-05/161142/>

Immigration: Applications

The following two questions both received the same answer

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [161145] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions he has with user groups on the proposed fees for an application for settled status.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [161146] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether his Department will provide financial assistance to low-income applicants for settled status.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: As I set out in my Statement to the House on the EU Settlement Scheme (OR col X, re June 2018), applications for the EU Settlement Scheme will cost £65 for adults, with a reduced fee of £32.50 for children under 16. There will be no fee for looked after children. The process will be particularly straightforward for those who already hold a valid permanent residence or indefinite leave to remain document, which they will be able to exchange for settled status free of charge.

The application process is being designed with users in mind, and the Home Office is engaging regularly with stakeholders. This includes monthly meetings of user groups including those who represent EU citizens in the UK, employers, EU27 consulates and the European Commission, and groups representing vulnerable users, to discuss and understand their needs for the EU Settlement Scheme.

We have published the fees now in order to give EU citizens and their family members clarity and sufficient time ahead of the deadline (for those who are resident by 31 December 2020) of 30 June 2021, to apply for documentation.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-05/161145/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-05/161146/>

The statement referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-21/debates/F9399B0C-6967-4F2C-BF14-FCD3F4DEBC4A/EUSettlementScheme>

Immigration: Domestic Violence

Joanna Cherry (SNP) [159641] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what information his Department holds on the number of people who have received leave to remain (a) under the destitution domestic violence concession and (b) as a victim of domestic violence under paragraph 289B of the Immigration Rules in each of the last three years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The published statistics relating to individuals granted leave to remain under the destitution domestic violence concession and

Indefinite Leave to Remain in the United Kingdom as a victim of domestic violence are recorded together as part of published Migration Statistics and can be located via the link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>
<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-02/159641/>

Immigration: Domestic Violence

Joanna Cherry (SNP) [159642] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether his Department has made an assessment of the potential merits of providing a period of respite for victims of domestic abuse to seek legal advice before deciding whether to access the destitution domestic violence concession; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: This Government remains committed to tackling incidents of domestic abuse.

We have consulted on what more can be done to protect domestic abuse victims through a 12-week public consultation exercise that closed on 31 May.

We are currently analysing the 3,200 plus responses received and will carefully consider what future courses of action are necessary. The existing Destitute Domestic Violence Concession (DDVC) provides eligible individuals with a period of three months' leave outside the immigration rules, allowing them to seek legal advice or other support.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-02/159642/>

Refugees

Kerry McCarthy (Labour) [161122] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what criteria his Department uses to determine whether to accept refugees recommended for resettlement in the UK by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has well-established procedures and criteria for identifying and resettling the most vulnerable refugees. This includes: Legal and or Physical Protection Needs; Survivors of Torture and/or Violence; Medical Needs; Women and Girls at Risk; Family Reunification; Children and Adolescents at Risk and Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions. Further information on UNHCR 'Submission Categories' can be found on the UNHCR website

<http://www.unhcr.org/558bff849.pdf>

When refugees arrive in the UK they have all been through a thorough two-stage vetting process. We retain the right to reject individuals on security, war crimes or other grounds.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-05/161122/>

Refugees: Families

Paul Girvan (DUP) [162137] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many refugee families have been re-united under the Government's family reunion scheme in the last 12 months.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: There is available information relating to the number of Family Reunion entry clearance visas granted and is published in the Home Office publication 'Immigration statistics, year ending March 2018', Asylum data tables Volume 5, table as_21_q, available from

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-march-2018>.

Exact information on the number of refugee families re-united under the Government's family reunion scheme is not available.

Refugees: Syria

The following two questions both received the same answer

Fiona Bruce (Conservative) [162050] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many (a) Yazidi, (b) Christian and (c) other religious or ethnic minority Syrian refugees have been resettled in the UK in each quarter since the start of 2016.

Fiona Bruce (Conservative) [162051] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps the Government is taking to support and resettle (a) Yazidi, (b) Christian and (c) other religious or ethnic minority Syrian refugees.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: In resettlement, the UK works according to the humanitarian principles of impartiality and neutrality which means that we do not take into consideration the ethno-religious origins of people requiring assistance as we resettle solely on the basis of needs, identified by UNHCR through their established submission categories.

We believe that one way to protect the privacy of those being resettled and ensure their recovery and integration is to limit the amount of information about them that we make publicly available. We therefore do not believe it is appropriate to publish a religious and ethnic breakdown of those who have been resettled.

We are working with UNHCR and other partners to intensify their outreach to groups that might otherwise be reluctant to register for fear of stigma/discrimination and unaware of the safe space and options available to them. This includes all religious minorities.

In all of the countries from which we resettle Syrian refugees, mobile registration teams, outreach teams, and Help Desks for areas where different minority groups are concentrated are used to facilitate registration and access to services. This is all part of an effort to facilitate registration for those refugees who for whatever reason cannot, or choose not, to access the main registration offices.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-09/162050/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-09/162051/>

Asylum

Alex Sobel (Labour Co-op) [160373] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department is taking to ensure that it meet its targets for the time taken to make decisions on applications for asylum.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office has a Service Standard to make an initial asylum decision on straightforward claims within 182 days of the date of claim however we are aware of the number of older cases in the system. These are more complex cases which generally have barriers that prevent an initial asylum decision being made. These barriers are often varied and require time to clear. However, the Home Office has plans to improve the speed at which outstanding asylum claims are decided. These include rolling recruitment campaigns to maintain decision maker levels, a staff retention strategy to ensure it retains its highly skilled asylum decision makers, and the further expansion of digital processes to increase case working flexibility.

Information regarding Asylum data is published as part of the Government's Transparency agenda the latest release of which can be found on Table Asy_11 and can be found at:

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

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-03/160373/>

Asylum: English Language

Alex Sobel (Labour Co-op) [160372] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether his Department plans to allow asylum seekers waiting for a decision to have access to free ESOL classes.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Not everyone who makes their own way to the UK to seek asylum will be found to have valid claims to be refugees and many will have travelled through other safe countries to get to the UK. The Government does not fund English classes for asylum seekers.

Asylum seekers aged 19 or over become eligible for a 50% contribution to the costs of English language classes through the Adult Education Budget, when they have been legally in the UK for longer than six months and are awaiting a decision on their asylum claim, or have failed in their claim but have been granted support under the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-03/160372/>

Asylum: Children

The following two questions both received the same answer

Yvette Cooper (Labour) [146111] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many minors who entered the UK after January 2014 under the Dublin Regulation, or as part of the Calais camp clearance in 2016, were granted discretionary leave under rule 352ZC of the immigration rules and were subsequently denied further leave; and what the nationality of these minors was.

Yvette Cooper (Labour) [146112] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many children transferred to the UK under s67 of the Immigration Act 2016 (a) have been granted asylum, (b) have been granted discretionary leave, (c) have a pending asylum claim and (d) have been granted any other form of leave.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: On arrival into the UK under the EU Dublin Regulation, the expedited family process operated during the clearance of the Calais camp and section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016, all unaccompanied children transferred from Europe claim asylum and their claim is considered in line with our asylum processes.

The requested data is not held in a straightforward way on our systems. We are working to see if the data can be extracted from Home Office systems and assured to the right quality for publication.

