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Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

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Useful Links

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

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The Scottish Parliament is in recess until 3 September 2018. The UK Parliament will be in recess from 25 July until 5 September, and again from 14 September to 9 October. During this time MEMO will be issued on 6 and 27 August, 6 and 17 September, and 3 October.

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Debates

Homelessness among Refugees

https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-17/debates/6DDAB279-15B3-409B-9F76-BF978821450D/HomelessnessAmongRefugees

Non-EEA Visas: Inshore Fishing

https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-17/debates/1EFF6D27-6A1C-45B5-A407-10A1BA274881/Non-EEAVisasInshoreFishing

UK Parliament, Delegated Legislation Committee

Draft Immigration (Provision of Physical Data) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018 <a href="https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-16/debates/672918f0-1e22-42e9-9b6f-9ea704ddf123/DraftImmigration(ProvisionOfPhysicalData)(Amendment)(EUExit)Regulations2 018#

UK Parliament, Ministerial Statement

Immigration

The Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sajid Javid) [HCWS887] I am today publishing a consultation paper on the design of a compensation scheme that will help to right the wrongs suffered by those of the Windrush generation who have faced difficulties and suffered losses as a result of measures that are in place to tackle illegal immigration [Cm 9654].

I have been very clear both that the Government deeply regret what has happened to some of the Windrush generation and that we are determined to put it right. A series of measures are in place to help achieve this. We are supporting those affected directly to gain confirmation of their immigration status. The Windrush taskforce, established in April, has provided documentation to over 2,000 people to demonstrate their right to live in the UK. We are conducting a lessons learned review, with independent oversight and challenge, to look at what happened and what the Home Office can do to ensure that it acts differently in future. Today I am also fulfilling the commitment to publish the terms of reference and methodology for that review by the summer recess and a copy of each will be placed in the Library of the House. The review aims to complete its findings by the end of March 2019 and I can confirm that the findings from the review will be published. We also committed to establish a compensation scheme for those who have suffered loss as a result of these difficulties. On 10 May I launched a call for evidence, to help us understand what went wrong, when and the effects it has had on people's lives. That closed on 8 June and we received over 650 responses. I have been moved by the stories people have told. There has been genuine suffering, which should never have happened. I am also inspired by the way many of the respondents moved halfway round the world to help rebuild the UK, and established their homes and lives here. It is also clear from these stories that these are strong communities which support each other and contribute significantly to the life and prosperity of the UK.

I want to move quickly, but carefully, from this initial call for evidence to the next stage. Based on the call for evidence and the independent advice we are receiving from Martin Forde QC, we have designed a consultation exercise to help us build and set up a compensation scheme. We are suggesting the scheme should be open to anyone who would be eligible for assistance of any type under the existing Windrush scheme being operated by the taskforce, and we are consulting on the types of losses and impacts that we should compensate for.

We received representations to extend the initial call for evidence and therefore I am keen to ensure that the consultation exercise is thorough and allows sufficient opportunity for everyone who wants to respond to do so. The consultation will last 12 weeks, closing on 11 October 2018. We are encouraging responses from a wide range of people, but particularly the communities affected. I am working with the Caribbean high commissioners to ensure the consultation reaches the right people abroad. The consultation document will be accessible online and offline. My officials will promote the consultation using appropriate media channels including social media. Throughout the consultation period we will engage with key stakeholders and community organisations to encourage responses, providing copies of the document and guidance for it to be completed, along with the offer of dedicated events with Home Office staff within community groups to facilitate responses. The independent adviser to the scheme,

Martin Forde QC, will be talking directly to individuals affected and their representatives, as well as community leaders.

Following the consultation my priority will be to establish a scheme which will pay appropriate compensation as soon as possible. In the meantime, we will continue to offer people direct support to establish their immigration status.

https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-

19/debates/18071938000026/Immigration

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

British Citizenship Fees: Children

Tim Farron (Liberal Democrat): What assessment [the Minister] has made of trends in the level of fees his Department charges for registering children as British citizens. [906451]

Reply from the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sajid Javid): The Home Office sets fees for border, immigration and nationality services at a level that ensures that they make a substantial contribution to the cost of running the immigration system, thereby reducing the burden on the UK taxpayer. Although the economic impact assessments that are published alongside immigration fees legislation do not separately consider child-registration fees, they show the impact of fee increases on the volume of applications to be minimal.

Tim Farron: The Home Office charges more than £1,000 for children—including children who were born here and those who moved in infancy—to register as British citizens. Is this not profiteering at the expense of young people who seek to pledge their future to Britain? Is this not another Windrush scandal in the making, with people not getting the documents now that officials will rely on in future? The Home Secretary knows that he faces a legal challenge on this issue, so will he do the right thing and end these excessive charges now?

Reply from Sajid Javid: I will not speak about the legal case, for obvious reasons, but I have to disagree with the hon. Gentleman. It is right that there is a balance between the costs faced by the individuals who make applications and those faced by the taxpayer. It is sensible to keep those costs under review, and it is right that Parliament makes the decision as to whether costs are changed.

Patrick Grady (SNP): Is the Home Secretary really proud of making more than £100 million of profit for the Home Office in the past five years from these charges? Given that the number of applications is going down while fees are going up, is he absolutely certain that the fee is having no implications for people's decisions on whether to apply for citizenship?[906472]

Reply from Sajid Javid: The hon. Gentleman talks of it as profit, but the revenue generated is used not just to provide public services to those people who make applications but to support wider public services. As I said, it is right that we have a balance between the costs of an application and the costs to which the taxpayer is exposed.

https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-16/debates/B88FE223-DBF5-4BD8-B6C4-97C081A5A73F/BritishCitizenshipFeesChildren

Immigration and Nationality: Fees

Chris Stephens (SNP): Whether [the Minister] plans to change the fees for immigration and nationality applications; and if he will make a statement. [906456]

Reply from the Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes): The Home Office reviews all immigration and nationality fees annually, with any changes normally implemented in April each year. We currently have no agreed plans to change fee levels, but the process for considering whether any changes are necessary commences in the summer and parliamentary approval has to be gained before

any changes are made.

Chris Stephens: The Minister will be aware that immigration fees for limited leave to remain have increased by 79% in four years to £1,033 per person, with no reduction for children. Does she appreciate that the cost can be crippling for families with a number of children going through that process, and will she at the very least look at reducing fees for children so that they cover processing alone?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: I thank the hon. Gentleman for his question. I am of course alive to the points made at recent Home Affairs Committee meetings and in the recent Lords debate on child citizenship fees. In due course, I will also consider the findings of the scheduled review by the independent chief inspector of borders and immigration.

Charlie Elphicke (Independent): Will immigration fees and policy be changed after we leave the European Union so that we seek the brightest and best from around the world without fear or favour, be they from India, China, America or, indeed, the European Union?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: I thank my hon. Friend for his question. He will of course have heard me say that fees are reviewed annually, and we will continue with that policy. He is right, however, to point out that we will still seek to attract the brightest and best, and our future immigration Bill will set out exactly how we intend to do that.

Siobhain McDonagh (Labour): Does the Minister agree with Mark Thomson, the director general of UK Visas and Immigration, who said at a recent MPs' casework meeting that those who pay for premium services but do not get their visas on the same day should have their fees returned to them?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: I was not present at that meeting, so I cannot comment on that specific case, but I am very conscious that Her Majesty's Passport Office and UKVI work very hard to ensure that we deliver within service standards. Where fees are looked at and there is a genuine case for a refund, we do make refunds.

