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

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Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament, Ministerial Statement

Immigration Rule Changes

The Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes) [HCWS1159] The Secretary of State for the Home Department, my right hon. Friend the Member for Bromsgrove (Sajid Javid), will shortly be laying before the House a statement of changes in immigration rules.

The Government are clear that entrepreneurs play a key role in creating jobs and driving economic growth, which is vital to the prosperity of the UK. In June of this year, we announced a new start-up visa route. This will build upon the successes of the current tier 1 (graduate entrepreneur) route, expanding it to ensure that the UK can benefit from a wider pool of overseas talent looking to establish new businesses in the UK. Applicants will be endorsed by either a business or higher education institution sponsor.

We are announcing that we will build on this offer further by introducing a new innovator route, for more experienced business people. This will replace the current tier 1

(entrepreneur) route and have a similar emphasis on endorsement by a business sponsor, who will assess applicants' business ideas for their innovation, viability and scalability.

Alongside this, we will reform our tier 1 (investor) route.

These reforms will be introduced in the spring and will ensure the UK remains a world-leading destination for investment and innovation. We will shortly be publishing a statement of intent setting out the details of how the reformed routes will work and I will place a copy in the Library of the House.

We are also introducing wider changes through these immigration rules which demonstrate our commitment to supporting talented leaders in their fields, and promising future leaders, coming to the UK under the tier 1 (exceptional talent) route. The changes will expand this route to provide for a route of entry for leading architects endorsed by the Royal Institute of British Architects, under the remit of Arts Council England (ACE). This change builds upon other reforms to the route earlier this year, including doubling the number of places available, providing for faster settlement to existing leaders in their fields endorsed under this route, and expanding the route to leading fashion designers, also endorsed under the remit of ACE. We will continue to work closely with our partners in this route to attract more leading international talent to the UK.

More broadly, the changes also include a number of minor, more technical changes to our tier 1 and tier 2 routes for highly skilled workers. These changes will be made to ensure the immigration rules remain up-to-date and for consistency purposes.

The Government greatly value the roles played by our charities and religious institutions and those who wish to come to the UK to contribute to these organisations are extremely welcome. However, there are some issues with the routes as they currently operate.

Our immigration system makes specific provision for both ministers of religion and those coming as religious workers. This distinction between the two roles reflects the importance we place on our faith leaders speaking English to a high standard, while at the same time still permitting other members of religious communities to contribute to the UK in non-pastoral roles.

While it is not the intention of the tier 5 religious workers route, our current rules could permit religious workers to perform roles, that include preaching and leading a congregation, without first being required to demonstrate that they speak English to an acceptable standard. To address this, we are prohibiting tier 5 religious workers filling roles as ministers of religion and direct them instead to do so through the correct tier 2 minister of religion sub-category. This will require ministers of religion to demonstrate a strong command of English and ensure they can interact with the community around them.

The tier 5 arrangements for religious workers and charity workers have always been intended to provide for only limited periods of residence in the UK of up to two years. We have however seen instances of migrants in these categories repeatedly applying for consecutive periods of leave, in effect achieving ongoing residency in the UK. We will therefore introduce a "cooling off period", preventing tier 5 religious worker and tier 5 charity worker visa holders from returning to the UK, via these immigration routes for 12 months after their visa expires. This change ensures that we will continue to welcome those coming to make a contribution to our religious and charity organisations, while at the same time underpinning the Government's intention that these are temporary routes.

On 6 September the Home Secretary issued a written ministerial statement (HCWS940), *Official Report*, column 15WS, announcing the introduction of a new pilot scheme for 2019, enabling non-EEA migrant workers to come to the UK to undertake seasonal employment in the horticultural sector. These amendments will set out the legislative framework for introducing this pilot.

This small-scale pilot will test the effectiveness of our immigration system at alleviating seasonal labour shortages during peak production periods, while maintaining robust immigration control and ensuring there are minimal impacts on local communities and public services.

The organisations chosen to fill the role of scheme operators for this pilot have been selected following a fair and open selection process, undertaken by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

The formal date of implementation for this pilot will be announced in due course.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-12-06/debates/1812067000020/ImmigrationRuleChanges>

The statement referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2018-09-06/debates/18090633000019/MigrationPolicy>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

Immigration System

Stephen Metcalfe (Conservative): What plans he has for the UK's future immigration system. [907961]

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

The Government are considering a range of options for a future immigration system. Any decisions taken in respect of our future system will be based on evidence and extensive engagement. We will publish a White Paper on the future border and immigration system soon.

Stephen Metcalfe: As my right hon. Friend will know, the science and research community thrives on international collaboration, which brings great benefits to the UK and helps us to maintain our position as a science superpower. However, technicians, scientists and researchers are not always the most highly paid individuals who visit the UK. Will he therefore confirm that any future immigration system will recognise the skills that an individual brings, not just their level of pay?

Reply from Sajid Javid: Britain is at its best when we are open to talent from across the world. I can confirm to my hon. Friend that we will take into account what he has said. I agree that mobility is vital for research and innovation in particular, and I want Britain to remain at the forefront of these vital industries.

Yvette Cooper (Labour): The Home Secretary told the Home Affairs Committee that the immigration White Paper would be published certainly in December. He will know that there is obviously concern about the delays to the White Paper. Will he tell us now whether it will still be published in December and, if so, why it will be published after the meaningful vote?

Reply from Sajid Javid: All I can say at this point is that the White Paper will be published soon—I wish that I could say more than that. It is worth keeping in mind that this is the biggest change in our immigration system in four decades. It is important that we take the time and that we get it right.

Tom Pursglove (Conservative): As well as control, fairness as a principle and treating people equally regardless of where they come from in the world was right at the heart of why so many people voted to leave. What consideration is being given to that principle of fairness as we design a new immigration system?

Reply from Sajid Javid: One of the lessons from the Brexit vote was that people wanted to see control of our immigration system—one that is designed in Britain for our national interest, and that is certainly what we will be setting out. We want a system that is based on an individual's skills and on what they have to contribute, not on their nationality. ...

Angela Crawley (SNP): The UK detains more migrants than the majority of European countries and is alone in detaining indefinitely without a time limit. Does the Minister accept the findings of the Shaw review that detention is harmful to mental health and will he end indefinite detention? [907963]

Reply from Sajid Javid: I recently made a statement to this House where I accepted much of what was in the Shaw review, including alternatives to

detention, particularly detention of women. We are looking at piloting different approaches. We are in discussions at the moment, but we will be setting out more shortly to the House.

Barry Sheerman (Labour Co-op): Is it not time that the Home Secretary showed some leadership and that he joined the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government in his endeavours—the two Ministers working together to show the innovation, skills and creativity that immigrants bring to this country? Would not the Mayflower’s 400th anniversary celebration in 2020 be a wonderful hook to hang that on—celebrating what immigrants bring to this country?

Reply from Sajid Javid: I very much agree with hon. Gentleman’s sentiments about the importance of immigration. We are a much stronger country because of immigration and immigrants have contributed to every part of British life—not just our economy, but our families and communities. We should always be looking for opportunities to celebrate just that.

Edward Davey (Liberal Democrat): The Prime Minister is selling her Brexit deal by telling the country that it ends free movement of labour. Does the Home Secretary realise that it is completely unacceptable to have the meaningful vote without the White Paper having been published?

Reply from Sajid Javid: The right hon. Gentleman will know that, deal or no deal, there will be an end to free movement of labour.

Joanna Cherry (SNP): At last Tuesday’s Select Committee on Home Affairs, the Home Secretary said that it was correct for colleagues from Northern Ireland to highlight particular regional concerns about immigration, and stated: “It is still possible to design a system that takes into account some regional difference.”

Does he agree that the same is true for Scotland?

Reply from Sajid Javid: I am a little surprised by that question, on the basis that under the current immigration system, regional difference regarding Scotland is recognised, with the shortage occupation list, for example. I agree with the premise of the hon. and learned Lady’s question—that, although the immigration system will be a national one, we should look at any regional requirements.

Joanna Cherry: I am delighted to hear that the Home Secretary accepts that the need for regional variation in Northern Ireland is mirrored by a similar need in Scotland, although I would underline that Scotland is a nation, not a region. If he is prepared to accept that, will he give me an undertaking that when the White Paper comes out, he will consult with all stakeholders in Scotland—including the Scottish Government and Scottish employers—and be open to the need for regional variation in Scotland, such as reintroducing the post-study work visa?

Reply from Sajid Javid: The commitment that I am very happy to make to the hon. and learned Lady is that we will consult extensively when the White Paper is published, and that of course includes with our friends in Scotland.

Afzal Khan (Labour): In a week’s time, MPs will be asked to make a decision in potentially the most important vote on our country’s future. Are we to do so without any idea of what our post-Brexit immigration system will be?

Reply from Sajid Javid: The hon. Gentleman said “without any idea”. We have already set out the principles of what a post-Brexit immigration system will look like; for example, there will be no freedom of movement and it will be a skills-based system. As I made clear in response to an earlier question, whether there is a deal or no deal, there will be a new immigration system.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-12-03/debates/590C6F0F-F478-4D57-B016-15AB4939BB41/ImmigrationSystem>

EU Settlement Scheme

Stephen Kerr (Conservative): What support [is the Minister] providing to EU citizens applying to the EU settlement scheme. [907953]

Antoinette Sandbach (Conservative): What support [is the Minister] providing to EU citizens applying to the EU settlement scheme. [907962]

Reply from the Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes): The Home Office is putting in place a range of support for EU citizens applying to the EU settlement scheme, particularly for those who are most vulnerable. This includes assisted digital support for those unable to make online applications, a new customer contact centre and indirect support to be provided through organisations such as community groups and charities.

Stephen Kerr: I am of course pleased that the Minister has made clear the Government's commitment to European Union citizens living here, particularly because there are parties in this House who have spread fear and alarm among EU citizens by questioning the Government's commitment to their status. Does the Minister agree that those Members who spread fear and alarm should set the record straight and reassure those in our communities who are from the EU that their rights are guaranteed?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: My hon. Friend is right to point out the importance of sending a message of reassurance to EU citizens living here not only that they can stay but that we want them to stay and are taking steps through our settled status scheme to enable them to do so through a straightforward online digital process. I am sure my hon. Friend will welcome the fact that 95% of the people who have been through the first phase of beta testing of the settled status scheme found it very straightforward to use.

Antoinette Sandbach: Some EU countries, including the Netherlands, have restrictions on holding dual nationality, which is leading to some Dutch citizens here having to choose between a UK or Dutch passport. What can the Minister do to reassure the Dutch diaspora in the UK that Brexit will not have an impact on their rights? Is she reaching out to her European counterparts to see what progress can be made in persuading other member states to loosen their restrictions?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The UK allows individuals to hold other nationalities alongside their British citizenship, and those with dual nationality already have the right of abode here and do not need to do anything. EU citizens do not need to obtain British citizenship in order to protect their status and can remain here indefinitely by applying to the settled status scheme, so there is no need for them to relinquish their current nationality. However, my hon. Friend makes a good point about reaching out to other EU member states. It is important that we continue that work, because they are vital partners when it comes to spreading the message to the diaspora communities about their right to stay.

Kate Green (Labour): The Roma are still among the most marginalised EU citizens in this country. Will the Minister say what special steps the Government are taking to reach out to Roma support groups to encourage their citizens to apply for settled status and to support those who have digital or English-language difficulties?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: In October, we announced £9 million of grant funding to charities and other organisations so that they may assist people, particularly those in vulnerable groups, through the process of applying for settled status in this country. We want to ensure that the maximum number of people apply and that those requiring the most support can access it easily via assisted digital services or, in exceptional cases, face-to-face support. It is important that we acknowledge that many groups may face challenges, which is why the Government have made £9 million available to help.

John Cryer (Labour): Given the likely large number of applicants, has the Minister considered allocating specific funding to Citizens Advice?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: As I mentioned in my previous answer, we are providing up to £9 million of grant funding, which will be made available to civil society organisations to mobilise services targeted at vulnerable EU citizens. We already work with a group of organisations, including local councils, to help them to help their residents, but the scheme will be open to applications from bodies exactly like Citizens Advice, and I hope that many such organisations will be prepared to play their part in helping citizens.

Daniel Kawczynski (Conservative): This country benefits enormously from the one million Poles who have settled on our island. Will the Minister assure me that she will do everything possible to engage with the Polish community in London? Perhaps she will join me at one of the Polish clubs, such as Ognisko or POSK, to take the message directly to the citizens?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Interestingly, one of my first meetings after becoming Immigration Minister was with the Polish ambassador. We recognise that many Polish citizens live in this country, and working through the embassy and with the diaspora community is one of the best ways of reaching out to them. I would be delighted to take up my hon. Friend's invitation and shall very much look forward to it.