In keeping with our commitments in the legislation under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016, and in line with those granted Refugee or humanitarian protection leave, individuals relocated under section 67 who do not qualify for international protection and who meet the requirements will be granted section 67 of the Immigration Act leave. This means that they will have the right to study, work, access public funds and healthcare and apply for indefinite leave to remain without paying a fee after five years.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-21/146111/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-21/146112/>

Immigrants: Detainees

The following two questions both received the same answer

Barry Sheerman (Labour Co-op) [137931] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether records are kept on the religion of people detained in immigration removal centres; and if she will make a statement.

Barry Sheerman (Labour Co-op) [137932] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people detained in immigration removal centres have identified

as (a) Christian, (b) Sikh, (c) Muslim, (d) Jewish, (e) Hindu and (f) atheist in each of the last five years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Under Rule 21 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001, if detainees on admission to an immigration removal centre (IRC) wish to declare that they belong to a particular religion, that information must be recorded. This information is recorded by the IRC service providers on their own internal detainee management systems and is used to inform the religious provision available at the IRC.

Due to the differing recording methods in place at each of the individual centres information on the religion of people detained in IRCs in each of the last five years could only be provided at disproportionate cost.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-25/137931/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-25/137932/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Angela Crawley (SNP) [161204] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people being held in immigration detention centres have been in those centres for over (a) one year, (b) two years and (c) three or more years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office publish data on the number of people in detention as at the end of each quarter, by length of detention. The data is available in table dt_11_q of the detention tables.

The latest available data are as at 31 March 2018 and are published in 'Immigration Statistics, year ending March 2018' at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/709326/detention-mar-2018-tables.ods

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-05/161204/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Angela Crawley (SNP) [161206] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many pregnant women have been held in immigration detention centres since 2015; and for how long each of them were held.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Section 60 of the Immigration Act 2016, which came into force on 12 July 2016, placed a 72 hour limit on the detention of pregnant women for the purposes of removal, extendable to up to a week in total with Ministerial authorisation.

It may not always be appropriate for healthcare professionals to disclose confidential medical information that the patient has asked not to be disclosed. Subject to these constraints, Home Office management information for the period 12 July 2016 to 30 June 2018 indicates that from 12 July-31 December 2016, 27 pregnant women were detained in the immigration detention estate; in 2017, 53 and in 2018, 23 (to 30 June). Of these women, one was detained for 102 hours with Ministerial authorisation.

Information on the detention of pregnant women prior to 12 July 2016 is not held centrally, and providing it would incur disproportionate cost.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-05/161206/>

Detention Centres: Sexual Offences

Angela Crawley (SNP)[161205] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many incidents of rape and sexual assault have been reported at immigration detention centres since 2015; and how many women reporting those incidences have

subsequently been deported.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We expect the highest standards from those we entrust with the safety and welfare of those in detention.

Management information for the most recent period available shows that there were 25 allegations of sexual assault (which includes allegations of rape) made by detainees against staff at immigration removal centres between financial year 2014/15 (the earliest year for which data is available for the entire detention estate) and 2017/18. Of these 25 allegations, 2 were made in 2014/15, 3 in 2015/16, 6 in 2016/17 and 14 in 2017/18. This is provisional management information that is subject to change. It has not been assured to the standard of Official Statistics.

All complaints made by detainees at an immigration removal centre (IRC) are investigated by the IRC supplier in accordance with Detention Services Order 03/2015. Any allegations of serious misconduct made by a detainee against staff at an IRC are also referred to the Home Office Professional Standards Unit for investigation. Where a detainee, or someone on behalf of a detainee, alleges that a member of staff has committed a sexual offence against them the police will automatically be notified, even if the detainee does not wish the matter to be reported or to make a formal complaint.

Information on the number of women who have been deported or administratively removed following an allegation of sexual abuse or rape while in detention is not held centrally and could only be provided at disproportionate cost.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-05/161205/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

Immigration: Hostile Environment

... **Lord Kennedy of Southwark (Labour Co-op):** My Lords, whatever the name, hostile or compliant, with the introduction of the Immigration Acts of 2014 and 2016 by the Prime Minister, people lawfully here in the United Kingdom have been treated shamefully. How will the suspension [of the hostile environment] work? In three months' time, do the Government intend to share the data that would have been shared over that three-month period, when the temporary pause comes to an end? What are they doing to ensure that the data are accurate, as the errors in data shared leave the injustice highlighted by the scandal?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The noble Lord will know that it is not simply the 2014 and 2016 Acts that have led to what is now called the compliant environment. He will recall that, back in 1997, right to work checks were introduced. Of course, there have been right to rent checks and addition on addition of compliant environment checks to ensure that people who are in this country to work and live are so lawfully. So it is not just the 2014 and 2016 Acts. Over time, identity assurance has increasingly been a requirement.

As for the paused proactive data-sharing arrangements, we have paused it as he says with other government departments and delivery partners on data for all nationalities over 30 years old, which takes us back to 1988, for a period of three months. My right honourable friend this morning undertook to make an assessment of it from that point. That covers HMRC, the DWP and the DVLA. We have also gone further with access to financial services measures and significantly restricted proactive data sharing with banks and building societies via Cifas for persons subject to deportation action due to criminal activity. ...

Lord Paddick (Liberal Democrat): The Home Office Committee is reported as saying that, unless the Home Office is overhauled, the scandal will happen again for another group of people. For example, there is nothing in this Statement about the fact that

officials in the Home Office are being put under pressure by being given targets for removals from the UK. How can officials use their discretion and compassion if they have to deport another 10 people by the end of the week?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The noble Lord will have heard the previous Home Secretary talk about previous targets for removal, which there were, and which had stopped for this year—they had been ceased. There were no targets for the deportation of criminals. But the noble Lord got to the nub of the point. The Home Office and the new Home Secretary have said that we need to take a far more humane approach to dealing with people—because these are people and not just numbers. I hope the noble Lord will agree that the way in which the Windrush issue has been dealt with under the leadership of the new Home Secretary has been more than humane. He has put a prime focus on ensuring that anybody inadvertently removed by the compliant environment measures that were in place are proactively sought, and remedial action will be taken to ensure that, through the compensation scheme, any hardship they have suffered will be recompensed in due course. The noble Lord is right in the sense that the culture needs to be changed—the new Home Secretary talked about that as well—to understand and recognise that we are dealing with human beings here. ...

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-07-12/debates/9CCF1528-B955-47A8-A48F-A2E3AB51210C/ImmigrationHostileEnvironment>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Immigration

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL8998] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether changes to the number of years of residence in the UK that are required before applying for permanent settlement under European Community Association Agreement (ECAA) visa regulations, introduced on 15 June, will apply to ECAA visa holders already in the UK.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Home Office has announced new Immigration Rules to enable Turkish nationals who are in the UK as either European Communities Association Agreement (ECAA) business persons or ECAA workers, as well as their family members, to apply for indefinite leave to remain. All ECAA business persons, workers and their family members who meet the relevant conditions will be eligible, including those who are already in the UK.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-26/HL8998/>

Immigration

The following three questions all received the same answer

Viscount Waverley (Crossbench) [HL9205] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 25 June (HL8588), whether references to family members include non-EU citizens who are the (1) spouses, (2) civil partners, and (3) durable partners of UK citizens (a) before, and (b) after the UK leaves the EU.

Viscount Waverley (Crossbench) [HL9206] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 14 May (HL7540), whether references to family members include non-EU citizens who are the (1) spouses, (2) civil partners, and (3) durable partners of UK citizens (a) before, and (b) after the UK leaves the EU.