Tim Loughton (Conservative): The Home Affairs Committee's recent report on the Windrush scandal shows that the whole immigration and nationality application service is hugely complicated, very bureaucratic and needs completely overhauling and streamlining, and that fees bear no relationship to the service's efficiency or cost. Will the Minister guarantee that the additional costs of sorting out the Windrush scandal will not be used as an excuse, under full cost recovery, to jack up fees yet further?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Of course, the lessons learned review that is commencing into Windrush will be an important opportunity for us to review all practices across UKVI and ensure that such an appalling scandal cannot happen again. My hon. Friend will have heard comments about reviews of fees, which happen annually, but I point out to him that in 2014 we passed primary legislation that allows the Home Office to charge fees that not only recover the cost of individual applications but contribute to the whole borders and immigration system, thus helping to secure our borders and ensure that we are safe.

https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-16/debates/D46DF702-0E00-4898-ABEA-EAF1E3613FB6/ImmigrationAndNationalityFees

Immigration Refusal and Deportation

Gordon Henderson (Conservative): What his Department's target is for the length of time between a person's immigration application being refused and their being deported from the UK. [906464]

Reply from the Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes): There is no set time, as each case progresses on its own merits. Wherever possible, we afford people the opportunity to arrange a voluntary return to their country of origin. If someone does not comply with our directions to leave the UK, we will pursue an enforced removal. Again, timescales will depend on individual circumstances.

Gordon Henderson: I am very grateful to my right hon. Friend for that response, but can she reassure me that the Department is balancing the need to tackle illegal immigration with the need to protect those who have migrated to Britain legally?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: My hon. Friend is of course absolutely right to point out how important it is that we distinguish between people who settle here legally and those who are here illegally. It is vital that the compliant environment protects vulnerable people and that appropriate safeguards are built into the measures. We remain committed to tackling illegal immigration and to encouraging compliance with our rules and laws.

Stuart C McDonald (SNP): This weekend, we learned of an Ethiopian asylum seeker who was removed even before his application had been decided, requiring a court to order his return here. How did that happen, and is it not now time to hand asylum decisions over to an independent body?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The hon. Gentleman is absolutely wrong in the final part of his question. It is important that UK Visas and Immigration continues to work to establish people's right to be here on a fair and humane basis. The Home Office is absolutely committed to making sure that we consider each case on its own merits.

https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-16/debates/6D95FF29-FC05-4DC1-AB56-11B76ED80371/ImmigrationRefusalAndDeportation

UK Visas and Immigration: Religious Literacy

Edward Leigh (Conservative): What steps his Department is taking to improve religious literacy among UK Visas and Immigration staff. [906467]

Reply from the Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes): The UK Government value the role of faith in public life in the UK, and protecting religious freedom abroad is important, including in achieving the UK's vision of a more secure and prosperous United Kingdom with its overseas partners. Within UK Visas and Immigration asylum casework, we continue to engage a range of faith groups to improve our policy guidance and training provided to decision makers, so that we approach claims involving religious persecution and conversion to a particular faith in the appropriate way.

Edward Leigh: Will the Minister set up a specialised unit in the Home Office so that we can have some religious literacy on this matter? Nuns and priests seeking to come from Iraq have been asked why they do not have a bank account, with officials seemingly unaware that they have made vows of poverty. A sister from Qaraqosh in Iraq is a perfect example: seeking to visit her sick sister, she was asked why she had not visited her since 2011. Officials were seemingly unaware that ISIS had forced her to flee from her convent and to flee for her life. Please may we have more religious literacy from our officials?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: When it comes to visitor visas, it is of course important that each case is decided on its own merits, but my hon. Friend makes an excellent point. I am very happy to work with him, so that there can be better training for visa caseworkers so that they understand the specific points he makes about those from religious communities who may have taken a particular vow of poverty.

Helen Goodman (Labour): The Minister was here for Prayers, so I am sure she will be able to answer the question asked of one of my constituents, whom the Home Office initially wanted to send back to a country where he was persecuted: how many books are there in the Old Testament?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: I very much regret that despite a good convent education we studied only the New Testament, and I simply do not know.

https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-16/debates/9E623C88-0BCB-4A02-8DA8-FE1BF01C8DF4/UKVisasAndImmigrationReligiousLiteracy

Immigration: Skilled Workers

Helen Whately (Conservative): What steps [the Minister] is taking to ensure that the immigration system facilitates the hiring of sufficient skilled migrant workers for the UK's needs. [906454]

William Wragg (Conservative): What steps [the Minister] is taking to ensure that the immigration system facilitates the hiring of sufficient skilled migrant workers for the UK's needs. [906460]

John Howell (Conservative): What steps [the Minister] is taking to ensure that the immigration system facilitates the hiring of sufficient skilled migrant workers for the UK's needs. [906462]

Reply from the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sajid Javid): The Government are committed to an immigration system that operates in the national interest and ensures that businesses can attract the talented migrants that they need. From 6 July, we remove all doctors' and nurses' posts from the yearly cap of 20,700 places, ensuring that the NHS is able to recruit the clinical staff that it needs.

Helen Whately: The hot weather means that apples and pears may be ready to harvest early this year, as was the case last year when growers in my constituency struggled to harvest their crops. Will my right hon. Friend update me on the prospects for a seasonal agricultural workers scheme to ensure that farmers have the workforce that they need to harvest British fruit and vegetables?

Reply from Sajid Javid: I am very sympathetic to the issue that my hon. Friend has raised. As we design our future immigration system, I want to ensure that it takes into account the seasonal demand for labour not only in agriculture, but also perhaps in hospitality. That is why we have asked the independent Migration Advisory Committee to look at this issue. We will see what we can do when the committee reports back.

William Wragg: My right hon. Friend is absolutely right to support a better controlled and fairer migration policy. I wonder whether he can tell me when the long-delayed White Paper on the subject will be published, so that the public know that we are taking it seriously.

Reply from Sajid Javid: I know that my hon. Friend will agree that it is fantastic that we will now have an opportunity—for the first time in decades—to design our own immigration system. We should take that seriously, as we are. It will be led by the White Paper, which will come out soon after the summer recess, and an immigration Bill that will make all the changes that are recommended and debated in Parliament.

John Howell: I am glad that doctors and nurses have been excluded from the cap on skilled workers, which will free up many additional places for other highly-skilled occupations. Will my right hon. Friend give an assessment of how these regulations have worked since they have come into force?

Reply from Sajid Javid: I thank my hon. Friend for welcoming the changes and for his support. It is a bit too early to give an assessment, since the changes only came into play on 6 July. Like my hon. Friend, I am confident that they will not only help to provide some of the high skills that our economy needs, but will actually go on to create jobs.

Gerald Jones (Labour): Ministry of Justice figures show that half of immigration cases that go to appeal in England and Wales are overturned. Does the Secretary of State agree that the situation needs urgent attention, and that those flaws need to be addressed before the European citizens who are in the UK have to apply for settled status?

Reply from Sajid Javid: The hon. Gentleman will know that we get tens of thousands of applications each year. Unfortunately, in many cases not all the information that is asked for is provided in the first instance. Officials will chase that up, and they will do so in a way that is as helpful as possible. If people want

their application to be looked at in a timely manner, it is always helpful if all information is provided up front.

David Drew (Labour Co-op): We have had numerous debates and countless questions on this issue. Is it not about time that the Home Office got together with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and sorted this problem out? It is estimated that last year we ploughed back into the ground about 10% of our fruit and vegetables: what is it going to be this year?

Reply from Sajid Javid: I can assure the hon. Gentleman that the Home Office works very closely with DEFRA, as with other Departments, on issues affecting migration. With regard to making sure that we have the talent and skills we need for our agricultural sector, working with DEFRA is exactly what we are doing.