Gavin Newlands (SNP): Statistics from the British Medical Association suggest that nearly four in 10 NHS doctors from the EU are blissfully unaware of the Government's settled status scheme. Does the Department not need drastically to up its game in raising awareness and ensuring that as many of those who need to apply do apply?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We are already piloting the settled status scheme, and we have established a significant database of EU nationals with whom we correspond regularly via email through Home Office communications channels. Employers also have an enormous role to play. The hon. Gentleman highlights people working in the NHS, so I am delighted to inform him that NHS trusts are reaching out to their employees and working hand in hand with us through the second phase of piloting the settled status scheme.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-12-03/debates/C6438A98-F969-4854-AEA6-5443D3099293/EUSettlementScheme>

Refugee Crises

Debbie Abrahams (Labour): What recent steps [has the Minister] taken through the UN and other international organisations to tackle refugee crises. [907991]

Reply from the Minister for Africa (Harriett Baldwin): The UK has been working with the United Nations to agree a global compact on refugees, which is set for adoption by the end of the year. It provides a comprehensive global framework that goes beyond life-saving humanitarian support, enabling a longer-term response, offering refugees a viable future.

Debbie Abrahams: The UN's global compact on refugees is indeed welcome—it recognises our common humanity and interconnectedness—but I am concerned that it is non-binding. How will the Government work to strengthen it? Will the Foreign Secretary and Home Secretary work together to review our restrictive rules, which prevent refugee families from being together?

Reply from Harriett Baldwin: I am glad that the hon. Lady welcomes the UK's role, and I assure her that the UK has been fully engaged throughout the whole process since the United Nations agreed to move forward on this issue. We have been working on the wording and the direction of travel, to make sure that it is an agreement that can work for the whole world.

Desmond Swayne (Conservative): Exactly what are we signing up to at Marrakesh?

Reply from Harriett Baldwin: We are signing up to the global compact on refugees. I should clarify for the House that it is a different document from the one that has perhaps generated more controversy: the global compact on migration.

Christine Jardine (Liberal Democrat): Following numerous political attacks, search-and-rescue vessels have found it difficult to operate in the Mediterranean. Given the death toll, which Médecins Sans Frontières reckons is approaching 1,300 people this year, what are the Government doing to support the non-governmental organisations that wish to provide search-and-rescue facilities in the Mediterranean sea?

Reply from Harriett Baldwin: The hon. Lady is right to raise this important issue. She will be aware that two Border Force cutters are in the area right at this moment. I know she will welcome the fact that over the course of the operation,

UK naval assets have rescued more than 30,000 souls in the Mediterranean. Of course, we are doing further work in respect of the UK allocation, which so far has totalled some £175 million.

Rebecca Pow (Conservative): I recently attended a humbling and moving event in Taunton Deane to celebrate all the Syrian families—almost 20 of them—who have come to Somerset. Will the Minister join me in praising and thanking Taunton Welcomes Refugees, which is a model organisation? So many church people, individuals and council workers are involved in the organisation. It is just wonderful, and the families were so delighted. Will the Minister also please confirm our commitment to helping the most needy of Syrian refugees?

Reply from Harriett Baldwin: ... I am happy to endorse what she says and to endorse the work done in my county of Worcestershire. I inform the House that, nationally, the UK is well on track to achieving our commitment of 20,000 vulnerable people resettled in the UK by 2020. In fact, as of September, I understand that that total is now more than 15,000. ...

Rachel Reeves (Labour): Many refugees are fleeing religious persecution. The Archbishop of Canterbury has said that Christians in the middle east are on the brink of extinction, facing the worst crisis since the 13th century in the birthplace of Christianity. What are the Government doing to support Christians in the middle east and to grant asylum to those who are fleeing that persecution?

Reply from Harriett Baldwin: Well, indeed, it is a very sobering Christmas thought from the Archbishop of Canterbury. In fact, there are 25.4 million refugees worldwide, and the UK, of course, stands as one of the most significant supporters of refugees whatever their religious persuasion. There is a service in Westminster Abbey later today to which all colleagues are invited. I know that this is an important piece of work that the UK will remain steadfast in supporting.

Robert Courts (Conservative): Will my hon. Friend outline what new mental health support is being given to the children in Lebanon and Jordan who are affected so badly by the fighting that is ongoing in Syria?

Reply from Harriett Baldwin: Yes, if Mr Speaker will allow me to put on my other hat from the Department for International Development just very briefly, I will say to my hon. Friend that he will be aware that the Secretary of State for International Development recently announced a range of new programmes to provide support in what has been a neglected area in terms of the psycho-social support and mental health support that particularly children in refugee situations need.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-12-04/debates/3C8CC0F1-86D5-4FDA-B5AF-F51780D32A92/RefugeeCrises>

The Global Contract for Migration, referred to above, can be read at <http://undocs.org/en/A/CONF.231/3>

Asia Bibi: Asylum

Mike Kane (Labour): Whether the Government plan to offer Asia Bibi asylum. [907966]

Reply from the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sajid Javid): Our primary concern is for the safety and security of Asia Bibi and her family, and we welcome a swift resolution to the situation. A number of countries are in discussions about providing a safe destination once the legal process is complete, and it would not be right for me to comment further at this stage.

Mike Kane: May I congratulate the Home Secretary on his very brave personal testimony about what happened to him at school years back?

The Catholic Church in England and Wales, and the Catholic Church in Scotland, have both said that they will contribute to secure Asia Bibi's safety. As I chair the Catholic Legislators Network, will the Home Secretary meet me and other colleagues to discuss the issue?

Reply from Sajid Javid: The hon. Gentleman is right to raise concerns about Asia Bibi, and I am sure that those concerns are shared by all Members of the

House. It is not appropriate for me to talk about a particular case, especially if there is a risk that it might put the individual or their family in some kind of further risk, but I assure him that my first concern is the safety of Asia and her family. We are working with a number of countries and I will do anything I can to keep her safe. I will happily meet the hon. Gentleman to discuss the matter.

Clive Lewis (Labour): Will the Minister meet me to discuss the case of my constituent, Mohammed Al-Maily, a Saudi national with indefinite leave to remain who has been told that he is liable for removal from the UK despite living in the UK for 28 years with his wife? The reason the Home Office has stated is that it shredded the archives detailing whom it had granted indefinite leave to remain to, and the Saudi embassy claims to have lost his passport evidencing his right to leave to remain in the UK. ...

Reply from Sajid Javid: The Home Office will take a closer look at that case. ...

Carol Monaghan (SNP): I appreciate the comments that the Home Secretary has already made about Asia Bibi, but of course there are many, many Christians in Pakistan who live under constant threat of persecution. Will the he work with his Home Office colleagues to make sure that their cases for asylum are treated in a sympathetic manner?

Reply from Sajid Javid: The hon. Lady is quite right to draw attention to that. We believe that there are currently some 40 individuals in Pakistan on death row because of blasphemy offences. That highlights perfectly her concerns. I am sure that the whole House shares those; we will always do what we can to help.

To read the full question and answer session see

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-12-03/debates/19317984-6B92-45BA-9E8E-79220A4895AC/AsiaBibiAsylum>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

British Nationality: Fathers

Dan Jarvis (Labour) [197623] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will bring forward legislative changes to the British Nationality Act 1981 to ensure that biological fathers are recognised for nationality purposes in cases where the biological mother is not a British citizen.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The British Nationality Act 1981 (BNA 1981) already provides for biological fathers to be recognised as the father for nationality purposes where the mother is not married to another man and proof of paternity has been established.

In cases where the mother is married to a man other than the biological father and that biological father is a British citizen or settled in the UK, a child can apply for registration as a British citizen under section 3(1) of the BNA 1981.

We are aware of the case of *K (A child) v The Secretary of State for the Home Department [2018] EWHC 1834 (Admin)* (18 July 2018) and are considering the impact of this.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-30/197623/>

The judgement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/Admin/2018/1834.html>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Immigrants: DNA

Rushanara Ali (Labour) [196293] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what progress his Department has made on its review of the DNA test requirements for immigration cases.

Rushanara Ali (Labour) [196294] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the timeframe is for the publication of the review of the DNA test

requirements for immigration cases.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Darra Singh OBE has been appointed to conduct an independent assessment on the Home Office's approach to establishing the numbers involved, the operational response, the policy response and the extent to which follow-up training and communications have addressed the issue.

The review will be completed in the first half of 2019, and the results published.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-27/196293/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-27/196294/>

Windrush Generation: Children

Frank Field (Independent) [195513] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many children of Windrush generation immigrants have an immigration case review (a) pending and (b) that has been completed.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: At the HASC evidence session on Tuesday 15 May, the Home Secretary committed to providing the HASC with regular updates on the work of the department in relation to Windrush. The most recent update was published on 12 November 2018.

The number of 'live' applications is subject to change on a frequent basis as applications are received and concluded daily. Data would only be accurate at the time it was generated, with any Answer potentially being inaccurate at the time of release. Providing a running commentary on the breakdown of cases would not be cost and resource effective.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-26/195513/>

The update referred to above can be read at

http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2018-1124/2018-11-12_-_Monthly_HASC_update_-_Windrush.pdf

Windrush Generation: Children

Frank Field (Independent) [195514] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many children of Windrush generation immigrants have been deported; and of those how many have died since their deportation.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The department does not hold this information.

On 16 April, the Home Office established a Taskforce to ensure that members of the Windrush generation were able to evidence their right to be in the UK. Subsequently, on 24 May the Home Secretary laid a Written Ministerial Statement setting out the Windrush Scheme, which ensures that members of this generation, their children born in the UK and those who arrived in the UK as minors will be able to apply to the Taskforce for citizenship, or various other immigration products, free of charge.

The scheme came into force on 30 May. The Department has provided an update on its response to the problems affecting members of the Windrush generation to the Home Affairs Select Committee on a monthly basis.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-26/195514/>

The statement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-launches-windrush-scheme>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Diane Abbott (Labour) [196665] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate his Department has made of the number of Windrush

people that were held in immigration detention centres.

Repatriation: Windrush Generation

Diane Abbott (Labour) [196666] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate his Department has made of the number of Windrush people that participated in voluntary removal.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office wrote to the Home Affairs Select Committee on 21 August with the initial findings of the Historical Review of removals and detentions. Regular updates have been provided to the committee and this information is available in the library of the House. [14 people, out of the 164 identified by the Historical Review, were detained in an IRC. 17 people, out of the 164 identified by the Historical Review, were recorded as a voluntary departure].

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196665/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196666/>

The updates referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/home-affairs/Correspondence-17-19/Letter%20from%20the%20Home%20Secretary%20regarding%20Windrush%20-%20July%20update,%2021%20August%202018.pdf>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/home-affairs/Correspondence-17-19/180921-Home-Sec-Windrush-August-update.pdf>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/home-affairs/Correspondence-17-19/Letter-from-Home-Secretary-Windrush-12-November-18.pdf>

The following five questions all received the same answer

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Diane Abbott (Labour) [196667] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate his Department has made of the number of Windrush people that worked in the NHS who were (a) held in immigration detention centres and (b) deported to other countries.

Diane Abbott (Labour) [196668] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate his Department has made of the number of Windrush people that were veterans of the armed forces who were (a) held in immigration detention centres and (b) deported to other countries.

Diane Abbott (Labour) [196669] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate he has made of the number of members of the Windrush generation who were (a) held in immigration detention centres and (b) deported to other countries who had (i) been teachers and (ii) held other educational positions in the UK.

Diane Abbott (Labour) [196670] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate he has made of the number of members of the Windrush generation who were (a) held in immigration detention centres and (b) deported to other countries who had worked for public transport services in the UK.

Deportation: Windrush Generation

Diane Abbott (Labour) [196672] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate he has made of the number of members of the Windrush generation who were deported to other countries who have since died; and what information he has on their former employment in the UK.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office wrote to the Home Affairs Select Committee on 21 August with the initial findings of the Historical Review of removals and detentions and have provided regular updates to the committee.

This correspondence is available in the library of the House. The department has not made any assessment of previous employment of those individuals identified by the review, and in many cases the department will not hold this information.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196667/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196668/>

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<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196669/>

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<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196670/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196672/>

The updates referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/home-affairs/Correspondence-17-19/Letter%20from%20the%20Home%20Secretary%20regarding%20Windrush%20-%20July%20update,%2021%20August%202018.pdf>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/home-affairs/Correspondence-17-19/180921-Home-Sec-Windrush-August-update.pdf>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/home-affairs/Correspondence-17-19/Letter-from-Home-Secretary-Windrush-12-November-18.pdf>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Deportation: Windrush Generation

Diane Abbott (Labour) [196673] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate he has made of the number of members of the Windrush generation who were deported to other countries and have family members who are entitled to be in the UK but have been refused entry.

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Diane Abbott (Labour) [196674] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate he has made of the number of members of the Windrush generation who were deported to other countries and have since been refused entry to the UK.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office wrote to the Home Affairs Select Committee on 21 August with the initial findings of the Historical Review of removals and detentions and have provided regular updates to the committee.