Viscount Waverley (Crossbench) [HL9207] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 8 May (HL7441), whether references to family members include non-EU citizens who are the (1) spouses, (2) civil

partners, and (3) durable partners of UK citizens (a) before, and (b) after the UK leaves the EU.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: In line with the *Surinder Singh* caselaw, except where the family members are EU citizens exercising Treaty rights, the spouses and civil partners of UK nationals have EU law residence rights in the UK only in limited circumstances. This is where they have resided together as family members in another EU Member State where the UK national was genuinely exercising their Treaty rights, before returning to the UK. This provision does not extend to durable partners.

Although not covered by the Withdrawal Agreement, it is our intention that spouses and civil partners of UK nationals who have genuinely exercised their free movement rights in another EU Member State before returning to the UK before the end of the implementation period, on 31 December 2020, will also be eligible to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme. As per *Surinder Singh*, we do not intend for the relevant provisions of the scheme to extend to durable partners of British citizens.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-03/HL9205/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-03/HL9206/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-03/HL9207/>

Written answer HL8588, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-12/HL8588/>

Written answer HL7540, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-05-02/HL7540/>

Written answer HL7441, referred to above, can be read at

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

Information about the “Surinder Singh” immigration route, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/family-permit/surinder-singh>

Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

Lord Bilimoria (Crossbench) [HL9214] To ask Her Majesty's Government what criteria they used to determine which countries qualified for the recent relaxation of Tier 4 visa requirements for overseas students; and of those, which were not met by India.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The addition of new countries and competent authorities to Appendix H is based on objective data. The factors which are considered include the volume of students from a country and their Tier 4 immigration compliance risk. We will keep Appendix H under review, adding and removing countries and competent authorities from this list, based on objective criteria at each refresh.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-04/HL9214/>

Immigrants: Health Services

Lord Marlesford (Conservative) [HL9243] To ask Her Majesty's Government what was the revenue from the immigration health surcharge for each year since it was introduced; and what is the estimated revenue for the current year.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Immigration Health Surcharge was introduced in April 2015. Information on income collected from Immigration Health Surcharge payments since then is reported annually in the Home Office Annual Report and Accounts.

Information on income collected for the 2015/16 financial year can be found on pages 134 & 135 of the following report:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/539638/HO_AR_16_gov.pdf

Information on income collected for the 2016/17 financial year can be found on page 117 of the following report:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/627853/ho_annual_report_and_accounts_2016_2017.pdf

Information on income collected for the 2017/18 financial year will be made available in the 2017/18 Home Office Statement of Accounts which is due to be laid in the House on 12 July 2018.

In relation to the estimated revenue for the current year, by precedent, the Home Office does not release current year data until the accounts are closed and the figures audited by the National Audit Office. The NAO's role is to inspect and agree the accounts: were we to release any estimates/figures now, we may later find that the auditors will ask us to amend/change the figures, rendering any early releases of data incorrect. Consequently, we may need to re-issue the answer to the PQ, because parliament would have been misled. Information on income collected for the current financial year will be made available in the 2018/19 Home office Statement of Accounts.

[HO Annual Report - 2015-16 - Page 115](#)

[HO Annual Report 2015-16 - Page 134](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-04/HL9243/>

Social Services: Migrant Workers

Lord Cooper of Windrush (Conservative) [HL8967] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many workers from (1) other EU countries, and (2) non-EU countries were employed in the UK's adult social care workforce in each of the last five years.

Reply from Lord O'Shaughnessy: Skills for Care, the workforce development organisation for social care, collects data on the number of adult social care workers by nationality in England.

The number of adult social care workers from within the European Economic Area (EEA) and the non-EEA in the last five years is set out in the following table.

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Total workers	1,265,000	1,290,000	1,325,000	1,335,000	1,340,000
British	1,043,000	1,070,000	1,101,000	1,110,000	1,118,000
EEA (non-British)	62,000	70,000	77,000	87,000	95,000
Non-EEA	160,000	150,000	147,000	138,000	127,000

Source: Skills for Care's adult social care workforce estimates 2012/13 to 2016/17.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-26/HL8967/>

Domestic Violence: Immigrants

Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour) [HL8987] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the number of domestic abuse victims who are unable to access refuge services because they have no recourse to public funds.

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: The Department does not centrally hold the number of victims of domestic abuse who are unable to access refuge

services in the UK.

The provision of refuge is a devolved matter. We are carrying out a review of how domestic abuse services are delivered locally across England. To inform our review we have commissioned an audit - being run by Ipsos MORI – which will give us a complete picture of domestic abuse provision across England for all victims, enabling us to assess what impact services are having and to identify any gaps in provision. Thereafter we will make decisions on the future arrangements for domestic abuse services.

The Destitute Domestic Violence (DDV) concession lifts the no recourse to public funds condition for eligible individuals, granting a period of three months' leave outside the immigration rules and the ability to apply for access to public funds from DWP, which may be used to help fund alternative accommodation away from their abuser. Government also part funds Women's Aid to run 'Routes to Support' (formerly UK Refuges Online), which provides support to victims who need to access refuges and provides detailed monitoring and analysis of the availability of bed spaces and other services. The funding also supports the 'No Woman Turned Away project', which offers caseworker support to victims who have faced difficulties accessing a refuge, including victims with no recourse to public funds. Government has consulted on what more can be done to protect domestic abuse victims with no recourse to public funds through the Domestic Abuse Bill, which closed on 31 May. We are currently analysing the 3,200 plus responses received and will carefully consider what future courses of action are necessary.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-26/HL8987/>

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Baroness Armstrong of Hill Top (Labour) [HL8842] To ask Her Majesty's Government what estimate they have made of how many children of the Windrush generation who had been in local authority care now have an uncertain legal residency status; and what steps they are taking to clarify the status of such people.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Information about children of the Windrush generation who had been in local authority care is not automatically reported to the Home Office.

We are fully committed to helping all members of the Windrush generation who have faced difficulties to evidence their status in the UK and are making that process as straightforward as possible. A dedicated Home Office taskforce has been set up to help them 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.

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/Lords/2018-06-21/HL8842/>

Immigration: Windrush Generation

The following two questions both received the same answer

Lord Ouseley (Crossbench) [HL8921] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the definition of the Windrush generation they use will be expanded to include those who joined their parents, grandparents and siblings after 1973.

Lord Ouseley (Crossbench) [HL8922] To ask Her Majesty's Government why the descendants of the Windrush generation have been detained, threatened with deportation and denied their right to work.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Windrush scheme, which was launched on 30 May, makes specific provision for the children of Commonwealth citizens who were settled in the UK before 1 January 1973 where the child was born in the UK or arrived in the UK before the age of 18. This will ensure that those affected or who have encountered difficulties have the documents to confirm their status in the UK.

The Department is carrying out a review of all removals, deportations and detentions, dating back to 2002 when electronic record-keeping began, of Caribbean Commonwealth nationals now aged over 45, those old enough to have been settled here before 1973 and therefore protected by the 1971 Act and the Home Secretary has agreed to report on these findings in due course.

In relation to those who have may lost jobs - information that is not automatically reported back to the Home Office - we anticipate that we will gain a greater understanding when we launch our compensation scheme.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-25/HL8921/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-25/HL8922/>

Refugees: Syria

The Marquess of Lothian (Conservative) [HL9084] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many people have been resettled in the UK under the Syrian Vulnerable Person Resettlement Programme to date; and how much that Programme has cost to date.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Home Office is committed to publishing data in an orderly way as part of the regular quarterly Immigration Statistics, in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Latest statistics published on 24 May confirmed that a total of 11,649 people have been resettled under the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS) since it began.