Joanna Cherry (SNP): Scotland needs more than those termed "skilled" under the immigration rules. The continued availability of workers from other EU countries is vital to employers across the Scottish economy. Is not the comprehensive economic and trade agreement-style mobility framework suggested in last week's White Paper a recipe for disaster for employers other than London-based multinationals?

Reply from Sajid Javid: No, it is not.

Joanna Cherry: Maintaining and increasing Scotland's working-age population is vital for Scotland's continued economic prosperity. Last week's White Paper says that the UK Government will design a mobility framework that works for all parts of the United Kingdom. When is the Home Secretary going to meet his Scottish Government counterparts and engage in how the future immigration policy will impact on Scotland?

Reply from Sajid Javid: I am sure that the hon. and learned Lady agrees that we want an immigration system that serves the national interest—that brings immigration down to sustainable levels but also gives the skills that we need for the entire UK, of course including Scotland. My right hon. Friend the Immigration Minister is planning to visit Scotland this summer to meet Ministers.

John Redwood (Conservative): I am glad that my right hon. Friend is working on a new UK-based migration policy to hit the Government's targets. Does he accept that we might need this as early as 30 March next year if we leave without an agreement?

Reply from Sajid Javid: As always, my right hon. Friend makes a very important point. While we are working on the basis that we will not need it as early as 30 March, he is absolutely right to point out that we should be prepared for all eventualities, and that is exactly what we are doing.

https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-16/debates/A11C1785-4AFB-412E-B5C7-1FAC51FAC481/ImmigrationSkilledWorkers

Windrush Compensation

Helen Hayes (Labour): What steps [the Minister] is taking to provide compensation to Windrush migrants. [906465]

Reply from the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sajid Javid): I am committed to establishing a compensation scheme as quickly and as carefully as possible to help address what has gone wrong. The design of the scheme is naturally complex. I am therefore determined that we get it right and that we properly listen to those affected before taking final decisions on the design.

Helen Hayes: The Windrush scandal and the Government's wider hostile environment policy have created an urgent need for independent advice for Windrush citizens seeking to confirm their status and access compensation. As there is no trust in the Home Office, the Black Cultural Archives in my constituency has for several months been running legal advice clinics for Windrush citizens, staffed by volunteer lawyers. They have seen hundreds of people and there remains unmet need. This essential work should not fall to volunteers. Does the Home Secretary recognise the need for independent advice from trusted organisations such as the Black Cultural Archives, and will he provide funding to enable independent advice to be available to everyone who needs it?

Reply from Sajid Javid: When I became Home Secretary I said it was my first

priority to help those affected by the Windrush situation. That is why one of the first things we did was properly staff the taskforce, and over 100 officials now work on it, ensuring that people are listened to and that applications are processed quickly. More than 2,000 applications have already been processed, most of them in a single day. Last week, we announced that some 584 applications for citizenship have been granted. I think we are dealing with this appropriately. I am always happy to listen to fresh ideas, but I think this is being taken very seriously by the Government.

Rebecca Pow (Conservative): A couple of months ago, I raised the issue of Raj Unalkat who was thrown out of Uganda and came to live in Taunton Deane for 40 years. As with the Windrush cases, he was welcomed to the UK but then told that he was going to be thrown out because he had no passport. Great news: today we have heard that he has got his passport. Will the Secretary of State join me in thanking everyone who helped and in praising our fast-track system, which is absolutely working? Will he work with me to try to get compensation for the work days Raj has missed? ...

Reply from Sajid Javid: I happily join my hon. Friend in welcoming that outcome. Of course mistakes are sometimes made in an organisation as big as the Home Office, with tens of thousands of applications to deal with each year, but it is appropriate that when mistakes are made they are corrected.

Yvette Cooper (Labour): The Home Secretary's letter to the Select Committee on hardship issues appears to suggest that members of the Windrush generation have been asked to sign non-disclosure agreements to get financial help before the full compensation scheme comes in. Will he confirm whether that is the case? If so, how many people have been asked to do so? Does he agree that it would be shocking if people who have been wronged by the Home Office are now being gagged by the Home Office to get the hardship support they need?

Reply from Sajid Javid: Let me be very clear that we are in the process of designing a compensation scheme. There has already been a call for evidence, and I will shortly be launching a consultation. Its design is going to be overseen independently by Martin Forde QC, and there will be no question with respect to the compensation scheme—no one will be asked to sign any kind of non-disclosure agreement or anything like that.

https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-16/debates/11544A61-FC31-45F9-B10D-6E5639FE9FEF/WindrushCompensation

Immigration Detention: Children

Mary Creagh (Labour): What [the Minister's] policy is on the treatment of children whose parents are under immigration detention. [906457]

Reply from the Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes): The welfare and safeguarding of children is at the heart of the family returns process, and our policy is clear that we do all we can to keep families together. Other than in exceptional circumstances, a child will not be separated from both parents for immigration purposes. Detention is used sparingly, for the purposes of public protection and removal. We encourage those with no right to remain in the UK to leave voluntarily, and all detainees have the right to bail, which is decided by a judge.

Mary Creagh: Despite compelling evidence of the harm caused to children by the indefinite detention of their parents, the Home Office continues to separate them in an arbitrary and cruel manner, but its replies to my questions show that it has no idea how many children are currently separated. The Department paid £50,000 in compensation after a three-year-old girl was unlawfully separated from her father, who was placed in immigration detention. She was reunited with him just days before she was due to be placed for adoption. What is the Minister doing to get a grip on the situation, stop this unlawful practice, tell us how many children are affected and reunite them with their families?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: In the case raised by the hon. Lady, the Home Office acknowledged its mistakes and indeed paid compensation. It is worth remembering that more than 1,000 children went into detention in 2009, whereas only 44 did so in the last year for which figures are available. The Home Office has taken significant steps to ensure that children are not detained with their parents, and they can be in an immigration removal centre only when they can be removed within 72 hours.

Neil Gray (SNP): This year, Bail for Immigration Detainees has represented 155 parents separated from their children while in immigration detention, yet the Prime Minister states that that is not the Government's practice. Can the Minister condemn the practice and finally stop it?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: There is clear and published guidance on how a family unit may be defined, and on the separation of individuals from their family group for immigration reasons. Cases may involve pre-existing separation of family units for non-immigration reasons. For instance, in the case of foreign criminals, children might already have been taken into care when the individual received a custodial sentence.

Afzal Khan (Labour): The Prime Minister has condemned Trump's family separation policy, but this Government's hostile environment separates parents from their children every day. As my hon. Friend the Member for Wakefield (Mary Creagh) pointed out, last week the Home Office was forced to pay £40,000 in damages for falsely imprisoning a father, unlawfully separating him from his daughter for three months. The Home Office failed at every stage of the process. The Home Secretary has said that he will pause the hostile environment, but immigration detention is a key part of it. Will the Government look again at indefinite detention, and at the use of detention more widely, and publish the Shaw review in good time for us to examine it before the summer recess?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The hon. Gentleman will have heard me say that some cases might involve pre-existing separation. As I have highlighted, back in 2009 there were more than 1,000 children in detention, and that number has now been reduced to 44. The Home Office has acknowledged the mistakes that were made in the case he mentioned, but it is important to reflect on the role that detention plays in ensuring that those who have no right to be here and no right to our public services are removed in a timely manner.

https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-16/debates/128C2862-F658-4B13-99F4-F157E96C2848/ImmigrationDetentionChildren

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Schools: Census

Darren Jones (Labour) [162611] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, when nationality and country of birth data collected by schools for immigration purposes in the 2016-18 school census will be deleted as required by the Education Act 1996.