This correspondence is available in the library of the House. As set out in the letter to the Committee of 12 November, the department initially excluded all individuals with a “criminal case type” marker. We reviewed this approach to ensure we have not adopted too broad a definition and revised our methodology. However, individuals who have been deported following a criminal conviction in the UK continue to be excluded from the review.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196673/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196674/>

The updates referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/home-affairs/Correspondence-17-19/Letter%20from%20the%20Home%20Secretary%20regarding%20Windrush%20-%20July%20update,%2021%20August%202018.pdf>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/home-affairs/Correspondence-17-19/180921-Home-Sec-Windrush-August-update.pdf>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/home-affairs/Correspondence-17-19/Letter-from-Home-Secretary-Windrush-12-November-18.pdf>

The following five questions all received the same answer

Undocumented Workers: Windrush Generation

Diane Abbott (Labour) [196677] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate his Department has made of the number of people from the Windrush generation who have lost their job because they could not provide the evidence required to demonstrate their right to remain in each of the last three years.

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Diane Abbott (Labour) [196695] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate his Department has made of the number of people from the Windrush generation who have lost their home because they could not provide evidence to demonstrate their right to remain.

Diane Abbott (Labour) [196696] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate his Department has made of the number of people from the Windrush generation who could not obtain a mortgage because they could not provide the evidence to demonstrate their right to remain.

Diane Abbott (Labour) [196697] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate his Department has made of the number of members of the Windrush generation who were denied access to NHS treatment because they could not demonstrate their right to remain in the country.

Diane Abbott (Labour) [196698] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate he has made of the number of members of the Windrush generation who were unable to obtain a driver's licence because they could not provide evidence of their right to remain in the country.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office wrote to the Home Affairs Select Committee on 21 August with the initial findings of the Historical Review of removals and detentions and have provided regular updates to the committee. This correspondence is available in the library of the House.

Work is ongoing to review historical proactive compliant environment sanctions, for example where the Home Office has instigated the action taken by a partner of a third party to deny or revoke a service to an individual, or it has taken action to penalise a third party for employing or housing an unlawful migrant. The Home Office will report back to the Committee when this work is complete.

However, many checks, such as right to rent and right to work, are applicable to everyone in the UK on a non-discriminatory basis. Checks are often conducted independently of the Home Office and so it is not possible for the Government to accurately estimate the number of individuals who have been impacted by these measures. In relation to those who may have lost jobs - information that is not automatically reported back to the Home Office - we anticipate that we will gain a greater understanding when we launch our compensation scheme.

The Home Office has introduced additional safeguards to ensure those from the Windrush generation are not adversely affected by measures designed to protect benefits and services.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196677/>

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<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196695/>

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<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196696/>

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<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196697/>

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<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196698/>

The updates referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/home-affairs/Correspondence-17-19/Letter%20from%20the%20Home%20Secretary%20regarding%20Windrush%20-%20July%20update,%2021%20August%202018.pdf>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/home-affairs/Correspondence-17-19/180921-Home-Sec-Windrush-August-update.pdf>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/home-affairs/Correspondence-17-19/Letter-from-Home-Secretary-Windrush-12-November-18.pdf>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [196154] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of merits of providing physical documentation to holders of settled status as proof of their legal status.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [196155] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what alternative proof of legal status the Government plans to be available to holders of settled status in the event that they lose access to their digital proof.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office is producing a new, simplified digital system for applications for settled status. Their status will be recorded electronically, and the Home Office will have a permanent record of EU citizens and their family members who are living here with settled status.

Until the end of the implementation period, EU citizens can continue to prove their right to work using their EU passport or national identity card. Third Country National family members of EU citizens will have biometric documentation in addition to an online digital status to enable them to evidence easily their status in the UK.

After that they will be able to do so via a straightforward online process which will enable them to demonstrate their rights to employers in a secure and streamlined way using real time information provided from Home Office records.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-27/196154/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-27/196155/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [196233] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with which (a) other public and (b) private sector organisations in (i) the UK and (ii) overseas his Department plans to be able to share the biometric data provided by applicants to the EU Settlement Scheme.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [196234] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department plans to take to ensure that biometric data provided by applicants to the EU Settlement Scheme will be securely protected.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Biometrics enrolled as part of an application to the EU Settlement Scheme will be stored and used in accordance with the rules set by Parliament as set out within the Immigration (Physical Data) Regulations 2006, as amended. This includes sharing biometrics with other law enforcement organisations to prevent, detect and prosecute crime and in the interest of national security. Further information on this is set out in the Borders, Immigration and Citizenship privacy information notice:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/personal-information-use-in-borders-immigration-and-citizenship/borders-immigration-and-citizenship-privacy-information-notice>.

Biometrics enrolled under the EU Settlement Scheme are securely stored on the Immigration and Asylum Biometric System along with other biometrics taken for immigration and nationality purposes.

Those granted status under the EU Settlement Scheme can access information about their immigration status and entitlements via a secure online service. This includes their name, status information and their facial image. Individuals can then choose to grant access to this information to employers and other service providers. By giving individuals direct access to their own data and the ability to share this with service providers we are giving them greater transparency, clarity and control. With online services, we can also ensure that service providers see only the information that is relevant and proportionate to their need, in a way that is not possible via a single document as evidence of status.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-27/196233/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-27/196234/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Child Benefit: EU Nationals

Priti Patel (Conservative) [197370] To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with reference to paragraph 54 of the Political Declaration setting out the framework for the future relationship between the European Union and the United Kingdom, how many EU nationals (a) currently living in the UK and (b) expected to be living in the UK over the next 15 years qualify for child benefit support; and what estimate he has made of the cost of that provision.

Priti Patel (Conservative) [197375] To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, how many non-UK EU nationals living in the UK that are in receipt of child benefit have children that (a) are and (b) are not resident in the UK; and what estimate he has made of the cost to the public purse of those claims.

Reply from Elizabeth Truss: For 2015-2016, the most recent year for which data is available, 572,000 non-UK EU nationals were in receipt of Child Benefit and total entitlement for these non-UK EU nationals was £879 million.

The number of non-UK EU nationals expected to be living in the UK over the next 15 years that qualify for Child Benefit could only be provided at disproportionate cost.

Information relating to the number and cost of non-UK EU nationals claiming for children who are and are not resident in the UK can only be made available at disproportionate cost.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-29/197370/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-29/197375/>

The Political Declaration referred to above can be read at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/758556/22_November_Draft_Political_Declaration_setting_out_the_framework_for_the_future_relationship_between_the_EU_and_the_UK_agreed_at_negotiators_level_and_agreed_in_principle_at_political_level_subject_to_endorsement_by_Leaders.pdf

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Diane Abbott (Labour) [196664] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department has taken to provide assurance to (a) users and (b) employers on the security of documents stored on cloud services in relation to the IT system for applying for settled status.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office takes the security of all of our data extremely seriously, including digitised evidence provided by EU Settlement Scheme users. There are processes in place in the Home Office for the capturing and mitigation of risks and vulnerabilities to ensure appropriate control of our services. I can confirm this is the case for the EU Settlement Scheme

All Home Office systems including EU Exit applications undergo rigorous cyber strengthening prior to launch. This includes an independent security testing to ensure they are resilient to external attack.

Our IT systems hosting platform include a number of mechanisms to detect and respond to malicious intrusions.

All data is encrypted both in transit and at rest. Our IT staff are security cleared and data will only be accessed by those who have a valid business reason to access it. The Home Office regularly monitors the systems for abuse and misuse.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196664/>

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Alex Norris (Labour Co-op) [197484] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will publish guidance on registering under the EU Settlement Scheme for EU nationals who do not have identification or residency documentation due to being in the UK in a situation of trafficking and who have chosen not to enter the National Referral Mechanism and therefore do not have a positive conclusive grounds decision relating to their trafficked status.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: As set out in the Statement of Intent published on 21 June 2018, the EU Settlement Scheme will adopt a flexible approach to evidence of both identity and residence

When the scheme is rolled out fully by 30 March 2019 the Home Office will accept alternative evidence of identity and nationality where it accepts that the applicant is unable to obtain or produce the required document due to circumstances beyond their control or due to compelling practical or compassionate reasons. We will publish caseworker guidance on this in due course and will consult representatives of vulnerable groups.

The published caseworker guidance includes a broad range of evidence that caseworkers can accept to establish the applicant's claimed period of residence in the UK. Victims of trafficking who have chosen not to enter the National Referral Mechanism will be able to choose from this (or other) evidence to prove their residence, or (if they have been working or claiming benefits) will be able to do so via our automated data matching with HM Revenue & Customs and the Department for Work and Pensions.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-29/197484/>

The Statement of Intent referred to above can be read at [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/718237/EU Settlement Scheme SOI June 2018.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/718237/EU_Settlement_Scheme_SOI_June_2018.pdf)

The caseworker guidance referred to above can be read at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/723413/Calculating-continuous-leave-v17.0-EXT.pdf

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Alex Norris (Labour Co-op) [197485] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 1 November 2018 to Question 185054, what estimate he has made of the number of EU victims of modern slavery within the UK who have been found under section 45 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 to have been forced to commit a criminal act by their traffickers; and what assessment he has made of the potential merits of exempting those victims from the EU public policy and security tests for deportation.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government does not hold information centrally on the number of EU victims of modern slavery who have been found to have been forced to commit criminal acts by their traffickers.

The decision to deport under the EU public policy or security tests must be based exclusively on the personal conduct of the individual concerned, which must present a genuine, present and sufficiently serious threat to one of the fundamental interests in society. It must take into account proportionality considerations, including how long the person has resided in the UK, their age, state of health, family and economic circumstances, social and cultural integration, and the extent of their links with the country of origin.

Victims of trafficking and modern slavery who have committed crimes either in the UK or overseas are not exempt from this assessment. We are not planning to reassess the EU deportation framework nor to disapply the test to victims of modern slavery. The proportionality assessment referred to above enables the circumstances of the crime to be taken into account.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-29/197485/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/185054/>

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Alex Norris (Labour Co-op) [197486] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate he has made of the number of EU victims of modern slavery in the UK with a (a) positive conclusive grounds decision or (b) reasonable grounds decision under the National Referral Mechanism; and what estimate he has made of the potential cost to the public purse of waiving the EU Settlement Scheme registration fee for people with those decisions.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The National Crime Agency (NCA) is responsible for publishing National Referral Mechanism (NRM) data and does so on a quarterly basis.

Published data on the referrals to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is available via the following link:

<http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/national-referral-mechanism-statistics>. The 2017 Annual Report of NRM statistics includes data on the outcomes of NRM decisions by nationality.

I am content that our approach to fees is reasonable, proportionate and fair to all EU citizens. However, I will keep the approach on fees under review. More broadly, we are also considering how the EU Settlement Scheme can take into account the specific circumstances of victims of modern slavery and how to

support the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) service providers to link victims up with the Scheme while they are in NRM support.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-29/197486/>

Middle East and North Africa: Refugees

Jo Stevens (Labour) [197415] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what estimate his Department has made of the number of people who drowned while attempting to reach Europe from the Middle East and North Africa in 2017.

Reply from Alan Duncan: According to the International Organisation for Migration there was an estimated total of 3,116 fatalities across all routes in 2017 (Central Mediterranean route: 2,832; Eastern Mediterranean route: 61; Western Mediterranean route: 223). The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees estimates a similar total of 3,139 fatalities (Central Mediterranean route: 2873; Eastern Mediterranean route: 54; Western Mediterranean route: 212).

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-29/197415/>

Refugees: Calais and Dunkirk

Helen Hayes (Labour) [198322] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent assessment he has made of the effect of the UK's planned withdrawal from the EU on the level of the UK's collaboration with France to support refugees in Calais and Dunkirk.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: In working to combat illegal migration, our relationship with the French is governed by the Sandhurst Treaty, which was signed at the UK-France Summit in January 2018 by Theresa May and Emmanuel Macron. This agreement served to complement and ensure both parties' commitment to juxtaposed controls as set out in the Le Touquet Treaty, signed on 4th February 2003, and the Treaty of Canterbury, signed on 12th February 1986, which provided for the construction of the Channel Tunnel.

We are committed to maintaining a close ongoing relationship with France to manage our shared border; this will not be impacted by our departure from the European Union on 29 March 2019 and we will continue to cooperate with France as set out in the Sandhurst Treaty.

The Treaty includes provisions designed to ensure that the Dublin III Regulation is swiftly operated, in particular for unaccompanied asylum seeking children, and we will continue to work together to complete the transfer of unaccompanied minors agreed in accordance with national relocation schemes, such as section 67 of the United Kingdom Immigration Act 2016.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-03/198322/>

The Sandhurst Treaty, referred to above, can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/674885/Treaty_Concerning_the_Reinforcement_Of_Cooperation_For_The_Coordinated_Management_Of_Their_Shared_Border.pdf

Refugees: Travel

Rosie Cooper (Labour) [196717] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department is taking to support refugees who have to travel long distances for appointments with immigration officials.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Those who have been granted refugee status are not required to report to the Home Office, or attend meetings with immigration officials, as refugees are granted a period of leave to remain for five years. Reporting conditions are only applied to those who have received an adverse

decision on their application.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196717/>

Schools: Refugees

Jim Cunningham (Labour) [197325] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps his Department is taking to support the integration of refugee children that attend schools.