The statistics are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>

At 31 December 2017, VPRS expenditure of £157.5m had been recorded.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-28/HL9084/>

Asylum: Children

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL9164] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether any progress was made at the recent European Council on the issue of the protection, support, education, and health of unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors already in European countries; and on the early identification of those who have close family links with the UK.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The focus of the June European Council was migration, there was no specific discussion of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. The Council agreed to reform the Common European Asylum System which provides minimum standards for the treatment of all asylum seekers and the functioning of the Dublin Regulation.

The Government continues to work closely with EU Member States to enact the safe transfers of unaccompanied children who have claimed asylum in another Member State to be transferred here to have their asylum claim assessed if they have a qualifying family member legally present in the UK and transfer would be in their best interests.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-03/HL9164/>

Asylum: Children

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL9219] To ask Her Majesty's Government what responses they received to letters from the then Home Secretary to her counterparts in 2017 in France, Greece and Italy inviting referrals of eligible unaccompanied asylum-seeking children for transfer to the UK; how many referrals have been made since; and how many have been accepted.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The previous Home Secretary received responses from each of the participating States and we have since been working with each of them at a Ministerial and official level to ensure safe transfer of unaccompanied children to the UK. We have received referrals from all participating States and the process is ongoing.

We remain fully committed to delivering our commitment to transfer the specified number of 480 children under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 and are working very closely with participating States, to deliver the scheme in line with their national laws. Over 220 children are already in the UK. We will not provide a running commentary on numbers and will publish the details once all children are in the UK.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-04/HL9219/>

Asylum: Children

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL9220] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they made of the willingness of families, churches and rotary groups to sponsor and care for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children when they announced in April 2017 that they UK would take 480 children from Europe.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Under the Children Act 1989, and relevant legislation in the devolved nations, local authorities have a responsibility to look after children in need in their jurisdiction. In accordance with section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016, we consulted with local authorities on their capacity to care for unaccompanied children before announcing the specified number of 480. This is in addition to the over 4,500 unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC), already in local authority care in the UK. In light of this statutory duty, we have no plans to extend caring responsibilities for unaccompanied asylum seeking children in this way.

A scheme to allow community groups to directly sponsor a resettled refugee family was launched by the then Home Secretary and Archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth Palace on 19 July 2016. The Full Community Sponsorship scheme enables community groups including charities, faith groups, churches and businesses, to take on the role of supporting resettled refugees in the UK. A 'Help Refugees in the UK' webpage has also been developed on GOV.UK to make it easier for the public to support refugees in the UK and allow local authorities to focus support on the goods and services that refugees need.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-04/HL9220/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Lord Bassam of Brighton (Labour) [HL9057] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many people were wrongfully detained under immigration powers between 2012 and 2017; and, of those, how many were part of the Windrush generation.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Information on the number of people detained wrongfully under immigration powers between 2012-13 and 2016-17 is set out in Sir Philip Rutnam's letter to the Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP, dated 25 June 2018 and that is deposited in the House Library. I am arranging for a copy of that letter to be provided to Lord Bassam of Brighton.

The Home Office is reviewing all cases of immigration detention, dating back to

2002, of Caribbean Commonwealth nationals now aged over 45 (i.e. born before 1 January 1973), to establish whether any of those people could have entered the UK prior to 1973 and therefore might be protected by the Immigration Act 1971. As the Home Secretary told the Joint Committee on Human Rights on 6 June 2018, that work is due to be completed by the middle of July 2018. Its findings will be reported to Parliament within the regular series of updates, to the Home Affairs Select Committee, to which the Home Secretary has made an explicit commitment.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-28/HL9057/>

The letter referred to above can be read at

http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2018-0622/Sir_Philip_Rutnam_to_HASC_Chair-Immigration_Enforcement.pdf

Press Releases

Valuing EU care staff

<https://news.gov.scot/news/valuing-eu-care-staff>

EU settlement scheme

<https://news.gov.scot/news/eu-settlement-scheme>

Scottish churches appeal to President Trump to change migrant policy

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

Court of Justice of the European Union: Where an EU citizen returns to his Member State of origin, that Member State must facilitate the entry and residence of the non-EU partner with whom that citizen has a durable relationship

<https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/upload/docs/application/pdf/2018-07/cp180106en.pdf>

New Publications

The Contribution of Non-UK EU Workers in the Social Care Workforce in Scotland

<https://www.gov.scot/Resource/0053/00538124.pdf>

Immigration and Scotland

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cm Scotaf/488/488.pdf>

The UK's points-based system for immigration

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-7662/CBP-7662.pdf>

Homelessness among refugees

<https://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/CDP-2018-0182>

Immigration and Asylum appeals – a fresh look

<https://2bquk8cdew6192tsu41lay8t-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/JUSTICE-Immigration-and-Asylum-Appeals-Report.pdf>

News

Hundreds in Windrush scandal are granted British citizenship

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-07-12/news/hundreds-in-windrush-scandal-are-granted-british-citizenship-wb9bkv7bd>

Windrush report on conduct of Home Office could be published

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/10/windrush-report-on-conduct-of-home-office-could-be-published>

'Hostile environment' checks paused after Windrush scandal

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-44807801>

Government accused of failing to address 'all-pervading hostility' of immigration policy

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/government-accused-of-simply-posturing-over-hostile-environment-a8444711.html>

Government halts 'hostile environment' immigration policy after Windrush scandal

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/hostile-environment-home-office-windrush-scandal-halt-sajid-javid-a8443486.html>

Home Office urged to go further with suspension of hostile environment

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/12/home-office-urged-to-go-further-with-hostile-environment-suspension>

Sajid Javid told: 'torture victims driven to suicide by system'

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/11/sajid-javid-told-torture-victims-driven-to-suicide-by-system>

UK asylum seekers who face destitution 'wait months' for support

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/09/uk-asylum-seekers-who-face-destitution-wait-months-for-support>

Asylum support delays force people seeking safety into homelessness

<https://www.refugee-action.org.uk/asylum-support-delays/>

Call to review 'tens of thousands' immigration target

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-44784309>

Clarity urged on post-Brexit status of Irish citizens in Scotland

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16355241.clarity-urged-on-post-brexit-status-of-irish-citizens-in-scotland/>

MPs say immigration review should consider devolution of powers

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/mps-say-immigration-review-should-consider-devolution-of-powers-1-4766923>

Scotland wants special deal on migrant numbers

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-07-11/scotland/scotland-wants-special-deal-on-migrant-numbers-9p3ssn9tc>

Students must be lifted out of net migration targets, say MPs

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/students-migration-uk-university-government-scotland-economy-sajid-javid-a8441201.html>

UCL row over email stating immigration-check fine of £20,000

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/12/ucl-row-email-immigration-check-fine-draconian-discriminatory>

Home Office urged to let 'cheating' students resit language tests

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/10/home-office-urged-to-let-cheating-students-resit-language-tests>

'It means everything': the university opening its doors to asylum seekers

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2018/jul/10/university-asylum-seekers-birkbeck-foundation-years>

Legal aid restored for unaccompanied child migrants

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/legal-aid-restored-for-unaccompanied-child-migrants-l62t8bkjx>

Red Cross calls for major overhaul of UK's 'damaging' immigration detention system