Reply from Nick Gibb: The Department has consistently been clear that nationality and country of birth data was collected for the purposes of internal educational research and will not be shared with the Home Office or any other government department. At the end of the current 2017/18 academic year, the Department will have sufficient data to support the research it wishes to undertake and has proactively decided to remove the data collection burden placed on schools and parents from September 2018 onwards.

The Department has robust safeguards and controls in place to ensure this data, as with all our data, is handled securely and in accordance with relevant data protection regulations. This data will be subject to ongoing periodic reviews to ensure that the data will be retained for no longer than is necessary for the research purposes for which the data was originally collected.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-10/162611/

Visas: Applications

Dan Jarvis (Labour) [164439] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many ongoing visa applications received in the last month have not been processed within the time set by his Department in its service standards.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The information for the latest quarter available is published online.

Data on entry clearance visa processing times, including the percentage and number of visas that are processed within service standards, is published at: https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data

(then listed by publication date under 'UK Visas & Immigration').

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-16/164439/

Immigration: Carers

The following three questions all received the same answer

Seema Malhotra (Labour Co-op) [163108] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate he has made of the number of people who have applied for the right to reside in the UK as carers under Ruiz-Zambrano case law since 2011; and of those people how many were successful.

Seema Malhotra (Labour Co-op) [163109] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will provide a breakdown by nationality of people who have (a) applied for and (b) been successful in their applications for the right to reside in the UK as carers under Ruiz-Zambrano case law since 2011.

Seema Malhotra (Labour Co-op) [163110] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate he has made of the number of people resident in the UK who derive their right to reside from their status as primary carers under Ruiz-Zambrano case law.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: There are no published statistics specifically relating to carers who have made applications and been successful under the Ruiz-Zambrano case law, however information available on the issue and refusal of residence documentation to EEA nationals and their family members, broken down by the applicants' nationality is published in the quarterly Immigration Statistics, European Economic Area volume table at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-year-ending-march-2018/list-of-tables#european-economic-area-eea

As European rights are automatic rights with no mandatory application required, the Home Office does not hold the information requested relating to the number of people resident in the UK who derive their right to reside from their status as primary carers under the Ruiz–Zambrano case law. Statistics on the UK's resident population is a matter for the Office for National Statistics.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-11/163108/and

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-11/163109/and

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-11/163110/

Immigration: Carers

Seema Malhotra (Labour Co-op) [163111] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what plans he has to bring forward proposals on the status of Zambrano

carers after the UK has left the EU.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: As set out in paragraph 6.12 of the Statement of Intent on the EU Settlement Scheme published on 21 June 2018, provision in the Immigration Rules will be made for a non-EU citizen who is the primary carer of a British citizen in the UK and who currently derives a right of residence from wider EU law (a Zambrano carer). Further details will be provided in due course on the new status which will be available to them.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-11/163111/

Immigration: Carers

The following two questions both received the same answer

Seema Malhotra (Labour Co-op) [163797] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what his policy is on the right to reside in the UK of carers with Ruiz-Zambrano status who are nationals of countries outside of the EU after the UK leaves the EU.

Seema Malhotra (Labour Co-op) [163798] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what funding his Department plans to allocate to British children of carers residing in the UK under Zambrano status after the UK has left the EU.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: As set out in paragraph 6.12 of the Statement of Intent on the EU Settlement Scheme published on 21 June 2018, provision in the Immigration Rules will be made for a non-EU citizen who is the primary carer of a British citizen in the UK and who currently derives a right of residence from wider EU law (a Zambrano carer).

Further details will be provided in due course on the new status which will be available to them. The Home Office has no plans to allocate funding in this area.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-13/163797/and

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-13/163798/

Veterinary Medicine: Migrant Workers

David Drew (Labour Co-op) [162459] To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what plans are in place to ensure that veterinary surgeons working in meat hygiene from (a) other EU member states and (b) non-EU states to access their pensions if they are no longer domiciled in the UK after the UK leaves the EU.

Reply from Guy Opperman: Private pension savings or accrued rights, including pensions accrued through an occupational pension scheme, are treated as the property of the individual scheme member. Private property is protected by both UK and international law. Consequently, individuals who have accrued a private pension in the UK are currently able to access their pension savings or pension rights regardless of whether they are domiciled outside of the UK in either an EU or a non-EU state. There will be no change for individuals who are domiciled in a non-EU state after the UK leaves the EU.

The reciprocal rights and entitlements that will apply to UK citizens domiciled in EU states when the UK leaves the EU are subject to the wider negotiation on our future relationship with the EU and we will seek to ensure the best possible outcome for the British people, at home and overseas. However, irrespective of the outcome of those negotiations we would expect the current position in respect of private pensions to be maintained. We fully expect that people domiciled in an EU member state will continue to be able to access their UK private pension savings or UK private pension rights after the UK leaves the EU.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-10/162459/

Undocumented Workers

James Morris (Conservative) [906471] What steps [the Minister] is taking to ensure that illegal migrants cannot profit from working in the UK.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: In the Immigration Act 2016, we made illegal working a criminal offence so that wages can be seized as proceeds of crime and introduced tougher sanctions on rogue employers. We have also recently introduced additional safeguards to protect legal migrants seeking employment who do not have the necessary documentation to establish their lawful immigration status.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-16/906471/

Immigrants: Caribbean

Harriet Harman (Labour) [138939] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, under what statute people of the Windrush generation were detained.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Immigration detention decisions are made under powers in Schedules 2 and 3 to the Immigration Act 1971, section 62 of the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 or section 36 of the UK Borders Act 2007

All decisions to detain are taken on the basis of a careful consideration of the individual circumstances of the case in question. Published Home Office policy is clear that there is a presumption in favour of liberty. Where a person is detained for the purpose of removal there must be a realistic prospect of removal within a reasonable period of time.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-27/138939/

Immigrants: Caribbean

Kate Osamor (Labour Co-op) [141856] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether the Government's compensation scheme for the Windrush generation will take into account missed (a) national insurance contributions, (b) pensions contributions and (c) life insurance or medical insurance premiums.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government is clear that where the Windrush generation have suffered loss, they will be compensated and the Home Office is setting up a new scheme to deliver this, which will be overseen by an Independent Person.

The compensation scheme for those of the Windrush generation that might have been affected is in the process of being established. The call for evidence for that scheme ended on 8 June and the Home Office are now preparing to launch the next stage of consultation, working with affected communities. The scheme will be set up as soon as possible after we have consulted on the design and scope of what should be included.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-08/141856/

Immigration: EU Nationals

The following two questions both received the same answer

Theresa Villiers (Conservative) [163779] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to paragraph 76(b) of the White Paper, The future relationship between the UK and the EU, Cm 9593, what the maximum duration of a visa-free visit will be for temporary business activity.

Theresa Villiers (Conservative) [163780] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to paragraph 76(b) of the White Paper, The future relationship between the UK and the EU, Cm 9593, what activities will be included in the classification temporary business activity.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government is considering a range of options for the future borders and immigration system, and will set out further details later this year. Free movement will end and we will control immigration in the national interest. The current Immigration Rules allow visitors to come to the UK for up to 6 months in the UK and list the permitted activities which a visitor may do.

Recognising the depth of the UK-EU relationship, the UK will make a sovereign choice to seek reciprocal mobility arrangements with the EU covering visits for short-term business reasons, and specific allowed activities will be part of that discussion.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-13/163779/and

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-13/163780/

The White Paper referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment data/file/725288/The future relationship between the United Kingdom and the Eur opean Union.pdf

Immigration: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [161143] To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, whether a new Independent Monitoring Authority to monitor citizens' rights will be established by 29 March 2019.