Reply from Nadhim Zahawi: Schools are responsible for ensuring that all of their pupils, irrespective of their ethnicity and background, are engaged, challenged and have opportunity to achieve their full academic potential. Such children and young people may be diverse in terms of their country of origin, how long they have been in England and their previous experiences of formal education – so individual schools will be best placed to determine how to integrate pupils with refugee status most effectively into the life of the school.

Head teachers have flexibility in how they use the funding allocated to their schools in order to support and address the specific needs of their pupils – including those who are refugees (or seeking asylum). Refugee children may have English language development needs. Through the new national funding formula (NFF) for schools, which was introduced in April 2018, schools are allocated funding for pupils with English as an additional language (EAL) who have been in the school system in England for up to three years. The funding equates to an additional £515 per primary school pupil and an additional £1,385 per secondary school pupil by the time the formula is fully implemented. The mobility factor in the NFF also directs funding to schools in which more than 10% of pupils joined the school mid-way through the academic year.

Where appropriate, schools can also use their pupil premium funding to support refugee pupils who are classed as disadvantaged, or who are currently or have previously been in local authority care.

Unaccompanied asylum seeking children who arrive in the UK become looked-after children and therefore will be safeguarded and have their welfare promoted in the same way as any other looked-after child. Such children will have a Personal Education Plan, and social workers, Virtual School Heads (VSH) and Independent Reviewing Officers, school admission officers and special educational needs departments will work together to ensure that appropriate education provision for the child is arranged.

The department has contributed £1.3 million through the Controlling Migration Fund over two years to fund eight diverse local authorities in providing better access to initial assessment and education for unaccompanied asylum seeking children. The local authorities will also use their delivery models to develop resources for this vulnerable cohort of looked-after children that can be easily shared with and used by other local authorities facing similar challenges. We are working with the VSH Network to support the development of the tools and resources as well as good practice examples and case studies of effective support, which are being cascaded through the VSH Network to all other local authorities looking after unaccompanied and refugee children.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-29/197325/>

Refugees: Children

Vernon Coaker (Labour) [196682] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied child refugees have been allowed into the UK under the vulnerable children resettlement scheme.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme (VCRS) does not solely target unaccompanied children, but on UNHCR's advice

also extends to vulnerable 'children at risk', such as those threatened with child labour, child marriage and other forms of abuse or exploitation. It is open to all at risk groups and nationalities within the region. There is therefore no specific quota on the number of unaccompanied children who may be referred to, or resettled through, the scheme.

The latest quarterly Immigration Statistics show that, as of September 2018, a total of 1,075 people had been resettled through the VCRS. The statistics are available at:

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

The Home Office is committed to publishing data in an orderly way as part of the regular quarterly Immigration Statistics, in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196682/>

Refugees: Children

Vernon Coaker (Labour) [196683] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied refugee children have been relocated to the UK under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We remain fully committed to delivering on our commitment to relocate the specified number of 480 children under Section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016.

Over 220 children are already in the UK. We will not provide a running commentary on numbers and will publish the details once all children are in the UK.

We are working very closely with participating States and partners to deliver the scheme in line with their national laws. Relocation of children to the UK is also dependent on the availability of appropriate local authority care placements.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196683/>

Asylum

Jo Stevens (Labour) [197413] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people (a) aged 18 and over and (b) aged under 18 successfully applied for asylum in each year since 2015.

Reply from caroline Nokes: The Home Office publishes data, in its quarterly Immigration Statistics re-lease, on (a) number of people granted asylum in the UK (table as_2_q Asylum, volume 2), and (b) number of people under the age of 18 granted asylum in the UK (table as_2_q_c Asylum, volume 2)

Latest edition available at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/758195/asylum2-sep-2018-tables.ods

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-29/197413/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Asylum: Libya

Fabian Hamilton (Labour) [196124] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied minors previously held in Libyan detention centres the UK has resettled.

Fabian Hamilton (Labour) [196125] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people the UK has resettled from the Emergency Transit Mechanism in Niger following their evacuation from Libya.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: UNHCR is conducting lifesaving evacuations of

targeted groups of extremely vulnerable persons of concern currently in Libya who have been subject to serious violations of their human rights, including different forms of inhumane treatment and indefinite detention without access to effective legal remedies.

Following UNHCR's appeal for resettlement places, the UK has committed to resettle some of the most vulnerable refugees who have been evacuated by UNHCR from Libya to Niger. This will include unaccompanied minors.

Our prime concern is their safety and protection as they arrive in this country. We want to protect their privacy and ensure their recovery and integration, as they rebuild their lives in safe and secure surroundings, among supportive communities in the UK. We will, therefore, not be providing a running commentary on this specific cohort.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-27/196124/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-27/196125/>

Asylum: Finance

Gill Furniss (Labour) [196311] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate he has made of the number of people that have had an application for asylum rejected who have no recourse to public funds in each of the last five years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Asylum Seekers whose claims and, if appropriate, appeals have been refused are no longer eligible for asylum support and are expected to return home. We offer assistance to those who choose to do so by actively promoting the Home Office Voluntary Return Service. The Home Office continues to provide accommodation and support to those who are temporarily unable to leave the UK because of a practical or legal obstacle through the Section 4 provisions, and to families with children under the age of 18.

Information about asylum decisions, broken down by Country of Origin, is available in the published statistics here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-year-ending-june-2018/how-many-people-do-we-grant-asylum-or-protection-to#asylum-applications-and-initial-decisions>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-27/196311/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Jess Philips (Labour) [196774] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many women are held in immigration detention in the UK.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office publish data on the number of people in detention as at the last day of each quarter, by sex. The latest data is available in table dt_11_q in the detention tables of Immigration statistics, year ending September 2018.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/758249/detention-sep-2018-tables.ods

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196774/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Jess Philips (Labour) [196775] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department is taking to reduce the number of women in immigration detention.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: 95% of individuals liable for removal at any one time are managed within the community through immigration bail and regular reporting,

rather than within an immigration removal centre. Alternatives to detention are not, of course, alternatives to case resolution, and our objective is to achieve better outcomes for migrants, meaning quicker resolution of their case whether the result is a grant of leave or the migrant's departure (preferably voluntary) from the UK. The Home Secretary said - in his statement to parliament on 24 July introducing Stephen Shaw's follow up report on immigration detention - that he had asked the Home Office to do more to explore alternatives to detention with faith groups, with non-governmental organisations and within communities. Working with UNHCR, a pilot scheme is being developed that will manage a number of women in the community who would otherwise be detained at Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre, meaning that rather than receiving support and care in an immigration removal centre, the women in question will get a programme of support and care in the community.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196775/>

The statement referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-24/debates/03FA26A3-90A1-4E58-826A-1341ABA6D146/ImmigrationDetentionShawReview>

Undocumented Migrants: English Channel

Gregory Campbell (DUP) [196721] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have illegally entered the UK in the past three months by means of crossing the English Channel.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Border Force does not routinely publish this level of data. All our transparency data can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/border-force-transparency-data-november-2018>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196721/>

Undocumented Migrants: Salford and Eccles

Rebecca Long Bailey (Labour) [197638] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what data his Department holds on the number of people resident in Salford and Eccles constituency that (a) did not have a legal right to stay and (b) were removed or forced to depart the UK in (i) 2011 (ii) 2012 (iii) 2013 (iv) 2014 (v) 2015 (vi) 2016 (vii) 2017 (viii) 2018.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Any estimate of the exact size of the illegal population in Salford and Eccles constituency is extremely difficult and there would be considerable uncertainty around it.

Exit checks were introduced in April 2015 and are, over time, providing more detailed insights into the behaviour of migrants and how they comply with the restrictions placed upon their length of stay in the UK. The Government is focused on making it harder for people to live in the UK illegally.

For those removed or forced to depart the UK across the periods specified, providing the information requested would require a manual check of individual records which could only be done at disproportionate cost.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-30/197638/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Asylum: Slavery

Frank Field (Independent) [197595] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 23 November 2018 to Question 193378, how many victims of slavery (a) have been paid a full back payment and (b) are due arrears.

Frank Field (Independent) [197596] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home

Department, pursuant to the Answer of 23 November 2018 to Question 193378, with reference to the High Court Judgement in respect of K & Anor, R (on the application of) v Secretary of State for the Home Department of 8 November 2018, whether all victims of slavery have automatically received the new subsistence rate since that judgment.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The Government is committed to tackling the scourge of modern slavery and supporting those affected by this crime.

In 2017, Home Office Ministers agreed a comprehensive package of reforms to the National Referral Mechanism, which included the introduction of places of safety for those leaving situations of exploitation, trebling the period of move on support to assist victims moving out of government funded support and aligning the subsistence rates paid to potential victims of modern slavery with those received by asylum seekers.

In light of the judgment in K and AM, the Home Office has immediately reinstated the top up paid to those in the Victim Care Contract who are also receiving support from the asylum support system, so that they receive a total of £65 per week.

We are currently putting in place processes to ensure that those who have been affected receive a full back payment as soon as possible, and will set out how we plan to respond in due course, including our communications with all those affected.

We are committed to reforming the National Referral Mechanism to ensure that as many victims of modern slavery as possible get the support they need.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-30/197595/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-30/197596/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-20/193378/>

The judgement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/Admin/2018/2951.html>

Slavery: Victim Support Schemes

Siobhain McDonagh (Labour) [196679] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he plans to provide additional funding to ensure the 2020 modern slavery victim care contract complies with the Human Trafficking Foundation's slavery and trafficking survivor care standards.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The Government is committed to introducing minimum standards of care in the new victim care contract.

These standards will be monitored using an inspection regime, based on the Human Trafficking Foundation's Slavery and Trafficking Survivor Care Standards. The tender of the new contract will include the standards and any costs associated will be incorporated as part of the contract procurement process.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196679/>

The Care Standards referred to above can be read at

https://www.justice.gov.uk/Units/Trafficking/MainDocs/Trafficking_Survivor_Care_Standards.pdf

Human Trafficking: Victim Support Schemes

Siobhain McDonagh (Labour) [196680] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Home Office's national referral mechanism reform guidance published in October 2018 and the High Court judgement on AM & K versus SSHD, whether the plans to make the cuts proposed as part of the national referral

mechanism reforms will still go ahead in February and March 2019.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The Home Office has paused the staged implementation of the alignment of subsistence rates for potential victims of modern slavery with those received by asylum seekers, which was due to start in February 2019, whilst it considers the implication of the judgment in AM and K vs SSHD.

We will work through the implications of the judgment in respect to our future approach to financial support, and will share further details as soon as we are able. The Home Office has immediately reinstated the top up paid to those in the Victim Care Contract who are also receiving support from the asylum support system, so that they receive a total of £65 per week whilst this work is carried out.

We are committed to reforming the National Referral Mechanism to ensure that as many victims of modern slavery as possible

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196680/>

The judgement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/approved-judgment-k-am-co-2143-2294-2018.pdf>

Human Trafficking: Victim Support Schemes

Alex Norris (Labour Co-op) [196808] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the High Court Judgment K & Anor, R (on the application of) v Secretary of State for the Home Department of 8 November 2018, whether plans set out in the NRM reforms, announced in October 2017 to align subsistence rates for victims of trafficking with asylum seekers will not be implemented through the statutory guidance on victim support, Section 49 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The Government recognises the importance of publishing guidance under Section 49 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 on the identification of and support for potential victims of modern slavery.

The Act requires the Secretary of State to publish statutory guidance on indicators of potential trafficking, arrangements for determining whether there are reasonable grounds to believe that a person may be a victim of slavery or human trafficking, and arrangements for providing assistance and support to these victims.

The guidance will reference subsistence rates as part of the package of support provided to potential victims, however it will not include the specific amount that individuals are entitled to.

The Government will publish this guidance as soon as we are able. We will announce a timetable in due course.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196808/>

The judgement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/Admin/2018/2951.html>

The following three questions all received the same answer

Human Trafficking: Children

Ann Coffey (Labour) [195515] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many referrals were made to the Independent Child Trafficking Advocates service in (a) 2017 and (b) 2018 to date in each of the early adopter sites (i) Wales, (ii) Hampshire and (iii) Greater Manchester; and how many of those children went missing during those periods for each of those areas.

Ann Coffey (Labour) [195517] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate he has made of the number of children who will benefit from individual support through the Independent Child Trafficking Advocates service by country of origin in (a) 2019-20 and (b) 2020-21.

Human Trafficking: Children in Care

Ann Coffey (Labour) [195516] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many referrals were made to the Independent Child Trafficking Advocates service in (a) 2017 and (b) 2018 to date for looked after children in each of the early adopter sites (i) Wales, (ii) Hampshire and (iii) Greater Manchester; and how many of those looked after children went missing from care in each of those areas in those periods.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: An interim assessment of the first year of the Independent Child Trafficking Advocate (ICTA) service (February 2017 – January 2018) and associated data tables were published in July 2018 and can be found:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/an-assessment-of-independent-child-trafficking-advocates-interim-findings>

Data on referrals split by early adopter site is published in Table A1, and on children who went missing in C1. The data are not broken down to show if a child is looked after. Data on referrals between February 2018 and January 2019 will be published in a final report in Spring 2019.