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/red-cross-british-immigration-detention-asylum-report-a8438391.html>

Scottish judge rules Home Office wrongly deported refugee

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16353999.scottish-judge-rules-home-office-wrongly-deported-refugee/>

Dad unlawfully separated from three-year-old daughter while in immigration detention paid £50,000 by Home Office

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/immigration-uk-home-office-child-separation-detention-centre-migrants-a8442716.html>

Home Office ordered to pay £50,000 after child separated from father

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/11/immigration-detention-home-office-ordered-to-pay-50000-after-child-separated-father>

'You live in fear that they will deport you to the place you are running away from': Former asylum detainee speaks out

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/deportation-asylum-seeker-gay-rights-persecution-kenya-a8440971.html>

'I've lost everything': International students wrongly kicked out of university over cheating allegations speak out

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/cheating-scandal-uk-universities-international-students-home-office-migrant-english-language-a8439226.html>

Inspirational refugee relives moment she arrived in Scotland after fleeing war-town Rwanda

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/inspirational-refugee-relives-moment-arrived-12891838>

TOP

Community Relations

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

Inter-faith Dialogue

John Grogan (Labour): To ask ... the Church Commissioners, what recent steps the

Church of England has taken to promote inter-faith dialogue. [906405]

Reply from Caroline Spelman: The Church of England continues to take active steps at local and international level to promote inter-faith dialogue. The Church works through organisations like the Council of Christians and Jews and the Christian Muslim Forum alongside close working with the Office of the Chief Rabbi and senior Muslim clerics.

John Grogan: Does the right hon. Lady agree that many Church schools, both C of E and Catholic, with multi-faith intakes, such as Our Lady of Victories Catholic School Keighley, pupils from which came down to Parliament last week, including many Muslim pupils, bind our communities together from a young age and teach respect for others?

Reply from Caroline Spelman: I could not agree more. Church of England schools are open to the whole community and reflect the demographic profile of the community they serve. Thus in some parts of the country 80% or 90% of pupils in a Church of England school may be Muslim. If you will forgive me, Mr Speaker, I would like to commend what the new Home Secretary had to say about his own education as a Muslim in a Church of England school, and how important a part of his own upbringing was an awareness of religious literacy in our world today. ...

We need to understand, in the world today more than ever, the different faiths of the world and their tenets, and be respectful of the fact that 84% of the world's population adhere to one of the great religions of the world. ...

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-12/debates/9026D446-E348-456A-9CE6-76F81330AC3B/Inter-FaithDialogue>

New Publication

Unpacking Summary Measures of Ethnic Residential Segregation Using an Age Group and Age Cohort Perspective

<https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007%2Fs10680-018-9475-3.pdf>

News

Interracial couples: People stare and nudge each other

<https://www.bbc.com/news/newsbeat-44780698>

Racism will not be solved by there being more mixed-race children

<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2018/jul/15/racism-will-not-be-solved-by-there-being-more-mixed-race-children>

Christian, Muslim and Jewish groups join together for '21 for 21' interfaith collaboration

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/interfaith-21-for-21-christian-muslim-jewish-together-work-a8440591.html>

TOP

Equality

Scottish Parliament Written Answers

NHS: Equality Training

S5W-17396 Miles Briggs (Conservative): To ask the Scottish Government how it encourages the spread of best practice in equality training within the NHS.

Reply from Jeane Freeman: The Scottish Government and NHSScotland are fully committed to ensuring that the values of equality and diversity are respected by, and reflected in, our policies and practice. We work with a number of organisations to support health boards to embed the principles articulated in our national Partnership Information Network (PIN) policy: “Embracing Equality, Diversity and Human Rights in NHSScotland”, accessible at: <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0044/00441232.pdf>.

The PIN policy includes specific provisions outlining the content of mandatory diversity training for all NHS Scotland employees. Additionally, through our national partnership with Stonewall Scotland, and through our membership of the Business Disability Forum, health boards can access consultative advice and support in order to promote best practice in the delivery of local equality training.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-17396>

NHS: Equality Training

S5W-17397 Miles Briggs (Conservative): To ask the Scottish Government how it evaluates and measures the success and cost effectiveness of equality training delivered by the NHS.

Reply from Jeane Freeman: NHS Scotland health boards, as employers, are responsible for the delivery and monitoring of equality training provided to employees. Our national Partnership Information Network (PIN) policy: “Embracing Equality, Diversity and Human Rights in NHSScotland, accessible at: <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0044/00441232.pdf>

explicitly requires that all staff are provided with equality training and outlines a number of the common and core principles that should inform the content of that training. The PIN policy further includes specific guidance on monitoring the impact of local activity against health boards’ legislative responsibilities flowing from the Public Sector Equality Duty.

To ensure that local equality training is relevant and effective, health board human resources and equality leads are required to develop and deliver training in partnership with professional organisation representatives, trade unions and staff. Boards are also able to consult with the professional organisations with which we retain national membership/partnership arrangements, including Stonewall Scotland and the Business Disability Forum.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-17397>

NHS: Equality Training

S5W-17408 Annie Wells (Conservative): To ask the Scottish Government how the NHS ensures that its staff are given adequate equality training, and how it measures the effectiveness of this.

Reply from Jeane Freeman: NHS Scotland’s national Partnership Information Network (PIN) policy: “Embracing Equality, Diversity and Human Rights in NHSScotland, accessible at:

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0044/00441232.pdf>

explicitly requires that all staff are provided with equality training and outlines a number of the common and core principles that should inform the content of that training. The PIN policy further includes specific guidance on monitoring the impact of local activity against health boards’ legislative responsibilities flowing from the Public Sector Equality Duty.

To ensure that local equality training is relevant and effective, health board human resources and equality leads are required to develop and deliver training in partnership with professional organisation representatives, trade unions and staff. Boards are also able to consult with the professional organisations with which we

retain national membership arrangements, including Stonewall Scotland and the Business Disability Forum.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-17408>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Police: Travellers

The following two questions both received the same answer

Kate Green (Labour) [161150] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, which police forces use the 18+1 ethnic monitoring system that is inclusive of Gypsies and Irish Travellers; and when forces that do not use that system plan to do so.

Kate Green (Labour) [161153] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many (a) Gypsy, (b) Roma and (c) Irish Traveller (i) police officers and (ii) civilian staff are employed in each police force in England and Wales.

Reply from Nick Hurd: The Home Office collects information from police forces in England and Wales through the Annual Data Requirement (ADR) under the Home Secretary's statutory powers. A number of these data requests require police forces to provide detailed information on ethnicity, for example, the ethnicity of a person being stopped and searched, or arrested.

The Home Office currently uses the 16+1 ethnic categories, as defined by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) in the 2001 Census, in most data collections. For the 2011 Census, the ONS updated ethnicity categories to include 'Gypsy, Traveller or Irish Traveller' as a specific group. To reflect these changes and to gain a better understanding of police interactions with other ethnic minorities, work is underway with force IT leads to investigate a move to the newer 18+1 ethnic codes for the 2019/20 data collection period.

The Home Office does not hold the information requested on the police workforce centrally. Data on the ethnicity of police officers and civilian staff are collected at the aggregated 5+1 level (White, Black, Asian, Mixed, Chinese and Other ethnic groups).