Reply from Robin Walker: A new Independent Monitoring Authority will monitor how the Citizens' Rights provisions of the Withdrawal Agreement are implemented and applied in the UK, helping to provide certainty to EU citizens in the UK. Its powers will have effect from the end of the implementation period. The Withdrawal Agreement and Implementation Bill, which will implement the final Withdrawal Agreement with the European Union, will make provision for the establishment of this independent monitoring authority.

We will come forward in due course with more details about the shape of this new authority, but we are clear that it will need to receive complaints from EU citizens and their family members; conduct its own inquiries into alleged breaches of Part Two of the Agreement by administrative bodies; and institute legal proceedings to seek an adequate remedy. The IMA will publish an annual report to the specialised Committee for Citizens' Rights, (sitting under the Joint Committee governing the Withdrawal Agreement).

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-05/161143/

Immigration: EU Nationals

Steve Double (Conservative) [163144] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if his Department plans to require EU citizens arriving in the UK for the first time during the implementation period and intending to apply for pre-settled status to also register their stay.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We are considering how we can most effectively implement a registration scheme for EU citizens arriving during the implementation period, alongside the EU Settlement Scheme, and will be setting out more details in due course.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-11/163144/

Asylum: Appeals

Faisal Rashid (Labour) [163630] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference evidence in the report, Waiting in the Dark: How the asylum

system dehumanises, disempowers and damages, published by Refugee Action in May 2019, what assessment has he made of the reasons for the high number of decisions overturned on appeal.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: UK Visas and Immigration has an internal audit process, consisting of reviews by senior case workers and independent auditors, which assesses the application of Home Office policy. We continue to work to improve the quality of decision-making to ensure that we properly consider all the evidence provided and get decisions right the first time.

Appeals are allowed for a variety of reasons including the presentation of fresh evidence, not available at the time of the initial decision. We have a very active feedback system between our presenting officers and those who make decisions on asylum claims. Where our reviews show that there are lessons for the Home Office, these are fed back to decision making units who use them to improve operational practices.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-12/163630/

The report referred to above can be read at

https://www.refugee-action.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Waiting-in-the-Dark-A4-16-May-2018.pdf

Asylum: Finance

The following two questions both received the same answer

Roger Godsiff (Labour) [163742] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will publish his Department's targets for the processing of decisions on applications for asylum support.

Roger Godsiff (Labour) [163743] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will take steps to introduce a transparent system for the monitoring of his Department's performance on the time taken to make decisions on applications for asylum support; and if he will publish the results of that performance.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government is committed to promoting fairness and transparency for those applying for asylum support. The Home Office closely monitors and shares information with stakeholders on the current suite of measures for processing support applications. However information on processing times is not recorded in a format suitable for publication and there are no plans to publish such statistics at this time.

The Home Office is continuing to work with the National Asylum Stakeholder Forum to consider what further information could be made publicly available once the new IT system for asylum support casework has been fully implemented later this year.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-13/163742/and

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-13/163743/

Asylum: Sudan and South Sudan

David Drew (Labour Co-op) [162462] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many refugees and asylum seekers have been returned to (a) Sudan and (b) South Sudan in each of the last five years for which figures are available.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The number of returns from the UK to (a) Sudan and (b) South Sudan is published in table rt_05 (returns data tables, volume 5) in 'Immigration Statistics, year ending March 2018'. This can be broken down by asylum and non-asylum cases. The data are available from the GOV.uk website https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/709325/returns5-mar-2018-tables.ods

Asylum cases refer to those who have claimed asylum at some point, regardless of the outcome of the application.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-10/162462/

Immigrants: Detainees

Mary Creagh (Labour) [163532] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many children have been detained in Immigration Removal Centres in each year for which information is available.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office publish data on the number of children entering detention by year and quarter. The data is available in tables dt 02 and dt 02 q of the detention tables.

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

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/709 326/detention-mar-2018-tables.ods

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-12/163532/

Immigrants: Detainees

Harriet Harman (Labour) [164253] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the nationalities were of people held in immigration detention centres in the UK in each of the last three years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office publish data on the nationalities of people in detention as at the last day of each quarter. Data for those in detention on 31 March 2018 is available in table dt_13_q of the detention tables.

The latest available data 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/2018-07-16/164253/

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Immigration

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL9311] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they intend to re-evaluate their immigration policies to ensure that they do not deliver a "hostile environment".

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The public expects us to enforce immigration laws approved by Parliament as a matter of fairness to those who abide by the rules. Successive Governments have brought forward measures to tackle illegal migration and prevent the misuse of public services and benefits.

It is right, however, that we understand the impact of those measures; that they are meeting our aim to deter immigration offending, and, vitally, that safeguards are effective in ensuring they are not capturing those who are entitled to access work, benefits and services in the UK. We recognise the need to put in place evaluation to do this, and will consider options in due course. In light of Windrush, we are also reviewing our safeguards.

The Home Office has also announced a Windrush lessons learned review. The review will seek to understand how the Windrush generation became entangled in measures designed for illegal immigrants and why this was not spotted sooner.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-05/HL9311/

Veterinary Medicine: Migrant Workers

Lord Allen of Kensington (Labour) [HL9258] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to remove vets from the Tier two visa cap.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: 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 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/Lords/2018-07-05/HL9258/

Undocumented Migrants

Lord Judd (Labour) [HL9293] To ask Her Majesty's Government what consideration they have given to using the phrase "economic or other migrants who do not meet the legal requirements of host countries" in the place of "illegal economic migrants" or "illegal migrants".

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: No consideration has been given to this phrase. The Immigration Acts refer to persons who require leave to enter or remain but do not have it.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-05/HL9293/

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL9312] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they are considering alternative measures to support those who are in immediate financial trouble as a result of the Windrush scandal.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The first priority for any Windrush migrants that may have experienced problems in obtaining documents confirming their immigration status is to help them secure that status. That is why the Government quickly established the Windrush Taskforce, which has a dedicated team for vulnerable people and a fast-track service for the payment of benefits, working closely in a co-ordinated manner with DWP.

A compensation scheme for those of the Windrush generation that might have been affected is in the process of being established. The call for evidence for that scheme ended on 8 June and the Home Office are now preparing to launch the next stage of consultation, working with affected communities. The scheme will be set up as soon as possible after we have consulted. In the meantime the Home Office will work with organisations in the Third Sector, who have considerable experience and expertise in supporting those in financial difficulties, with a view to providing tailored advice to people in the Windrush cohort.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-05/HL9312/

Refugees: Health Services

Baroness Tonge (Non-affiliated) [HL9317] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to seek to ensure that adolescents in refugee camps are able to engage with confidential sexual and reproductive health and rights services.

Reply from Lord Bates: The UK Government is strongly committed to the sexual and reproductive health and rights of adolescent girls affected by humanitarian

crises. At the London Family Planning Summit in July 2017 we ensured that adolescents and humanitarian crises were two of the priority themes. We committed to including specific provisions for adolescents in all our future sexual and reproductive health programmes and to collecting and using age-disaggregated data (including for the under 20s). All UK humanitarian funding is required to consider sexual and reproductive health and rights and we support the Inter-Agency Field Manual for Reproductive Health in Crises, which includes guidelines on the sexual and reproductive health needs of adolescents.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-05/HL9317/

Asylum: Afghanistan

Lord Singh of Wimbledon (Crossbench) [HL9309] To ask Her Majesty's Government, following the suicide bombing resulting in the death of 19 Sikhs in Jalalabad, Afghanistan in July, whether they intend to offer asylum in the UK to the families of those who were killed.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: There is no provision in the Immigration Rules for people to be allowed to travel to the UK to seek asylum. Those who need international protection should claim in the first safe country they reach – that is the fastest route to safety.