In July, the Government announced that it would roll out the ICTA service to one third of local authorities by April 2019. Following the expansion of the service, around one third of all children that we estimate will be referred into the NRM will be eligible to access the ICTA service in England and Wales. This estimate has not been broken down by country of origin.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-26/195515/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-26/195517/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-26/195516/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Lord Green of Deddington (Crossbench) [HL11566] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the speech by the Prime Minister to the UN General Assembly in 2017, what assessment they have made of the extent to which the Global Compact for Safe Orderly and Regular Migration reflects UK policies on (1) the right of states to control their borders, (2) the need to distinguish between refugees and economic migrants, and (3) whether refugees should seek asylum in the first safe country they reach.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration is a legally non-binding document which will complement existing legal frameworks and foster stronger international cooperation on migration – which is a shared, global issue.

Alongside the Global Compact for Refugees, it will support the UK's 3 Global Migration Principles set out by the Prime Minister at UN General Assembly in 2016, namely: to acknowledge the right of countries to control their borders; to improve how we distinguish between refugees and economic migrants; and to ensure refugees claim asylum in the first safe country they reach.

The UK welcomes the explicit commitment in the Compact for states to uphold their national sovereignty and continue to set domestic migration policy. We will therefore continue to control our borders and prevent irregular migration to the UK.

By negotiating separate and distinct Global Compacts on Migration and Refugees we have helped strengthen international recognition of the distinction between the

two, which will help ensure support is targeted to those in need and migration is better managed. The Global Compact for Refugees supports the Prime Minister's principle that refugees should seek asylum in the first safe country they reach by promoting greater support to hosting countries to protect and support refugees.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-19/HL11566/>

The Global Contract for Migration, referred to above, can be read at <http://undocs.org/en/A/CONF.231/3>

Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Lord Pearson of Rannoch (UKIP) [HL11725] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they intend to sign the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Morocco on 10 and 11 December; and if so, what effect they have calculated signing the Compact will have on UK immigration.

Reply from Lord Bates: The UK Government is supportive of the UN's Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, both as a step forward in international co-operation to tackle irregular migration and as a framework to help us deliver our commitments under the Sustainable Development Goals.

Our participation in the Global Compact will not affect our continued ability to determine and implement our own migration policy in the national interest. The Compact is a 'non-legally binding, cooperative framework', which reaffirms the sovereign right of States to determine their national migration policy.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-22/HL11725/>

The Global Contract for Migration, referred to above, can be read at <http://undocs.org/en/A/CONF.231/3>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Lord Balfe (Conservative) [HL11745] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they intend to sign the UN Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Morocco on 10 December; whether they have consulted other EU Member States on signing the Compact; and whether they intend to seek the views of Parliament before committing themselves to a decision.

Lord Blencathra (Conservative) [HL11748] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the UN Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration; and whether they intend to sign the Compact.

Reply from Lord Bates: Well-managed migration is in everyone's interests. But uncontrolled migration erodes public confidence, damages economies, and places those on the move in situations of intense vulnerability. The UK is taking significant steps to tackle uncontrolled migration by:

- Addressing the root causes of migration, through our targeted assistance for livelihoods, healthcare, education and economic development
- Tackling modern slavery and organised immigration crime
- Supporting enhanced border management
- Providing critical humanitarian support and protection for vulnerable migrants, as well as offering voluntary return and vital reintegration support to those wishing to return home
- Supporting refugees to stay in a first safe country through our humanitarian and development work in Africa, the Middle East and Asia

The Global Compact for Migration is one way in which we are working to ensure that UK migration priorities are embedded throughout the international system. It is a step forward in international co-operation to tackle irregular migration and helpful framework to help us deliver our commitments under the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Compact is not legally binding. Instead, it creates a framework that will allow countries to work together to make migration more beneficial for everyone. It protects every State's right to determine its own immigration policies, including in areas such as asylum, border controls and returns of illegal migrants.

We have worked closely with our EU colleagues throughout the process and will continue to do so as we approach the intergovernmental launch event in Marrakesh. My colleague the Rt Hon. Alistair Burt MP recently spoke to the APPGs on Migration and Refugees about the Migration Compact.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-23/HL11745/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-23/HL11748/>

The Global Contract for Migration, referred to above, can be read at <http://undocs.org/en/A/CONF.231/3>

British Nationality: Children

Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour) [HL11505] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 6 November (HL10945), whether they will now answer the question previously asked, namely how many children have had their applications for British citizenship denied because they failed the good character test in each of the last five years for which information is available.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I refer the Baroness to my previous answer.

The information which is now available indicates there were a total of 255 refusals of applications for British citizenship on character grounds under Section 41A of the British Nationality Act 1981 for minors and young persons (aged 10 to 18) in the period 2013 to 2017.

A table giving the breakdown by calendar year is given below

Refusals of applications from minors for British citizenship on grounds that the applicant was 'Not of good character'	
Year of decision	Refusals of registration for applicants aged 10 to 18 years under section 41A of the British Nationality Act 1981
2013	78
2014	44
2015	39
2016	59
2017	35

Source: Home Office Migration Statistics Immigration Statistics year to March 2018. Subset of 'Not of good character' in table cz_09.
Age is calculated as at date of decision.

We consider it appropriate to apply to minors the same criminality thresholds in the good character test that are applied to adults, and there are no current plans to review this. 10 and over is in line with the age of criminal responsibility.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-14/HL11505/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-23/HL10945/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Lord Wigley (Plaid Cymru) [HL11700] To ask Her Majesty's Government what is the definition of a "durable relationship, duly attested" for the purposes of article 10(4) of the draft agreement on the withdrawal of the UK from the EU.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: A "durable relationship, duly attested" for the purposes of Article 10(4) of the draft Withdrawal Agreement reflects the provision made by Article 3(2)(b) of the Free Movement Directive (Directive 2004/38/EC). Its definition is reflected in that of "durable partner" in Appendix EU to the Immigration Rules for the EU Settlement Scheme, under which resident EU citizens and their family members will be able to obtain UK immigration status in line with the agreement.

This requires that the couple have lived together in a relationship akin to a marriage or civil partnership for at least two years (unless there is other significant evidence of the durable relationship), and that the applicant provides the requisite documentary evidence of this.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-21/HL11700/>

Immigration

Lord Wigley (Plaid Cymru) [HL11701] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the compliance with human rights legislation of the requirement in article 10(5) of the draft agreement on the withdrawal of the UK from the EU for a host state to undertake "an extensive examination of the personal circumstances" of a person who has applied for residence.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The requirement in Article 10(5) of the draft Withdrawal Agreement with the European Union to undertake "an extensive examination of the personal circumstances" applies to extended family members of EU citizens who have applied for residence in the UK. It is based on an identical requirement in Article 3(2) of the Free Movement Directive (2004/38/EC).

As this requirement is taken directly from existing EU law, we consider it to be compliant with the UK's human rights obligations as set out in the European Convention on Human Rights and the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, which apply in all EU Member States.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-21/HL11701/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Health Services: EU Nationals

Lord Wigley (Plaid Cymru) [HL11875] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Draft Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community, published on 14 November, whether, under the provision of Article 18(k)(ii), it is their policy to refuse economically inactive persons who become residents of the UK access to the NHS.

Lord Wigley (Plaid Cymru) [HL11876] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Draft Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community, published on 14 November, whether, under the provisions of Article 18(k)(iii), it is their policy to refuse access to the NHS to students from EU countries pursuing courses at accredited higher education establishments in the UK unless they have personal insurance policies to cover the cost of treatments.

Reply from Lord O'Shaughnessy: All people in the United Kingdom are able to access the National Health Service. However, since the UK has a residency based healthcare system, charges for most non-primary care services will apply to

those people that are neither ordinarily resident in the UK, nor exempt from charge under the NHS (Charges to Overseas Visitors) Regulations 2015, as amended. European Union citizens who are currently ordinarily resident in the UK are treated in the same way as ordinarily resident UK nationals for the purpose of receiving NHS-funded healthcare. There is no requirement for European Economic Area nationals to have a 'right to reside' in the UK under the Free Movement Directive, nor to exercise treaty rights or hold Comprehensive Sickness Insurance, in order to meet the ordinary residence definition.

For EU citizens resident in the UK by the end of the implementation period and in scope of the Withdrawal Agreement, their entitlement to free NHS services will not change, as long as they continue to be ordinarily resident in the UK.

When EU citizens living in the UK apply to the EU settlement scheme for UK immigration status, they will not be required to demonstrate they have held comprehensive sickness insurance as a qualifying criteria. The settlement scheme will be open to all EU citizens resident in the UK by 31 December 2020, including EU citizens studying in the UK. Those granted pre- or settled status under the settlement scheme will continue to have access to the NHS as long as they are ordinarily resident in the UK and therefore be able to access care as a UK national would.

EU students in the UK at the end of the implementation period will also have a European Health Insurance Card. Under the Withdrawal Agreement they can continue to use this during their stay to access needs arising healthcare.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-27/HL11875/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-27/HL11876/>

English Language: Education

Lord Murphy of Torfaen (Labour) [HL11755] To ask Her Majesty's Government what data they monitor and assess on students studying English as an additional language.

Reply from Lord Agnew of Oulton: The department monitors and publishes various sets of data relating to pupils in state-funded primary and secondary schools in England who are classed as having English as an additional language (EAL). The most recent statistics on the number of EAL pupils, as identified through the January 2018 school census, are included in the "Schools, pupils and their characteristics" statistical publication, available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/schools-pupils-and-their-characteristics-january-2018>.

Published statistics also show the academic performance of pupils whose first language is other than English in national assessments during year 1 and at the end of key stage 1, which are available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/phonics-screening-check-and-key-stage-1-assessments-england-2018>.

Published statistics collected at the end of key stage 2 are available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/national-curriculum-assessments-key-stage-2-2017-revised>.

Published statistics collected at the end of key stage 4 can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/revised-gcse-and-equivalent-results-in-england-2016-to-2017>.

In addition, data on pupil entries to qualifications in English for speakers of other languages are included in the key stage 4 qualification data that can be downloaded from the school performance tables webpages here:

<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/download-data>.

The department also publishes data on the number of adults who are accessing

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses, based on Individualised Learner Record data supplied by further education providers and can be found in table 6 here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/further-education-and-skills-november-2017>.

The data sets and analysis found at the above links contain many tables and documents that we are, therefore, unable to attach.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-23/HL11755/>

Asia Bibi

The Lord Bishop of Coventry [HL11558] To ask Her Majesty's Government what representations they have received from the family of Asia Bibi that they be granted asylum in the UK.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: As the Prime Minister set out on 14 November, the release of Asia Bibi will be very welcome news to her family and to all those who have campaigned in Pakistan and around the world for her release. We welcome the assurances the Government of Pakistan has given on keeping her and her family safe and it is important that all countries seek to uphold the rule of law and afford security and protection for the rights of all citizens irrespective of faith or belief. It is a longstanding Government policy not to comment on individual cases. In accordance with our duty of confidentiality, we cannot confirm whether an asylum claim has been received or the outcome of such a request.

Departing from this policy may put individuals and their family members in danger.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-19/HL11558/>

The Prime Minister's comments referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-11-14/debates/C03B9E77-08F3-4B28-A9A9-3229779FCF9/Engagements#contribution-842028EB-DF7B-429A-BEA8-4A2F78F383B8>

Asylum: Pakistan

The Lord Bishop of Coventry [HL11560] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many applications for asylum from Pakistan on grounds of religious persecution they received in the years ending (1) June 2015, (2) June 2016, (3) June 2017, and (4) June 2018; and of those, how many applications were granted in each year.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: All asylum claims lodged in the UK are carefully considered on their individual merits against a background of relevant case law and up to date country information. We ensure that claimants are given every opportunity to disclose information relevant to their claim under a Convention reason as set out in the 1951 Refugee Convention.

The data required to answer the question is not recorded in a way that can be reported on accurately. The Home Office does not electronically record the Convention reason on which an individual claims asylum and so we cannot identify how many asylum claimants, from a specific country, have been granted asylum due to a claim made on the grounds of religious persecution.

However, the Home Office publishes figures on the outcome of all asylum claims, which can be broken down by nationality, in the Immigration Statistics release.

The breakdown is as follows:

Year ending	Jun-15	Jun-16	Jun-17	Jun-18
Applications from Pakistani nationals	2313	3000	2598	2313
Grants of Pakistani nationals; Including Humanitarian Protection, Discretionary leave, Exceptional Leave and other grants of Leave outside the Rules.	610	300	295	294
Grants of Asylum of Pakistani nationals	568	288	277	269

Asylum

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL11650] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 9 November (HL11255), whether they will report regularly to Parliament on (1) how "comprehensive support and accurate information" are being provided to vulnerable migrants now in continental Europe, (2) the progress of their vulnerable person re-settlement scheme, and (3) the application of the Dublin Regulation to the family reunification of unaccompanied children.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: We have allocated a £3.6 million Dublin development fund, as part of the Sandhurst Treaty signed between the UK and France in January 2018, to identify projects to support eligible claims through the asylum process and ensure those who are ineligible for transfer to the UK are informed of their options. We are in the process of transferring these funds and will continue to work with the French Government to implement this work. We will update Parliament as and when we have relevant information to share.