Those from Gypsy, Roma, or Irish Traveller backgrounds will be included in the White totals, but cannot be separately identified. Data on the police workforce, as at 31 March 2017, can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-workforce-england-and-wales-31-march-2017>

The next instalment, covering the situation as at 31 March 2018, is scheduled for release on Thursday 19th July.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-05/161150/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-05/161153/>

Police: Ethnic Groups

The following five questions all received the same answer

Kate Green (Labour) [161151] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what guidance his Department issues to police forces on their engagement with BAME communities.

Police: Travellers

Kate Green (Labour) [161152] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what guidance his Department issues to police forces on their engagement with (a) Gypsy, (b) Roma and (c) Irish Traveller communities.

Kate Green (Labour) [161154] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department,

what steps he is taking to ensure a safe working environment for Gypsy, Roma and Irish Traveller police officers and staff.

Kate Green (Labour) [161155] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department is taking to promote a positive relationship between the police and the Gypsy, Roma and Irish Traveller communities.

Kate Green (Labour) [161156] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the implications for his policies of the recommendations in the June 2018 Traveller Movement report, Policing by consent: understanding and improving relations between Gypsies, Roma, Irish Travellers and the police.

Reply from Nick Hurd: Equality and diversity are important. People across all communities want the police to fight crime while having confidence that their needs will be understood and respected.

The Government's landmark Race Disparity Audit makes it clear that whilst we have made significant progress across a range of measures relating to crime and policing, for many people from black and other minority ethnic backgrounds their experiences and expectations fall well short of what is acceptable. We are committed to reducing and eliminating these disparities through our continued reforms to policing.

Decisions about frontline policing, how resources are best deployed, and the effective management of the workforce are for Chief Constables and democratically accountable Police and Crime Commissioners. They are best placed to make decisions with their communities based on their local knowledge and experience.

The Association of Police and Crime Commissioners and National Police Chiefs' Council make it clear in the Policing Vision 2025 that that the link between communities and the police will continue to form the bedrock of British policing. The vision also highlights the increasing diversity and complexity of the communities police serve, and the need for more sophisticated responses to policing challenges.

The National Police Chief's Council has agreed a new Diversity, Equality and Inclusion strategy which is expected to be published in July. The strategy will be accompanied by three toolkits; on workforce representation; working with partner agencies; and working with diverse communities, which will provide operational advice to forces.

The College of Policing, as the professional body, has published the Code of Ethics which includes a clear statement on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion for all those working in policing. It also published guidelines on modernising neighbourhood policing in March 2018. This year's HMICFRS effectiveness report recommended that forces review their approach by October 2018 against these standards.

The Government takes the issue of police wellbeing very seriously and has invested in programmes which offer help directly to officers. In July 2017, the Home Secretary awarded £7.5 million from the Police Transformation Fund over 3 years to pilot and, if it is successful, fund a dedicated national service to help provide enhanced welfare support.

We await the publication of the final version of the Traveller Movement report which is expected to follow the summary report published in June and will work with policing partners to consider its findings.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-05/161151/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-05/161152/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-05/161154/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-05/161155/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-05/161156/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Females: Muslims

Baroness Uddin (Non-affiliated) [HL8944] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of whether, and if so why, Muslim women are not progressing at the same rate as non-Muslim women in economic engagement and employment.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Race Disparity Audit, published in October 2017, revealed an unemployment gap between BME and White people. The Prime Minister committed local and national government to “explain or change” the disparities. We are committed to increasing BME employment by 20 per cent by 2020. We have made substantial progress, and we are now 71% towards this target.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-25/HL8944/>

The Race Disparity Audit referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/686071/Revised_RDA_report_March_2018.pdf

News

University staff should go to mosques and working class youth clubs to improve campus diversity, says watchdog

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/university-mosques-diversity-uk-office-for-students-michael-barber-a8444461.html>

TOP

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Written Answer

NHS: Discrimination

S5W-17409 Annie Wells (Conservative): To ask the Scottish Government what information it has regarding how many times NHS staff have faced (a) gender-based, (b) racial and (c) other forms of discrimination in each of the last five years, also broken down by how many times the alleged perpetrator was another NHS employee.

Reply from Jeane Freeman: This information is not held centrally, the formal recording of any incident of discrimination is a matter for NHS Scotland health boards. The welfare of NHS Staff is absolutely paramount and we expect all health boards to take any reported incidents seriously.

The Scottish Government has taken a number of steps to embed a healthy organisational culture across NHS Scotland, in which staff can bring their whole

selves to work. The NHS Scotland Staff Governance Standard commits all boards to ensuring that staff are treated fairly and consistently, with dignity and respect, in an environment where diversity is valued; NHS Scotland Boards report annually on local activity supporting the implementation of the Staff Governance Standard. Additionally, national staff experience measures, which all NHS Scotland staff are invited to participate in, allow staff to anonymously indicate whether they are routinely treated with fairness, consistency, dignity and respect in the workplace.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-17409>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Social Media: Harassment

Jim Shannon (DUP) [159608] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, what discussions he had had with social media providers on (a) misogynistic, (b) racist and (c) homophobic or transphobic online abuse; and what steps he is taking to tackle such abuse.

Reply from Margot James: Ministers and officials have regular meetings and discussions with social media companies on a range of issues including online abuse. Details of ministerial meetings are published quarterly on the Gov.uk website.

The law does not differentiate between criminal offences committed on social media or anywhere else - it is the action that is illegal. What is illegal offline, is illegal online and we have also been clear that we expect social media companies to respond quickly to incidents of abusive behaviour on their networks.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-02/159608/>

New Publication

An early history of British race relations legislation

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-8360/CBP-8360.pdf>

News

Labour racism probes 'take too long'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-44817798>

Tory MP Michel Fabricant accused of Islamophobia over Sadiq Khan tweet

<https://www.bbc.com/news/newsbeat-44818546>

Tory MP Michael Fabricant tweets Islamophobic picture depicting Sadiq Khan as a pig

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/trump-protest-uk-visit-latest-michael-fabricant-islamophobic-tweet-sadiq-khan-pig-a8445456.html>

Facebook slow to delete lucrative posts of far right

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/tech-giant-slow-to-delete-lucrative-posts-of-far-right-h8cwbpldx>

Humza Yousaf takes lead against hate crime, condemning anti-Catholic bigotry

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/humza-yousaf-takes-lead-against-hate-crime-condemning-anti-catholic-bigotry-9vr2hwkfb>

Canon Tom White describes attack during Orange walk

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-44762725>

Glasgow priest attack is blow for Orange Order, expert claims

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16343128.glasgow-priest-attack-is-blow-for-orange-order-expert-claims/?ref=mr&lp=3>

Priest called a 'beast' and 'paedophile' in hate crime during Orange Walk

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/priest-called-a-beast-and-paedophile-in-hate-crime-during-orange-walk-1-4766372>

Council to hold talks over future of Orange Walk marches in Glasgow amid fury over sectarian attack on priest

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/council-crunch-talks-over-orange-12885358>

Orange Lodge Grand Master slams thugs who launched bigoted attack on priest during Boyne Parade

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/orange-lodge-grand-master-slams-12885667>

Police probe after priest 'spat on' during Orange walk

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16341278.police-probe-after-priest-spat-on-during-orange-walk/>

Nicola Sturgeon pledges to 'eradicate' sectarianism after Glasgow priest spat on in Orange march 'hate crime'

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/nicola-sturgeon-pledges-eradicate-sectarianism-12881475>

Bigoted attack on Catholic priest sparks hundreds of complaints against Orange walks

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/bigoted-attack-priest-sparks-calls-12918841>