Our resettlement schemes offer a safe and legal route to the UK for the most vulnerable refugees. Membership of a minority religion or group is not in itself one of the vulnerability criteria used to assess eligibility for resettlement but members of minority religions or groups may qualify under the established criteria.

Our assessment of the situation for Sikhs in Afghanistan is set out in the relevant country policy and information note, which is available on the Gov.uk website https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/afghanistan-country-policy-and-information-notes.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-05/HL9309/

Deportation: Pakistan

Lord Alton of Liverpool (Crossbench) [HL9155] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of whether it is safe to deport families, including children, to Pakistan when there is evidence that they have received death threats due to their religious beliefs; when they last considered whether there is persecution of particular minorities in Pakistan; and what conclusions they reached.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: All claims for international protection are considered in accordance with our international obligations. Claims are considered against any relevant caselaw and the background of the latest available country information. This is based on a careful and objective assessment of the situation in Afghanistan using evidence taken from a range of sources including media outlets; local, national and international organisations, including human rights organisations; and information from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Our assessment of the situation for certain religious minorities in Pakistan is set out in the relevant country policy and information notes, which are available on the Gov.uk website.

However, the country information forms the objective background against which applications are decided. Crucially, decision makers must still consider the individual facts and merits of a particular case to determine whether or not that person qualifies for asylum. The Government takes its international responsibilities seriously and usually grants protection to those who qualify.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-03/HL9155/

Press Releases

Windrush compensation scheme consultation launched

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/windrush-compensation-scheme-consultation-launched

Supporting Syrian families in Dundee

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3326_supporting_syria_n_families_in_dundee

New Publications

Update to Grenfell relatives' immigration policy

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment data/file/725995/Grenfell Immigration Policy-Relatives.pdf

An immigration system that works for science and innovation

https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmsctech/1061/1061.pdf

Windrush lessons learned review

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/727184/WLLR_Terms_of_Reference_vn_5.0__003_.pdf

Migration Statistics Quarterly Report: July 2018

https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/internationalmigration/bulletins/migrationstatisticsquarterlyreport/july2018revisedfrommaycoveringtheperiodtodecember2017/pdf

EU Settlement Scheme: Statement of Intent – An analysis

https://2xsoic30m4ba2ervd35c9n41-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/t3m-response-to-EU-Settlement-Scheme-SOI-Final-18.07.11-1.pdf

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

Migration from EU to UK lowest for four years, ONS figures show

https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-44846002

EU net migration falls to lowest level since 2013

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16357380.eu-net-migration-falls-to-lowest-level-since-2013/

Warning over 'exodus' of nurses as EU migration falls to five-year low

https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/warning-over-exodus-of-nurses-as-eu-migration-falls-to-five-year-low-1-4769427

EU net migration hits four-year low in wake of Brexit, figures show

https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/eu-migration-uk-levels-brexit-workers-right-stay-home-office-visas-a8449126.html

Migration to UK from EU falls to lowest level for four years

https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/16/migration-to-uk-from-eu-falls-to-lowest-level-for-four-years-says-ons

Net migration rises as more arrive from outside the EU

https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-07-17/news/net-migration-has-risen-since-brexit-vote-0dmgx2ndh

Brexodus is not happening, ONS suggests despite EU net migration falling to 100,000 https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2018/07/16/brexodusis-not-happenning-ons-suggests-despite-eu-net-migration/

UK will lose track of many EU migrants after Brexit - report https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-44839733

UK could lose track of thousands of EU migrants after Brexit, warns report https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/uk-eu-migrants-brexit-report-immigration-right-to-remain-settled-status-a8449211.htm

DNA tests on asylum seekers were 'dubious', Home Office admits

https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/19/dna-tests-asylum-seekers-dubious-home-office-admits

Huge jump in number of super-rich immigrants applying for UK investor visas https://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/news/tier-1-visa-applications-investors-immigration-ultra-high-net-worth-brexit-roman-abramovich-a8446251.html

Sharp rise in number of super-rich prepared to invest £2m for UK visa

https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/16/sharp-rise-number-super-rich-prepared-invest-two-million-pounds-uk-golden-visa

Online system tested for EU citizens who want to stay

https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-07-21/news/online-system-tested-for-eucitizens-who-want-to-stay-9288j06xd

Bill for failed deportations hits £2.4m

https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/bill-for-failed-deportations-hits-2-4m-klhh9vv9d

Government urged to extend Windrush task force to include children of elderly Caribbean nationals

https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/windrush-children-taskforce-caribbean-parliament-david-lammy-movement-for-justice-a8452411.html

Windrush victims could see cap on compensation

https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/19/windrush-victims-could-see-cap-on-compensation

As home secretary, I'm determined to fix the Windrush injustices

https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jul/19/compensation-scheme-windrush-amends-sajid-javid

Revealed: depth of Home Office failures on Windrush

https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/18/revealed-depth-of-home-office-failures-on-windrush

Windrush victims will get damages

https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-07-20/news/windrush-victims-will-get-damages-ntd9nxs6w

Windrush scandal: Government accused of 'dragging its feet' over compensation https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/windrush-compensation-government-delay-scandal-saiid-iavid-a8455051.html

Lack of legal aid puts asylum seekers' lives at risk, charity warns

https://www.theguardian.com/law/2018/jul/19/lack-legal-aid-puts-asylum-seekers-lives-atrisk-charity-warns

More than 43,000 sign petition to keep boys in Glasgow

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16355948.more-than-43000-sign-petition-to-keep-boys-in-glasgow/

Orphaned schoolboy Giorgi Kakava should be granted full citizenship, says MSP http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16364085.orphaned-schoolboy-giorgi-kakava-should-be-granted-full-citizenship-says-msp/

Thousands back plea to stop family's deportation

https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-07-16/scotland/thousands-back-plea-to-stop-familys-deportation-wd8wmkrhq

Caribbean woman whose Windrush father served in Royal Air Force facing deportation from UK

https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/windrush-latest-caribbean-woman-deportation-raf-father-home-office-hostile-sharon-vitalis-a8433641.html

'They erased a bit of my life': Windrush generation on Home Office treatment https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/18/they-erased-a-bit-of-my-life-windrush-generation-on-home-office-treatment

Stress linked to Windrush migrant's death

https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-07-21/news/stress-linked-to-windrush-migrant-s-death-vn9q6bvnj

Windrush mother wants Home Office role in son's death considered

https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/20/windrush-mother-wants-home-office-role-in-sons-death-looked-at

Windrush man who suddenly died did not access healthcare for two years due to immigration concerns, inquest hears

https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/windrush-scandal-latest-name-death-racist-gp-home-office-a8457006.html

The immigration crisis facing London's Chinatown

https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/21/the-immigration-crisis-facing-london-chinatown

'I feel safe now': how legal aid saved a gay man from deportation

https://www.theguardian.com/law/2018/jul/19/i-feel-safe-now-how-legal-aid-protected-asylum-seeker

Widowed father ordered to leave UK against advice of Home Office's own lawyers https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/16/widowed-father-ordered-leave-uk-against-advice-of-home-office-lawyers-andrew-farotade

Call for postmortem after asylum seeker's death at car wash

https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/17/call-for-postmortem-after-asylum-seekers-death-at-car-wash

TOP

Community Relations

News

How it feels to... be black in the corporate world

https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/how-it-feels-to-be-black-in-the-corporate-world-lk750xfnh

TOP

Equality

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Travellers: Caravan Sites

Kate Green (Labour) [163553] To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, what discussions he has had with the Housing Minister on the findings of the Race Disparity Audit in relation to accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers and the Government review, Powers for dealing with unauthorised development and encampments.