As of June 2018, a total of 12,851 people had been resettled in the UK under the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS) since it began across 288 local authorities. The Home Office is committed to publishing data in an orderly way as part of the regular quarterly Immigration Statistics, in line with the UK Statistics Authority's Code of Practice for Official Statistics. The statistics are available at:

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

We are confident that the VPRS is on track to deliver the commitment. More refugees are arriving every month and the figure for resettlement continues to rise.

On 30 November 2017, the Government published data on the numbers of children transferred to the UK from the Calais camp clearance. The data can be accessed here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/transfers-of-children-to-the-uk-from-the-calais-operation-november-2017>

On 22 February 2018, the Home Office published data on the number of transfers into the UK from other Dublin states. The relevant statistics can be found at as_22_q, asylum volume 5 at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-october-to-december-2017-data-tables>. 2018 Dublin data will be published in February

[Transfers of Children to the UK from Calais Ops](#)
[Immigration Stats - Asylum Oct-Dec 2017](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-21/HL11650/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-05/HL11255/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Asylum

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL11718] To ask Her Majesty's Government what consideration they have given to charging the costs of assessing asylum claims and resettling refugees in the UK against their commitment to spend 0.7 per cent of GDP on aid and development.

Education: Asylum

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL11719] To ask Her Majesty's Government what consideration they have given to charging the costs of education and language training

for child and adult asylum seekers and refugees in the UK against their commitment to spent 0.7 per cent of GDP on aid and development.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Official Development Assistance (ODA), often referred to as overseas aid, is the internationally agreed criteria for funds provided to promote economic development and welfare.

The first twelve months of certain costs for refugees' and asylum seekers are reported as ODA, helping us protect vulnerable people here in the UK who are escaping conflict and persecution.

The rules governing what expenditure is classified as ODA are set by the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development and not by the UK government

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-22/HL11718/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-22/HL11719/>

Asylum: Housing

Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour) [HL11651] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they have taken to ensure the accountability of service providers under the new (1) Asylum Accommodation and Support Transformation, and (2) Advice, Issues Resolution and Eligibility contracts for asylum accommodation.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government expects the highest standards from our contractors and Providers are monitored closely to ensure they continue to meet these standards.

The forthcoming Asylum Accommodation and Support Contract(AASC) together with the Advice, Issue Reporting & Eligibility(AIRE) contracts, include clearly defined performance standards measured through a set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) set within a wider Performance Management Regime (PMR) that will ensure the safety and wellbeing of all Service Users.

These will be monitored formally at Contract Management meetings between the providers and representatives of UK Visas and Immigration.

There is a rigorous contract compliance regime in place to ensure that the required performance standards expected of all providers, as defined in the contracts, are met. Instances of non-conformance of the performance indicators may lead to a financial deduction from monthly invoices

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-21/HL11651/>

Asylum: Housing

Lord Ramsbotham (Crossbench) [HL11680] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the recommendations in the report by Refugee Rights Europe, Finally Safe? Experiences of Women in Asylum Accommodation in Birmingham, published in November, and the proposals made by Asylum Matters and the Scottish Refugee Council about an increased role for local authorities in the procurement and monitoring of asylum accommodation.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government demands the highest standards from contractors and their accommodation and monitor them closely to ensure this is maintained. All Providers are contractually required to take account of any particular circumstances and vulnerability of those that they accommodate, including those who have health care issues or are pregnant. This includes making specific allowances for accommodation type in accordance with local authority regulations, as well as ensuring that registration and transportation to medical appointments takes place.

Identifying the needs of service users as well as safeguarding those being

supported by UKVI are common themes throughout the new contracts. Additional measures have been put in place to monitor the service that is being delivered, introducing mechanisms and opportunities to respond to changes in service user circumstances whilst they are supported and accommodated. We encourage all reports to share details of individual cases with the Home Office to ensure that we are able to respond swiftly and efficiently to any points raised.

We take the wellbeing of asylum seekers and the local communities in which they live extremely seriously and will continue to work closely with local authorities across the United Kingdom to deliver on our statutory obligation to house destitute asylum seekers whilst their asylum claims are determined. All accommodation providers are contractually obliged to consult the relevant Local Authority on any new properties procured for use in the asylum dispersal system. This obligation will continue into the new accommodation contracts.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-21/HL11680/>

The report referred to above can be read at

http://refugeerights.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/RRE_FinallySafe.pdf

Education: Asylum

Lord Murphy of Torfaen (Labour) [HL11754] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to help improve the educational attainment of asylum-seeking unaccompanied minors at (1) Key Stage 4 level, and (2) all other key stages.

Reply from Lord Agnew of Oulton: Unaccompanied asylum seeking children are 'looked-after children' and local authorities have a duty under the Children Act to promote their education. The government's statutory guidance 'Promoting the education of looked-after and previously looked-after children' attached makes clear that local authorities should have procedures in place to promote and monitor their educational progress. This includes the statutory requirement for local authorities to appoint a Virtual School Head (VSH) to discharge their duty to promote the educational achievement of all looked-after children. The statutory guidance also stresses the importance of providing stability and continuity in education, particularly at Key Stage 4. Looked-after children are one of the groups of pupils that attract Pupil Premium Plus funding. This is additional funding provided to schools to help improve the attainment of looked-after children and close the attainment gap between them and their peers. The VSH monitors how this funding is spent.

The Department for Education has also contributed £1.3 million through the Government's Controlling Migration Fund over two years, to enable six local authorities to address the education needs of unaccompanied children so that their specific needs can be addressed through their Personal Education Plan. The local authorities are also developing tools and resources to share with all other local authorities through the National Association of Virtual School Headteachers.

[Promoting_the_education_of_looked-after_children](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-23/HL11754/>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Deidre Brock (SNP) (1902) Visas for festival promoters – That this House recognises the reports from UK festival organisers of increasingly onerous bureaucratic burdens, delays and refusals of visit visas for international artists invited to attend their events, including the world leading festivals in Edinburgh; expresses concern that frustrations with the process, coupled with increasing perceptions of the UK as being a hostile destination, will disrupt programmes and deter performers from appearing here,

damaging the competitiveness of the UK's creative sector and impacting on the ability of festivals to remain open and welcoming platforms for global exchange and debate, at a time when this is urgently needed; notes with deep concern that the difficulties may be compounded by Brexit if performers from the EEA become subject to the same flawed system; further notes the immense economic, social and cultural value of the UK's creative scene; and urges the Government to streamline and simplify the process for all visiting artists to ensure our festivals can continue to thrive.

<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/52376/visas-for-festival-promoters>

Press Releases

New EU short-stay visas: more advantages for legitimate travellers

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181203IPR20711/new-eu-short-stay-visas-more-advantages-for-legitimate-travellers>

Humanitarian visas would reduce refugees' death toll

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181203IPR20713/humanitarian-visas-would-reduce-refugees-death-toll>

Secretary General backs UN migration pact

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/secretary-general-backs-un-migration-pact>

Managing Migration: Commission calls time on asylum reform stalling

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6627_en.htm

A Europe that Protects: Commission calls for continued action to eradicate trafficking in human beings

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6639_en.htm

New Publications

Calls to protect EU citizens

<https://www.gov.scot/news/calls-to-protect-eu-citizens/>

Updated Guidance: EU Settlement Scheme: Assisted Digital service

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-assisted-digital-service/eu-settlement-scheme-assisted-digital-service>

The Home Office response to the Independent Chief Inspector's report: Country of Origin Information

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/761957/COI_May_2018_Formal_response.pdf

Briefing: The United Nations Global Compact for Migration

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-8459/CBP-8459.pdf>

Handling of the Windrush situation

<https://www.nao.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Handling-of-the-Windrush-situation-1.pdf>

The move-on period- an ordeal for new refugees

<https://www.redcross.org.uk/-/media/documents/about-us/research-publications/refugee-support/move-on-period-report.pdf>

News

UK Government 'block' Holyrood paying settled status fees for EU citizens in Scotland's public services

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17283840.uk-government-block-holyrood-paying-settled-status-fees-for-eu-citizens-in-scotlands-public-services/?ref=mr&lp=11>

Holyrood not allowed to pay EU fees for staff

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/holyrood-not-allowed-to-pay-eu-fees-for-staff-06mznfc3g>

Sajid Javid says freedom of movement ends, 'deal or no deal'

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/dec/05/sajid-javid-says-freedom-of-movement-ends-deal-or-no-deal>

Home Office unlawfully removed child asylum seeker from UK, High Court rules

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/child-asylum-seeker-removed-uk-home-office-unlawful-high-court-ruling-a8670611.html>

Immigration minister listens to calls to end indefinite detention

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/05/immigration-minister-caroline-nokes-listens-to-calls-to-end-indefinite-detention>

Investor visa scheme halted in money laundering crackdown

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-46463319>

UK 'golden visa' scheme to be suspended due to corruption fears

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/06/restrictions-for-2m-golden-visa-to-be-reformed>

'Golden visas' allowing Russian and Chinese investors to settle in UK suspended over money laundering

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/investor-visas-tier-one-uk-suspended-money-laundering-financial-crime-immigration-russia-china-a8670876.html>

Javid would like to review ban on asylum seekers working in UK

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/05/sajid-javid-would-like-to-review-ban-on-asylum-seekers-working-in-the-uk>

Windrush: Home Office criticised after deportees not contacted

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-46421326>

Home Office under fire over Commonwealth deportations

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/03/home-office-under-fire-over-commonwealth-deportations-windrush>

Windrush: 'Home Office ignored warnings'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/education-46445109>

Home Office criticised for 'lack of urgency' in Windrush scandal

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/05/home-office-criticised-for-lack-of-urgency-identifying-victims-of-windrush-scandal>

Home Office knew Windrush scandal was brewing for years

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-12-05/news/home-office-knew-windrush-scandal-was-brewing-for-years-ws08ghmxx>

Glasgow city council knew of Serco refugee eviction plans for months

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-12-03/scotland/glasgow-city-council-knew-of-serco-refugee-eviction-plans-for-months-99n36c3cb>

Police to stop passing on immigration status of crime victims

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/07/police-to-stop-passing-on-immigration-status-of-victims>

Police told not to take action against illegal immigrants who are victims of crime

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/12/07/police-told-not-take-action-against-illegal-immigrants-victims/>

EU nationals highlight multiple bugs in Home Office Brexit app

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/dec/08/another-blow-brexit-app-eu-nationals-string-bugs-home-office>

Brexit: Concerns EU staff will leave Scottish universities

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-46489759>

Do Scots think differently about immigration?

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-46457341>

Study finds little difference in Scottish and English immigration attitudes

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17278676.study-finds-little-difference-in-scottish-and-english-immigration-attitudes/>

Scots no more open to immigration than rest of UK, study finds

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/scots-no-more-open-to-immigration-than-rest-of-uk-study-finds-1-4839965>

The NAO's Windrush report shows what our reporting has pointed towards – the Home Office was long aware of the issues

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/windrush-home-office-national-audit-office-hostile-environment-immigration-theresa-may-a8668031.html>

Home Office bureaucrats need to pay for Windrush too

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-12-07/news/home-office-bureaucrats-need-to-pay-for-windrush-too-dm5vm0zrq>

Universal credit pushing refugees into 'almost inevitable destitution', charity warns

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/universal-credit-refugees-destitution-british-red-cross-a8668821.html>

Brook House: Scandal-hit immigration removal centre run by G4S 'should only hold detainees for a few weeks', report finds

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/brook-house-immigration-centre-g4s-detainees-report-review-deport-immigrants-a8667511.html>

Algerian man dies in London immigration detention centre

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/man-dies-immigration-detention-centre-home-office-algeria-harmandsworth-a8673231.html>

'Myths' of immigrants putting pressure on NHS with health issues and high birth rates debunked in report

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/health/nhs-immigration-health-issues-birth-waiting-times-infection-children-pregnant-unhealthy-a8669441.html>

Moderator signs Christmas statement on refugees

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

Refugee families allowed to enter UK after 20 years at RAF and army bases

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/03/refugee-families-allowed-to-enter-uk-after-20-years-at-raf-base>

Refugee families allowed to settle in UK after 20 years stranded at British military base in Cyprus

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/refugees-enter-uk-stranded-army-base-cyprus-20-years-dhekelia-akrotiri-a8665931.html>

Scottish Refugee Council CEO Sabir Zazai: message for Human Rights Day 2018

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R8Chn4IU4h8&feature=youtu.be>

Liverpool 'child asylum seekers' found to be adults

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-merseyside-46494675>

Woman's plea to Home Office over Uzbekistan funeral plans

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-46424510>

A childhood shoplifting offence 'stops me being British'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-46426970>

Glasgow Girls on tour

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/blogs/3377_glasgow_girls_on_tour

How hostile rhetoric at the top leads to playground bullying

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/dec/03/britain-refugees-hostile-tone>

UK 'lagging behind' on efforts to tackle modern slavery as victims not given adequate support, report warns

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/modern-slavery-victims-human-trafficking-uk-home-office-support-report-a8668451.html>

TOP

Community Relations

Press Release

Faith Minister launches national tour to celebrate the role of faith communities

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/faith-minister-launches-national-tour-to-celebrate-the-role-of-faith-communities>

News

Muslim rapper sends message of love to young urban Jews

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/register/muslim-rapper-sends-message-of-love-to-young-urban-jews-c69g99wzl>

Belfast Roma leaders 'intimidating and exploiting'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-46419101>

South Asian culture in Scotland over 30 years

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-46291009>

Travellers' foodbank challenge sees donations flood in

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-46475820>

Muslims 'should share respect' for Jesus with Christmas cheer

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/muslims-should-share-respect-for-jesus-with-christmas-cheer-s6p3cf7kv>

This Christmas, let's foster a world community of peace

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/this-christmas-lets-foster-a-world-community-of-peace-r62w9752r>

TOP

Equality

Scottish Parliament Written Answer

Social Security Scotland

S5W-20268 Mark Griffin (Labour): To ask the Scottish Government how many members of the Social Security Scotland (a) senior management team and (b) executive advisory body identify as black or minority ethnic (BME).