Council to 'force' re-route of Orange walks in Glasgow

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-44833611>

Orange Order parades to be re-routed away from Catholic Church

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16353247.orange-order-parades-to-be-re-routed-away-from-catholic-church/?ref=mr&lp=5>

Glasgow city council leader vows to reroute orange walks from Catholic church

<https://www.scotsman.com/regions/glasgow-strathclyde/glasgow-city-council-leader-vows-to-reroute-orange-walks-from-catholic-church-1-4768895>

Show Racism the Red Card call for full investigation into Shay Logan racial abuse claims

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/sport/football/football-news/show-racism-red-card-call-12884777>

Show Racism the Red Card respond to comments made by Brendan Rodgers

<https://www.scotsman.com/sport/football/teams/celtic/show-racism-the-red-card-respond-to-comments-made-by-brendan-rodgers-1-4766396>

TOP

Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Release

Making the justice system more accessible

<https://news.gov.scot/news/making-the-justice-system-more-accessible>

New Publications

Victims' Rights for Scotland – Easy Read Version

<https://www.gov.scot/Resource/0053/00538238.pdf>

Code of Conduct for Councillors

<https://www.gov.scot/Resource/0053/00538135.pdf>

TOP

Other UK Parliament and Government

Debate

Overseas Aid: Charities and Faith-based Organisations

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-07-12/debates/8EA91F6D-EE34-4A31-90BB-34FA238662D5/OverseasAidCharitiesAndFaith-BasedOrganisations>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Slaughterhouses: Animal Welfare

Mike Penning (Conservative) [162017] To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what assessment he has made of the potential merits of the creation of a specific mark to enable consumers to identify meat, poultry and fish that has been pre-stunned before slaughter (a) now and (b) after the UK leaves the EU; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from George Eustice: The Government is aware that there is public concern about meat from animals slaughtered in accordance with religious beliefs being sold to consumers who do not require their meat to be prepared in this way, and that there are calls for such meat to be labelled.

There are currently no specific EU or national requirements governing the sale and labelling of Halal or Kosher meat. Where any information of this nature is provided voluntarily, it must be accurate and must not be misleading.

The Government believes that consumers should have the necessary information to enable them to make an informed choice about their food. This is an issue the Government is considering in the context of the UK's departure from the EU.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-09/162017/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

Children: Forced Marriage

Baroness Burt of Solihull (Liberal Democrat): To ask Her Majesty's Government what work they are undertaking with schools, particularly in preparation for the school

holidays, to safeguard children at risk of being taken abroad and forced into marriage.

Reply from Viscount Younger of Leckie: My Lords, the UK is a world leader in addressing forced marriage, with our dedicated Forced Marriage Unit. Schools play an important role in identifying and responding to the needs of victims and potential victims at an early stage and making referrals to the police and social services. Our statutory guidance, *Keeping Children Safe in Education*, makes it clear that all school staff should look out for, and safeguard pupils against, this life-changing criminal act.

Baroness Burt of Solihull: My Lords, I am grateful to the Minister for his supportive remarks, and I thank colleagues throughout the House for wearing the pin in support of the charity Karma Nirvana. Forced marriage is not about culture: it is about being criminal. Many schools do not take the threat to girls as young as five years old seriously enough, or as part of their safeguarding responsibilities. Will the Minister consider making Ofsted responsible for measuring this element of safeguarding? ...

Reply from Viscount Younger of Leckie: ... I will certainly take note of her point about Ofsted, and take that back with me.

Lord Anderson of Swansea (Labour): Does the noble Viscount agree that such cases need not always be forced? Any education or warning should be general and not just directed at those of Asian heritage. I am aware of at least one case in Wales where a young girl was offered the holiday of a lifetime in Bangladesh and returned home, not only married but also seeking to bring her husband back.

Reply from Viscount Younger of Leckie: There are indeed several cases that can be highlighted. As the noble Lord will know, there is a difference between arranged marriages and forced ones. The main focus is on forced marriages, when children—often young ones—are taken away without their consent. We are looking closely at this important issue.

Baroness Berridge (Conservative): My Lords, while the Forced Marriage Unit is a joint initiative of the Foreign Office and the Home Office, there is also much government focus and spending through the Department for International Development. Can my noble friend outline whether those Ministers and officials are also inputting into this unit? There seems to be a correlation, or at least an overlap, between the countries where we are spending money through DfID to avoid local girls and women being forced into marriage, and the countries that UK citizens are at risk of being taken to.

Reply from Viscount Younger of Leckie: The Forced Marriage Unit is very much a cross-departmental exercise—a joint Home Office and Foreign and Commonwealth Office unit that sits within the FCO. Its work overseas is accountable to the FCO and is measured against the consular directorate's strategic priorities. However, I reassure my noble friend that responsibility for this policy is with Harriett Baldwin, so there is a top of the pyramid for this, which is important for having a cohesive policy.

Baroness Hayman (Crossbench): ... Will he take very seriously its suggestion that there ought to be an audit after this summer's holidays to establish both the extent of the problem and areas where we need to target resources?

Reply from Viscount Younger of Leckie: The noble Baroness has made a number of points, and I take her point about having an audit. However, the Forced Marriage Unit now monitors this abhorrent issue very closely. She alluded to the fact that the unit is working very closely with the Border Force. The idea behind the spoon emblem is that children will understand the concept of having a metal spoon they can hide as they are taken forcibly through an airport out of the UK, so that the pinger will go off at security, they will be taken aside on their own and, hopefully, their case will be highlighted.

Baroness Uddin (Non-affiliated): My Lords, almost 15 years ago my recommendation in Committee brought the Forced Marriage Unit into place. What impact does the noble Viscount feel that that unit has had in reducing the number of forced marriage cases in this country? ...

Reply from Viscount Younger of Leckie: I said earlier that I wanted to highlight a number of charities that work together on this important matter, which are led by the FMU. I also reassure the noble Baroness that there have been three convictions since we introduced the new forced marriage legislation in 2014, one in 2015 and two in May 2018. The first of these convictions resulted in a four and a half year sentence, with a maximum of seven years, so we believe that that can be quite a deterrent.

Baroness Hussein-Ece (Liberal Democrat): My Lords, victims of this particular crime often find it difficult to come forward because they know that by doing so they will be implicating their parents. Although we know that schools, police and the other agencies that have been mentioned have worked hard over many years to protect young people, there have been examples where local authorities have not always been responsive enough to protect them. What assurance can the Minister give that all children's services will be alert and intervene appropriately when there is strong evidence that children are at risk?