Reply from Kit Malthouse: The Government is considering the responses received to the recently closed consultation on the effectiveness of the powers to deal with unauthorised developments and encampments. The consultation touched on a broad range of issues, which included the provision of uthorised sites, and the impact on settled and travelling communities. The Government wants to understand the issues in more depth before deciding what action to take in response to stakeholders' views. The Secretary of State and I have had discussions with interested parties, including Members of Parliament, and continue to listen closely to stakeholders' views to ensure a robust and proportionate Government response.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-12/163553/

News

ITN reveals BAME staff typically get four-fifths pay of white colleagues

https://www.theguardian.com/media/2018/jul/18/itn-reveals-bame-staff-typically-four-fifths-pay-white-colleagues

Why do black male graduates earn £7,000 less per year than their white peers? https://www.theguardian.com/world/shortcuts/2018/jul/18/why-do-black-male-graduates-earn-7000-less-per-year-than-their-white-peers

Children's books must have more black characters, Arts Council funded report says https://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2018/07/16/childrens-books-must-have-black-characters-arts-council-funded/

Four per cent of children's books have ethnic minority characters

https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-07-17/news/four-per-cent-of-childrens-book-have-ethnic-minority-characters-jwdzf2kkg

TOP

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-13187 John Mason (SNP): Orange Marches – That the Parliament greatly regrets the verbal and physical abuse that it understands was made towards Tom White, the Catholic priest of St Alphonsus and St Mary's churches in Calton, Glasgow on 7 July 2018; understands that this was linked to an Orange march passing his church and that such marches focus on and celebrate the defeat of Catholics and Catholicism in 1690 and other times; considers that an intentional or unintentional result of such marches is to stir hatred of Catholics; affirms its commitment to tackling all hate crime in Scotland, and considers that Orange marches must be restricted or ended if Scotland is serious about dealing with hatred against minority groups in society.

http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-13187

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answer

Prime Minister's Questions

Helen Whately (Conservative): Thirty-one member countries of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance have an agreed definition of anti-Semitism. Does my right hon. Friend agree that all political parties should adopt that definition, and its examples, without amendments or omissions? [906524]

The Prime Minister: I agree with my hon. Friend that all political parties should do just that. The Conservative party has done that, but sadly the Labour party does not agree. The Labour party is trying to redefine anti-Semitism to allow people to say that Israel is a racist endeavour. The Chief Rabbi says that what the Labour party is doing is sending "an unprecedented message of contempt"

for British Jews. Even some of the right hon. Gentleman's own MPs are saying that this is anti-Semitic. Anti-Semitism is racism. The Labour party should accept that. The right hon. Gentleman should accept that. We should all sign up, as the Conservative party has, to the definition of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance and all its annexes.

https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-18/debates/3F297FF7-FA4C-49F0-A4AB-59A1B58C6D35/Engagements#contribution-F6C11697-BF5A-4509-87A6-30E9373F63DF

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Travellers: Hate Crime

Baroness Whitaker (Labour) [HL9254] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the report by Goldsmiths, University of London, Recognise, Report, Resolve, published in June, about racist hate speech and other

abusive incidents targeted at the Gypsy, Traveller and Roma communities.

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: The Government is clear that all forms of hate crime and discrimination are unacceptable. We support efforts to improve hate crime reporting, and in December 2017 we awarded a grant of £55,000 to Herts GATE (Gypsy and Traveller Empowerment), an organisation that works to encourage reporting of hate crime in Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities and has set up *Report Racism GRT*, a third-party hate crime reporting website.

The report *Recognise Report Resolve* draws on material submitted to the *Report Racism GRT* website, and has been produced independently by Herts GATE and Goldsmiths, University of London.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-04/HL9254/

The report referred to above can be read at

https://www.travellerstimes.org.uk/sites/default/files/inline-files/Recognise-Report-Resolve.pdf

News:

Yousaf to step up fight against hate crime in Scotland

https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/yousaf-to-step-up-fight-against-hate-crime-in-scotland-1-4769153

Scottish Labour MSP Anas Sarwar racially abused in Glasgow

https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/scottish-labour-msp-anas-sarwar-racially-abused-in-glasgow-1-4770483

Labour's Anas Sarwar branded 'P*** b****** as he stood at River Clyde http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16361918.labours-anas-sarwar-branded-p-b-as-he-stood-at-river-clyde/

Anas Sarwar hits out at yob who yelled 'P**i b*****d' at him during racist attack https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/anas-sarwar-hits-out-yob-12939163

Scottish Labour leader Richard Leonard criticised over "delayed" probe into allegedly anti-semitic post by councillor

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16369930.scottish-labour-leader-richard-leonard-criticised-over-delayed-probe-into-allegedly-anti-semitic-post-by-councillor/

Disgraced councillor found guilty of sending racist texts is appealing conviction https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/former-snp-politician-convicted-sending-12954654

Police must tackle hate crime problems, says watchdog https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-44873179

Young black men more likely to be prosecuted over dispersal orders

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jul/18/young-black-men-more-like-prosecuted-over-dispersal-orders-new-antisocial-behaviour-powers

Facebook gives special protections to racist pages and allows extremist content to be shared, investigation shows

https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/gadgets-and-tech/news/facebook-rules-content-moderation-post-extreme-content-child-abuse-racist-latest-a8450196.html

National Action terror plot: How once-ridiculed BNP Youth leader planned neo-Nazi machete attack

https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/national-action-terror-plot-jack-renshaw-bnp-edl-rosie-cooper-machete-dog-a8451126.html

Leader of banned neo-Nazi terror group, National Action, jailed for eight years https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/07/18/leader-banned-neo-nazi-terror-group-national-action-jailed-eight/

Record number of anti-Muslim attacks reported in UK last year

https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/20/record-number-anti-muslim-attacks-reported-uk-2017

'White jihadists' target campuses in attempt to unleash race war

https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/white-jihadists-target-campuses-in-attempt-to-unleash-race-war-6qfclz9hf

Police probe shock claims of knife threats and sectarian bullying at Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/fat-fenian-bd-watch-your-12959563

Scotland needs to do better for Gypsy/Travellers

http://www.heraldscotland.com/opinion/16367559.scotland-needs-to-do-better-forgypsytravellers/

Teenager admits murder bid on Syrian refugee in Edinburgh

https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-44885166

Shabaz Ali and his family came to Scotland seeking safety from war-torn Syria, but he almost died in a drug-fuelled racist attack in Edinburgh

www.heraldscotland.com/news/16366406.shabaz-ali-and-his-family-came-to-scotland-seeking-safety-from-war-torn-syria-but-he-almost-died-in-a-drug-fuelled-racist-attack-in-edinburgh/

Edinburgh teen admits racially aggravated stabbing of Syrian

https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/19/edinburgh-teen-admits-racially-aggravated-stabbing-of-syrian

Teenager pleads guilty to racially aggravated attempted murder of Syrian refugee https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/teenager-guilty-plea-syria-refugee-attempted-murder-shabaz-ali-edinburgh-a8455891.html

Racist teenager admits trying to kill Syrian refugee

https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-07-20/scotland/racist-teenager-admits-trying-to-kill-syrian-refugee-mv9lv2d0k

Our society condones discrimination against Christians

https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/our-society-condones-discrimination-against-christians-7fg03ctzx

A service for 'renting minorities'

http://www.bbc.com/capital/story/20180716-a-service-for-renting-minorities

Veteran's wife reveals sick racist abuse her family faces in Scotland due to soldier husband's Fijian heritage

https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/veterans-wife-reveals-sick-racist-12944121