Reply from Shirley-Anne Somerville: At present, no members of the Social Security Scotland Senior Management Team or Executive Advisory Body have self-declared as identifying as black or minority ethnic.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-20268>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Organs: Donors

Gregory Campbell (DUP) [196712] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, whether his Department has developed targets to ensure the numbers of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic organ donors more accurately represent the proportion of those ethnic groups in wider society.

Reply from Jackie Doyle-Price: The Government is committed to increasing organ donation among black and Asian people and has commissioned a campaign, with support from the National BAME Transplant Alliance. The campaign aims to increase donation rates by raising awareness and breaking down barriers to donation within these communities. There are no targets published in relation to Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic organ donation.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-28/196712/>

Offenders: Ethnic Groups

Philip Davies (Conservative) [196157] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what information his Department holds on the ethnicity of each offender and their victim in murder cases in each of the last three years in cases where the ethnicity of the perpetrator and the victim was recorded as being different.

Reply from Nick Hurd: The Home Office Homicide Index holds information on the ethnicity of both victims and suspects for homicide offences recorded by the police in England and Wales.

The information requested for the latest available three years (2014/15 to 2016/17) is given in the table.

Number of homicides recorded by the police in England and Wales, by ethnicity of victim and principal suspect where a suspect has been convicted of homicide, committed suicide or died for year ending March 2015							
	Suspect ethnicity self-defined						
Victim ethnicity (visual)	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Chinese or other ethnic group	Mixed	White	Not recorded/ not known	Grand Total
	Numbers						
Asian (Indian sub-continent)	15	1	1	1	6	2	26
Black	1	27	2	6	5	4	45
Other	1	2	1	1	7	0	12
White	6	20	4	5	231	15	281
Not known/not recorded	0	1	0	0	5	1	7
Total	23	51	8	13	254	22	371

Source: Homicide Index, Home Office

1. As at 16 November 2017; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

Number of homicides recorded by the police in England and Wales, by ethnicity of victim and principal suspect where a suspect has been convicted of homicide, committed suicide or died for year ending March 2016							
	Suspect ethnicity self-defined						
Victim ethnicity (visual)	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Mixed	White	Not recorded/ not known	Grand Total	
	Numbers						
Asian (Indian sub-continent)	15	3	1	2	1	22	
Black	1	25	5	9	2	42	
Other	1	2	1	6	0	10	
White	4	17	7	197	13	238	

Not known/not recorded	0	0	0	6	5	11
Total	21	47	14	220	21	323

Source: Homicide Index, Home Office

1. As at 16 November 2017; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

Number of homicides recorded by the police in England and Wales, by ethnicity of victim and principal suspect where a suspect has been convicted of homicide, committed suicide or died for year ending March 2017

Suspect ethnicity self-defined							
Victim ethnicity (visual)	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Chinese or other ethnic group	Mixed	White	Not recorded/not known	Grand Total
Numbers							
Asian (Indian sub-continent)	10	3	0	0	4	1	18
Black	4	16	0	2	1	1	24
Other	0	1	0	0	2	0	3
White	4	2	1	8	141	5	161
Not known/not recorded	0	0	0	0	6	1	7
Total	18	22	1	10	154	8	213

Source: Homicide Index, Home Office

1. As at 16 November 2017; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-27/196157/>

Ministry of Defence: Equality

Nia Griffith (Labour) [197453] To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, with reference to his Department's Civilian Personnel Biannual Diversity Dashboard, for what reason the answers that respondents can provide to the question on religious representation are limited to Christian, Non-Christian and secular.

Reply from Tobias Ellwood: Statistics on religious representation among Ministry of Defence (MOD) civilian staff, as published in the MOD's '*Civilian Personnel Biannual Diversity Dashboard*', are presented at an aggregate level so they can be reported clearly and reliably.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-29/197453/>

The most recent Dashboard referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/661293/2017-10-15_-_Diversity_Dashboard_-_Oct_17_Publication_.pdf

Press Releases

Improving diversity in early learning workforce

<https://www.gov.scot/news/improving-diversity-in-early-learning-workforce/>

70 years on, landmark UN human rights document as important as ever

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2018/12/1027981>

New Publication

Preventing unlawful profiling today and in the future: a guide

http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2018-preventing-unlawful-profiling-guide_en.pdf

News

Ethnic minority academics earn less than white colleagues

<https://www.bbc.com/news/education-46473269>

Black and white children more likely to be in care than Asian children

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/dec/05/white-and-black-children-are-more-likely-to-be-in-care-than-asians>

Europe's tech startups suffer from 'diversity debt', survey finds

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2018/dec/04/europes-tech-startups-suffer-from-diversity-debt-survey-finds>

TOP

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answer

Prime Minister's Questions

Bob Blackman (Conservative): Yesterday, London students heard from the renowned holocaust survivor Hannah Lewis, who described the horrors of Europe's darkest hour. As we celebrate the festival of Hanukkah, does my right hon. Friend agree that there could be no better place for the national holocaust memorial and learning centre than alongside this Palace of Westminster, to stand as a permanent memorial to the horrors of the ultimate of antisemitism?

Reply from the Prime Minister: I commend Hannah for the contribution she is making and has made over the years in bringing home to people the absolute horrors of the holocaust. I commend the work of the Holocaust Educational Trust, which does important work up and down our country. I absolutely agree with my hon. Friend that there is no better place for the holocaust memorial and learning centre to be than right next to our Parliament. What is important is that this is not just a memorial; it is a learning centre and it will be educating young people and others about the horrors of man's inhumanity to man.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-12-05/debates/AE0D2D86-28E1-40CC-A4E5-4DAC25733B52/Engagements#contribution-AE860669-9BC1-4929-A3B3-4F0F994C2E86>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Schools: Bullying

Naz Shah (Labour) [198293] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what recent estimate he has made of the level of bullying in schools; and whether there has been an increase in the level of bullying of BAME children in schools.

Reply from Nick Gibb: Harassment or bullying of any kind is completely unacceptable and abhorrent in any setting including schools. All schools are legally required to have a behaviour policy with measures to prevent all forms of bullying. Schools have a role in promoting community cohesion and integration and are required to support pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and to promote fundamental British values. This is a priority for the Government and the Department working with the sector to support them in this role, including, for example, encouraging social mixing across schools.

Earlier this year an extension was announced to the Department's anti-bullying grant programme, which is now providing over £2.8 million of funding between September 2016 and March 2020, to four anti-bullying organisations that support schools to tackle bullying. This includes projects targeting bullying of particular groups such as those with special educational need and disabilities and those who are victims of hate related to bullying, along with a project to report bullying online.

Whilst there is no legal requirement on schools to record and report incidents of bullying the department uses evidence from surveys as an indicator of the prevalence of bullying.

This includes the Department's omnibus survey of pupils and their parents/carers. The latest report (September 2018[1]) shows an overall reduction in reports of bullying compared to the previous year, with 37% of pupils surveyed reporting being a victim of bullying at least once in the last year, compared to 45% of pupils the previous year.

There was an increase in the proportion of pupils who reported being bullied at least once a month in the last year because of their race, nationality or ethnicity (3%, compared to 1% the previous year).

Other surveys used by the department include Bullying in England - a report based on analysis of the ONS crime survey for England and Wales (published November 2018);[2] and the Longitudinal Study of Young People in England (LSYPE) 2 (wave 3 published June 2018).[3]

[1] <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupils-and-their-parents-or-carers-omnibus-wave-1-survey>.

[2].<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bullying-in-england-april-2013-to-march-2018>.

[3][https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/715469/Bullying-Evidence from LSYPE2 wave 3.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/715469/Bullying-Evidence_from_LSYPE2_wave_3.pdf).

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-03/198293/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

Religious Hate Speech

Lord Pearson of Rannoch (UKIP): To ask Her Majesty's Government whether section 29J of the Public Order Act 1986 remains in force, and if so, what is the basis in statute for the offence of religious hate speech.

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Williams of Trafford): My Lords, Part 3A of the Public Order Act 1986 relates to hatred against persons on religious or sexual orientation grounds. Section 29J provides

that Part 3A should not be interpreted in a way that prohibits discussion or encouragement to cease practising of particular religions or beliefs. There is no criminal offence in the UK of hate speech.

Lord Pearson of Rannoch: My Lords, I thank the Minister for her reply. However, I fear that we are on our way to losing our freedom of speech in this area. I repeat a question I put a year ago, which the Government refused to answer: namely, whether a Christian who proclaims that Jesus is the only Son of the one true God can be arrested for hate speech if a Muslim feels insulted and complains to the police. By the same token, can a Muslim be arrested for preaching the supreme divinity of Allah if a Christian takes offence?

Secondly, can the Government assure your Lordships that they will not follow a new judgment from the Strasbourg court, which upholds Austria's criminalisation of a lady who said that Muhammad was a paedophile? Or are we to have a new blasphemy law that prohibits discussion of Islam?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, the noble Lord asked me a hypothetical question in an unspecified situation. The CPS and the police agreed definition of hate crime is used for the purposes of identifying and flagging only. The definition is: any criminal offence which is perceived to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a person's actual or perceived disability, race, religion, sexual orientation or transgender identity. When flagged as a hate crime, the police will be satisfied that an offence has been committed and will then investigate evidence in support of the appropriate charge, as well as the aggravated element of hostility. It would not be appropriate for me, as I have just said, to confirm whether this is an example which would constitute a hate crime. That would be an operational decision both of the police and the CPS based on the specific circumstances.

On the Austrian situation, the judgment does not raise any issues which require any further consideration by this Government at this time.

Lord Rosser (Labour): I was hoping that the noble Lord, Lord Pearson, was going to tell us that, like Mr Farage, he now found UKIP so awful that he, too, was leaving its ranks. Section 29J of the Public Order Act 1986, which was added, I understand, by this House during the passage of the Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006, states:

"Nothing in this Part shall be read or given effect in a way which prohibits or restricts discussion, criticism or expressions of antipathy, dislike, ridicule, insult or abuse of particular religions or the beliefs or practices of their adherents, or of any other belief system or the beliefs or practices of its adherents".

In the light of those references to "insult or abuse", do the Government intend to reconsider the appropriateness of those two words in Section 29J in the current climate, which seem to conflict to some degree with the objective of the Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006 and its protection for individuals from hatred and the fear of violence and harassment?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, we need to be careful to balance the two issues. I know why the noble Lord picked "insult" and "abuse" because they sound quite strong words, but insult and abuse and hatred are quite different things. I take the noble Lord's point: on the face of it, they seem quite strong words.

Lord Paddick (Liberal Democrat): My Lords, I was the police spokesperson after the 7 July bombings in 2005 in London when 52 innocent people lost their lives. I was asked in a press conference whether I felt that it was the result of Islamic terrorism. I said that I thought that the phrase "Islamic terrorism" was a contradiction in terms. I went on to say that I believe that the UK is a much better, more law-abiding country because we have a strong Muslim community. I believe that now as much as I did then. Does the Minister agree?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I do agree with the noble Lord that the conflation of Islamism and Islamic is widespread. Not only should we

understand where the two terms come from—Islamism, of course, comes from the collapse of the Ottoman empire—but that Islam itself is a peaceful religion and Muslims in this country contribute to the variety and diversity of our country.

Lord Singh of Wimbledon (Crossbench): My Lords, does the Minister agree that all faiths should be treated equally, and does she deplore the present practice of resources going to those who shout the loudest? There are no comparative statistics on hate crime for different faiths.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I agree with the noble Lord that all religions should be treated equally. The premise of some of our hate crime legislation absolutely underpins that equality in society. No one should feel that hate should be meted out on them because of their religion, the colour of their skin, their sexual orientation or their disability.