Reply from Viscount Younger of Leckie: As the noble Baroness will know, local authorities have ultimate responsibility for monitoring children but much more work is being done within schools. It is important that all young people are equipped to have healthy, respectful relationships and, in particular, that they know how to keep themselves safe. A lot of work goes on in schools to teach them what is appropriate and what is inappropriate behaviour, and, in particular, what is informed and freely given consent.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-07-10/debates/23227057-7E3B-4CD7-9F06-C7ED190B7F39/ChildrenForcedMarriage>

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

Press Release

England and Wales Charity Regulator publishes new research into factors the public associate with trustworthy charities

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/regulator-publishes-new-research-into-factors-the-public-associate-with-trustworthy-charities>

New Publication

Trust in Charities, 2018 [England and Wales only]

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/723566/Charity_Commission_-_Trust_in_Charities_2018_-_Report.pdf

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Other News

Leeds school uses spoons to help prevent forced marriage

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-leeds-44812530>

Council becomes first in UK to ban unstunned halal meat for schools, in move branded 'Islamophobic'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/no-stun-halal-meat-ban-lancashire-schools-pupils-muslim-islamophobic-a8445896.html>

Lancashire bans non-stunned halal meat from council-supplied school meals
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jul/12/lancashire-council-bans-non-stunned-halal-meat-from-schools>

Ofsted chief accuses minority groups of 'entitlement' in hijab row
<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2018/jul/09/ofsted-amanda-spielman-accuses-minority-groups-entitlement-hijab-row-schools>

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Bills in Progress ** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

Human Tissue (Authorisation) (Scotland) Bill
<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/108681.aspx>

Vulnerable Witnesses (Criminal Evidence) (Scotland) Bill
<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/108702.aspx>

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>

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>

Bill as introduced
<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2017-2019/0057/18057.pdf>

First Reading, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2017-07-12/debates/E516AA74-BDBC-47DD-A6FE-5527E82971AB/ModernSlavery\(TransparencyInSupplyChains\)Bill\(HL\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2017-07-12/debates/E516AA74-BDBC-47DD-A6FE-5527E82971AB/ModernSlavery(TransparencyInSupplyChains)Bill(HL))

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>

Third Reading, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-07-03/debates/500D3DAF-42D4-4713-916B-2C78B6C933E9/Refugees\(FamilyReunion\)Bill\(HL\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-07-03/debates/500D3DAF-42D4-4713-916B-2C78B6C933E9/Refugees(FamilyReunion)Bill(HL))

Bill as amended by the House of Lords

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2017-2019/0246/18246.pdf>

Refugees (Family Reunion) (No. 2) Bill

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

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (Legal Advice and Appeals) Bill

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

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Protection of Vulnerable Groups and the Disclosure of Criminal Information

(closing date 18 July 2018)

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

Funeral Expense Assistance Regulations (closing date 23 August 2018)

<https://consult.gov.scot/social-security/funeral-expense-assistance/>

Vulnerable Witnesses (Criminal Evidence) (Scotland) Bill (closing date 29 August 2018)

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/109036.aspx>

Financial Memorandum of the Human Tissue (Authorisation) (Scotland) Bill

(closing date 31 August 2018)

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/109042.aspx>

Human Tissue (Authorisation) (Scotland) Bill (closing date 4 September 2018)

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/108999.aspx>

**** 20 years of the Human Rights Act** (closing date 14 September 2018)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/joint-select/human-rights-committee/news-parliament-2017/20-years-human-rights-act-launch-17-19/>

A Culture Strategy for Scotland (closing date 19 September 2018)

<https://consult.gov.scot/culture-tourism-and-major-events/culture-strategy/>

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>

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Job Opportunities

[Click here](#) to find out about job opportunities.

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

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Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

Year of Young People

There is no closing date – the fund will remain open until all money has been distributed. Year of Young People 2018 celebrates everything that makes Scotland's young people incredible. As a nation proud of our young people, the Year of Young People puts the spotlight on the contributions and achievements of eight to 26 year olds, while giving them a stronger voice on issues that matter to them, and aims to inspire Scotland through its young people, celebrating their achievements, valuing their contribution to communities and creating new opportunities for them to shine locally and on a global-stage.

BEMIS Scotland, in collaboration with the Scottish Government, is providing grants of between £250 and £1,000 for constituted charitable and non-profit organisations, and community groups.

For full information see <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/yoyp-grant-guidelines.pdf> and to apply see <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/yoyp-application-form.docx>

Scotland's Winter Festivals, and St Andrew's Fair Saturday

There is no closing date – the fund will remain open until all money has been distributed. Scotland's Winter Festivals aim to mobilise the people of Scotland and those with an affinity to Scotland to join in the St Andrew's Day, Hogmanay, and Burns celebrations, boosting Scotland's key tourism and events sectors and the wider economy, enhancing community engagement and raising Scotland's international profile. Our diverse ethnic and cultural minority communities are key elements of Scotland's past, present and future so we want to ensure that your story, history, and narrative plays a full part in Scotland's Winter Festivals.

BEMIS Scotland, in collaboration with the Scottish Government, is providing grants of between £250 and £1,000 for constituted charitable and non-profit organisations, and community groups.

For full information see <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/swf-2018-guidelines.pdf> and to apply see <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/swf-2018-application-form.docx>

Democracy Matters Community Engagement Fund

Closing date for applications: 14 September 2018

The Scottish Government Democracy Matters Community Engagement Fund provides grants of up to £300 (in exceptional circumstances up to £500) to small voluntary organisations and community groups in Scotland to help them run an event with a group of five or more people to discuss what matters to them in relation to democracy.

Groups and voluntary organisations with a turnover of up to £100,000 can apply for a grant to run an event and cover costs such as venue hire, catering, childcare and inclusive communication such as interpreters.

For full information and to apply see <https://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/funding-and-support/democracy-matters-community-engagement-fund>

or contact democracy.matters@vaf.org.uk

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Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Tackling Hate Speech in a Youth Setting

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

INAR: New approaches to anti-racism training

27 July 2018 in Glasgow (11.00-3.00)

CRER event to bring together expertise and learning from a number of recent projects focussed on designing, delivering and evaluating anti-prejudice interventions to explore what really works to tackle racism in the workplace. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yc688p3l>

Organising for Power

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

Meet the Scottish Charity Regulator

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>

**** Future Leaders Diversity Conference**

4-6 September 2018 in Edinburgh

Conference for graduates and potential graduates who are Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic, disabled, or socially or economically disadvantaged. The conference will provide an insight into life in the modern Civil Service, and a chance to share life experiences and views with current and future leaders, and helps prepare participants to apply for a place

on the graduate leadership programme. For information see <https://graduates.work-for-scotland.org/future-leaders-diversity-conference/>

Talking to Young People about Equality

6 September 2018 in Kirkcaldy (6.00-9.00)

Fife Centre for Equalities, and Youth 1st workshop to help youth workers begin a dialogue about equality with young people, and to understand that good knowledge of equality and inclusion will improve their employability. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yceyr6at>

Culture - Religious Diversity and Anti-Discrimination Training

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

Mainstreaming Anti-Sectarianism in Equalities Toolkit

13 September 2018 in Glasgow (9.30-1.00)

4 October in Edinburgh (1.00-4.30)

15 November 2018 in Glasgow (1.00-4.30)

WSREC training for public / third sector organisations, students and individuals interested in unravelling the meaning of sectarianism as an 'equalities' issue and its impact on the wellbeing, safety and opportunities of those affected, and on society as a whole. For information and to book for 13 Sept see <https://tinyurl.com/ydh74vrg>, for 4 Oct see <https://tinyurl.com/y9muw7pm>, and for 15 Nov see <https://tinyurl.com/y7cmj54e>. Other venues may be available by request – for information contact kperezp@wsrec.co.uk

Black History Month

October 2018

Call for submissions to the programme: deadline 16 July 2018

Black History Month aims to raise awareness of the positive role that Black / Minority Ethnic men and women have played in shaping 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

Scottish Interfaith Week

11-18 November 2018

Scottish Interfaith Week provides an opportunity for interfaith groups, faith communities, schools, organisations and local communities across the country to celebrate Scotland's religious diversity. For information see <http://scottishinterfaithweek.org/>

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Useful Links

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

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

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

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

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

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

One Scotland <http://onescotland.org/>

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

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

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

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

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

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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



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

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