News: UK Labour Party – antisemitism

New Labour anti-Semitism code faces criticism

https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-44863606

Chief Rabbi calls for Labour to change its anti-Semitism code

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16358392.chief-rabbi-calls-for-labour-to-change-its-anti-semitism-code/

Labour embroiled in new row over tackling anti-Semitism

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16360825.labour-embroiled-in-new-row-over-tackling-anti-semitism/

I sympathise with Jewish anger at Labour over anti-Semitism, says Tony Blair http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16366421.i-sympathise-with-jewish-anger-at-labour-over-anti-semitism-says-tony-blair/

Jeremy Corbyn called 'f***** racist and antisemite' by Labour MP Dame Margaret Hodge https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/jeremy-corbyn-margaret-hodge-racist-labour-antisemite-antisemitisim-jewish-john-woodcock-a8452351.html

Labour MPs and peers demand party toughen its stance on antisemitism

https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/labour-party-anti-semitism-jewish-jeremy-corbyn-policy-a8450346.html

Labour has rejected the EU's definition of antisemitism. This is morally wrong – and politically foolish

https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/labour-antisemitism-eu-definition-jeremy-corbyn-margaret-hodge-woodcock-a8452436.html

I was right to confront Jeremy Corbyn over Labour's antisemitism

https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jul/18/jeremy-corbyn-labour-antisemitism-margaret-hodge

Labour's antisemitism code exposes a sickness in Jeremy Corbyn's party

https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jul/18/labour-antisemitism-code-jeremy-corbyn

Labour MP labels Corbyn an 'antisemite' over party's refusal to drop code

https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/jul/17/labour-agrees-to-fresh-antisemitism-consultation-after-stormy-debate

Jewish Labour Movement to sue Labour Party over anti-semitism code

https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/jewish-labour-movement-to-sue-labour-party-over-anti-semitism-code-r6306hhkx

Anti-Semitism row: Labour will 'get it right' says Rebecca Long-Bailey https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-44915925

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Other UK Parliament and Government

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Coroners

The following four questions all received the same answer

Bob Blackman (Conservative) [163078] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many (a) Jewish and (b) Muslim deaths have been processed in each coroner area in the last 12 months.

Bob Blackman (Conservative) [163079] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many non-invasive autopsies have been (a) requested and (b) provided in each coroner area in the last 12 months.

Bob Blackman (Conservative) [163080] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, on how many occasions the three-day target for the release of bodies after initial report has not been met in each coroner area in the most recent period for which figures are available.

Coroners: Working Hours

Bob Blackman (Conservative) [163081] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many and which coroner areas offer an out-of-hours service for cases other than homicide, mass fatalities and organ or tissue donation.

Reply from Rory Stewart: The Ministry of Justice does not have operational responsibility for coroner services and therefore only holds information that it has decided to collect from coroners on the basis that it would be useful in policy making. We collect annual data on deaths reported to coroners, including inquests and post-mortem examinations held. The figures for the number of post mortems held in 2017 which involved less invasive techniques are available at:

www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/706047/coroners-statistics-2017-csvs.zip.

The Ministry of Justice does not currently collect from coroners information on the number of less invasive post-mortem examinations which have been requested, Jewish or Muslim deaths investigated by coroners, and release of bodies or out of hours services.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-11/163078/

and

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-11/163079/

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-11/163080/and

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-11/163081/

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

School Meals: Meat

Baroness Hodgson of Abinger (Conservative) [HL9377] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Agnew of Oulton on 4 July, what action they will take to ensure that parents can prevent their children in state schools from being fed meat from animals slaughtered without pre-stunning.

Reply from Lord Agnew of Oulton: Head teachers, governors and their caterers are best placed to make decisions about their school food policies. We expect schools to act reasonably and to provide choices that take account of cultural,

religious and special dietary needs. We also expect schools to work with parents in making appropriate arrangements.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-10/HL9377/

The answer referred to above can be read at

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-20/HL8818/

Religious Freedom

Lord Alton of Liverpool (Crossbench) [HL9365] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they intend to propose the establishment of an international day commemorating the victims and survivors of religious persecution to be held annually on 3 August.

Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The British Government believes that the custom of commemorating the International Day of Religious Freedom on 27 October is becoming increasingly well established, and provides a suitable focus for marking this universal human right. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office actively encourages its diplomatic network to mark this day where local conditions allow. The Government therefore has no plans to support moves to establish an official United Nations Day on this theme.

https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-10/HL9365/

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Mike Penning (Conservative) (1527) Pre-stunning and animal slaughter – That this House recognises that there is public concern about meat slaughtered in accordance with religious beliefs and thus not been pre-stunned, being sold or served to consumers who do not require their meat to be prepared in this way; further recognises that there are calls for such meat to be labelled as pre-stunned before slaughter; recognises that there are no specific requirements for meat to be labelled as pre-stunned at present and such labelling is voluntary; and calls on the Government to prepare for the introduction of a specific mark to identify meat that has been pre-stunned before slaughter to be introduced as a legal requirement so that the public can make a choice when they buy their meat.

https://www.parliament.uk/edm/2017-19/1527

Press Release

Campaign to increase number of BAME organ donors [in England and Wales] announced https://www.gov.uk/government/news/campaign-to-increase-number-of-bame-organ-donors-announced

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Other News

Concerns over Stormont minority ethnic fund money

https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-politics-44655964

Organ donation: we can break taboos among British BAME communities

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jul/18/organ-donation-we-can-break-taboos-among-british-bame-communities

For love of Allah, queen and country

https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/for-love-of-allah-queen-and-country-8lrbvw8sh

Forced marriages are sadly a British problem - British children are at risk https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/07/21/forced-marriages-sadly-british-problem-

british-children-risk/

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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/holocaustreturnofculturalobiectsamendment.html

Human Trafficking (Child Protection) Bill

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

Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill

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

Modern Slavery (Transparency in Supply Chains) Bill

http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-

19/modernslaverytransparencyinsupplychains.html

Modern Slavery (Victim Support) Bill

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

Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill

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

Refugees (Family Reunion) (No. 2) Bill

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

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (Legal Advice and Appeals) Bill

http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-

19/unaccompaniedasylumseekingchildrenlegaladviceandappeals.html

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

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

** Modern Slavery (closing date 7 September 2018)

https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/news-parliament-2017/modern-slavery-launch-17-19/

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/

** Windrush compensation scheme (closing date 11 October 2018) https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/windrush-compensation-scheme

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-quidelines.pdf and to apply see http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/yoyp-grant-quidelines.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 Andew'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!

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-charityregulator

** Modern Slavery, Trafficking and Exploitative Employment Practices followed by **Hate Crime Reporting**

28 August 2018 in Falkirk (10.00-12.00)

CSREC session to increase awareness of the signs of trafficking, reporting procedures. and Dos and Don'ts in reporting and working with victims, followed by a session about reporting of Hate Crime. For information see https://trafficking-falkirk.eventbrite.co.uk

** LGBTI Intersectionality

30 August 2018 in Stirling (9.30-12.30)

CSREC training for service providers about the provision of services for LGBTI people who are also from minority ethnic backgrounds or disabled. For information see https://stirling-intersectionality.eventbrite.co.uk

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-forscotland.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/y9muw7pm, and for 15 Nov see https://tinyurl.com/y7cmj54e. Other venues may be available by request — for information contact kperezp@wsrec.co.uk

** Common Cause Networks

17 October 2018 in Glasgow (2.00-6.00)

Runnymede Trust support network for Black and Minority-Ethnic individuals and groups (and/or for People of Colour) actively leading and developing their own projects and ideas, or founding their own organisations. For information contact commoncause@runnymedetrust.org / 0207 377 9222 or see https://tinyurl.com/y7os4lyu

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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