Lord King of Bridgwater (Conservative): Does my noble friend agree that there is now far too much hatred in the world, affecting all ages, such as the tragic incident that occurred recently with the Syrian refugee? The total pervasiveness of social media is an opportunity to spread hate in different directions. Will she comment on the approach that could be taken to tackle that particular challenge that we now have?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My noble friend raises an important question about the proliferation of hate crime online; of course, what is a crime offline should also be a crime online. We will be taking our online harms White Paper through Parliament shortly. He is absolutely right to point out the case of that poor Syrian boy, but I should also like to point out that sometimes out of such awful situations comes great kindness. I understand that the British public have raised a lot of funds for that family to support them through the terrible time that they have had.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-12-05/debates/49F2CB46-26D3-4D04-9FCD-A30804DB1FC9/ReligiousHateSpeech>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Hate Crime

Lord Pearson of Rannoch (UKIP) [HL11724] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 19 November (HL11282), whether the police and Crown Prosecution Service definition of hate crime includes hate speech; and if so, what is the basis in statute for that offence.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The term 'hate speech' does not have any legal meaning. For any example of hate speech to be treated as a hate crime it would need to meet the police and Crown Prosecution Service definition of a hate crime.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-22/HL11724/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-05/HL11282/>

Hate Crime

Lord Ouseley (Crossbench) [HL11673] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the rise in hate crimes recorded by the police in England and Wales in the last five years, and the implications for community cohesion of such a rise; and what steps they will take to counter this trend.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Police recorded hate crime has more than doubled over the period 2012/13 to 2017/18. This increase is thought to be driven largely by general improvements by the police in how they record crime, as well as better identification of hate crimes, willingness of victims to come

forward, and a genuine increase in these offences around certain events. Better recording is an important part of how to tackle hate crime and support victims. The independent Crime Survey of England and Wales meanwhile shows a welcomed downward trend in the actual incidence of hate crime. Latest data shows a 40% reduction between the combined 2007/08 to 2008/09 and combined 2015/16 to 2017/18 surveys.

However, this Government recognises that there is no room for complacency given the impact of hate crimes on victims, their families and wider communities. The Hate Crime Action Plan refresh published in October 2018 sets out a comprehensive plan for tackling the issue. This includes work under 5 key themes: preventing hate crime by challenging beliefs and attitudes; responding to hate crime within our communities; increasing the reporting of hate crime; improving support for victims of hate crime; and building our understanding of hate crime.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-21/HL11673/>

The Crime Survey referred to above can be read at

<http://www.crimesurvey.co.uk/en/index.html>

The Hate Crime Action Plan referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/748175/Hate_crime_refresh_2018_FINAL_WEB.PDF

Hate Crime: Prosecutions

Lord Pearson of Rannoch (UKIP) [HL11726] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the reply by Baroness Vere of Norbiton on 6 December 2017 (HL Deb, col 1051), whether Baroness Vere of Norbiton wrote to the Director of Public Prosecutions to ask whether she agrees that the definition of hate crime is broader than what is in statute and on what authority any broadening was based; and if so, what reply she received.

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: Baroness Vere of Norbiton wrote to the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) on 13 December 2017. The DPP provided her response on 9 January 2018.

In her response, the then DPP confirmed that the flagging definition for hate crime was agreed between the CPS and the NPCC (ACPO as it was then) in 2007 and that it is wider than the definition set out in legislation to ensure all relevant cases are captured.

The CPS adopted the recommended definition in the Macpherson report published in 1999 as a result of the inquiry into the murder of Stephen Lawrence. The Macpherson report also recommended that 'this definition should be universally adopted by the Police, local Government and other relevant agencies'. The recommendations of the Macpherson report were welcomed by the Government at the time and the current Government remains in support of this position. The CPS has worked with police to implement the recommended definition across all strands of hate crime. The CPS takes tackling hate crime seriously and recognises the need to increase public confidence to report. The flagging definition is important in achieving this aim.

In order for a crime to be charged and prosecuted as a hate crime, the CPS uses the legal definitions contained in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (CDA 1998) and the Criminal Justice Act 2003 (CJA 2003). This means that not every incident that the victim or another person has perceived to be a hate crime will actually be a hate crime in law.

In her letter, the then DPP also confirmed that the CPS legal guidance recognises the potential impact of prosecutions on Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights (the right to freedom of expression). The CPS must balance the rights of an individual to freedom of speech against the duty of the state to act proportionately and to protect the rights of others.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-22/HL11726/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2017-12-06/debates/2322BFC7-28B5-4D8F-BF90-E847771C422B/FreedomOfSpeechHateCrime#contribution-087C794B-2181-46F4-B2C4-94A715B1039A>

The Macpherson Report, referred to above, can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/277111/4262.pdf

Religious Hatred

Lord Pearson of Rannoch (UKIP) [HL11727] To ask Her Majesty's Government what further support they will give to Nissar Hussain and his family, and others, who have left the Islamic faith and if facing persecution in the UK.

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: Everyone in Britain has the right to feel safe and at ease in the place where they live. Any individual or group is free to express views and beliefs, but have a duty to behave responsibly and to respect other people's rights as defined by the law. Freedom of speech, freedom of worship, democracy, the rule of law, and equal rights define us as a society, and the Government is determined to promote these values. Britain has a strong legal framework in place to deal with hate crimes, and these must be reported to the police.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-22/HL11727/>

Press Releases

UK Holocaust Memorial to reaffirm Britain's commitment to stand up against antisemitism, prejudice and hatred

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-holocaust-memorial-to-reaffirm-britains-commitment-to-stand-up-against-antisemitism-prejudice-and-hatred>

EU steps up its international cooperation to tackle Holocaust Denial and Antisemitism

https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/just/item-detail.cfm?item_id=640113

News

Sajid Javid: I was bullied at school for being Asian

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-46425044>

Sajid Javid, the Huddersfield school video and the boy who bullied the future Home Secretary

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/12/03/sajid-javid-huddersfield-school-video-boy-bullied-future-home/>

School bullies attacked me too, says Sajid Javid

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-12-04/news/bullied-syrian-refugee-reminds-me-of-my-youth-says-sajid-javid-x5fdgpz6h>

System Resistance Network: Neo Nazi group 'should be illegal'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-46292599>

Racism at university: Inquiry launched by UK's equality body

<https://www.bbc.com/news/newsbeat-46432710>

Equality watchdog launches inquiry into racial harassment at universities

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/04/equality-watchdog-launches-inquiry-into-racial-harassment-at-universities>

Racist bullying could be responsible for black students receiving lower grades, equalities commission says

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2018/12/04/racist-bullying-could-responsible-black-students-receiving-lower/>

Revealed: the stark evidence of everyday racial bias in Britain

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/02/revealed-the-stark-evidence-of-everyday-racial-bias-in-britain>

Bias in Britain: explore the poll results

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/ng-interactive/2018/dec/02/bias-in-britain-explore-the-poll-results>

Podcast: Bias in Britain: the truth about modern racism

<https://www.theguardian.com/news/audio/2018/dec/04/bias-in-britain-the-truth-about-modern-racism>

From football to dating to TV: 10 areas rife with racial bias in UK

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/03/from-football-to-dating-to-tv-10-areas-rife-with-racial-bias-in-uk>

Minority candidates face 'ethnic penalty' in elections, study shows

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/04/minority-candidates-face-ethnic-penalty-in-elections-study-shows>

'They just wanted an ethnic': the effects of bias on minority MPs

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/04/they-just-wanted-an-ethnic-the-effects-of-bias-on-minority-mps>

Police, military and courts lagging decades behind on ethnic diversity

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/05/police-military-and-courts-lagging-decades-behind-on-ethnic-diversity>

'It's nowhere near good enough': broken promises on police diversity

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/05/its-nowhere-near-good-enough-broken-promises-on-police-diversity>

Met police use Tasers and restraints more often against black people

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/05/met-police-use-tasers-and-restraints-more-often-against-black-people>

Humiliated and degraded: this is how black men are treated by police

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/05/humiliated-and-degraded-this-is-how-black-men-are-treated-by-police>

What's in a name? How 'mystery shopping' studies show bias

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/03/whats-in-a-name-how-mystery-shopping-studies-show-bias>

Flatshare bias: room-seekers with Muslim name get fewer replies

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/03/flatshare-bias-room-seekers-with-muslim-name-get-fewer-replies>

How we carried out our survey of flatshare bias

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/03/how-we-carried-out-our-survey-of-flatshare-bias>

Revealed: bias faced by minorities in UK driving tests

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/03/black-women-far-less-likely-than-white-men-to-pass-driving-tests>

Racial bias in Britain – what it feels like

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/commentisfree/2018/dec/05/racial-bias-britain-feel-panel-everyday-racism-impact>

We need to be eternally vigilant in the fight against racism

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/dec/05/we-need-to-be-eternally-vigilant-in-the-fight-against-racism>

This is a vital study of racial bias. Now will Britain take heed?

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/dec/02/bias-in-britain-racial-bias-ethnic-minorities>

Unconscious bias: what is it and can it be eliminated?

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/02/unconscious-bias-what-is-it-and-can-it-be-eliminated>

Bias in Britain: good intentions are not enough

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/dec/02/the-guardian-view-on-bias-in-britain-good-intentions-are-not-enough>

Now we know there's racial bias. The challenge is how to address it

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/dec/07/racial-bias-address-prejudice>

Bias in Britain: what can employers, the government and you do about it?

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/07/bias-in-britain-what-can-employers-the-government-and-you-do-about-it>

My name is Nish Kumar – so please stop calling me Nish Patel

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/03/my-name-is-nish-kumar-so-please-stop-calling-me-nish-patel>

Mental Health Act 'needs major reform' as black patients four times as likely as whites to be sectioned

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/health/mental-health-act-detained-sectioned-ethnic-minority-bme-report-nhs-a8669246.html>

Neo-Nazis call for Prince Harry to be killed for mixed-race Meghan Markle marriage

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/neo-nazis-call-prince-harry-13698023>

Teen scrawled swastikas in blood during neo-Nazi crime spree in Scottish town

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/teen-scrawled-swastikas-blood-during-13695846>

Life imitates art as play about antisemitism faces wave of abuse

<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2018/dec/09/one-jewish-boy-abuse-campaign-play-london-antisemitism>

As a survivor of the Rotherham grooming gang, I am scared by racism and hate crime in Brexit Britain

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/brexit-deal-racism-hate-crime-rotherham-grooming-gang-child-sex-abuse-islamophobia-definition-a8666416.html>

Wales Theatre Awards cancelled in racism row

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-46420194>

Vile racist abuse of Celtic star Scott Sinclair slammed after Aberdeen cup final bigot shame

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/vile-racist-abuse-celtic-star-13689067>

Hearts 1-0 Motherwell: Two arrests after Christian Mbulu racially abused

<https://www.bbc.com/sport/football/46496089>

Two arrested over alleged racial abuse at Hearts v Motherwell game

<https://www.scotsman.com/sport/football/teams/hearts/two-arrested-over-alleged-racial-abuse-at-hearts-v-motherwell-game-1-4841328>

'Racist abuse' claims at Hearts game after two fans arrested

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/racist-abuse-claims-hearts-game-13706350>

'Nobody accepts this kind of behaviour': Emery condemns banana skin incident

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2018/dec/03/unai-emery-arsenal-banana-north-london-derby-police>

Viv Anderson: 'When I saw the banana skin it hit me like a punch'

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2018/dec/04/viv-anderson-banana-skin-arsenal-tottenham-derby>

Raheem Sterling claims newspapers are helping to 'fuel racism' in football after alleged Stamford Bridge abuse

<https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/premier-league/raheem-sterling-chelsea-racist-racial-abuse-instagram-chelsea-vs-manchester-city-stamford-bridge-fan-a8674636.html>

I wasn't difficult, just black, says Daley Thompson

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/i-wasnt-difficult-just-black-says-daley-thompson-mnzdl78kh>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Release

Chanukah message from the First Minister

<https://twitter.com/ScotGovFM/status/1069290233827680256>

Animation: The Scottish Budget Process

<http://www.parliament.scot/visitandlearn/110369.aspx>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Legal Representation: Ethnic Groups

Gloria De Piero (Labour) [197617] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many (a) women, (b) men and (c) people of BAME background represented themselves in court in each (i) year and (ii) quarter since 2012.

Reply from Lucy Frazer: The information requested would only be available at disproportionate cost.

HMCTS holds some information for individuals who come before the courts with no (or unknown) representation but it is not possible to determine self-representation from the administrative data available. Recording of sex and BAME characteristics for the purposes of administering activity in the courts differs across jurisdictions. A full response would only be available through local court records at disproportionate cost.

Where available, data on the number of cases with and without representation is published in the department's quarterly court statistics.

Links to the latest statistics are included in the answer to PQ197612.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-30/197617/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-30/197612/>

Female Genital Mutilation

Jim Cunningham (Labour) [197584] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate his Department has made of the number of women that were (a) victims of and (b) considered to be at risk of female genital mutilation since the introduction of the Serious Crime Act 2015.

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

Data on FGM includes a 2015 City University and Equality Now study, part funded by the Home Office, which estimated that 137,000 women and girls who had migrated to England and Wales were living with the consequences of FGM, and approximately 60,000 girls aged 0-14 were born in England and Wales to mothers who had undergone FGM. The study also provides a breakdown of FGM prevalence estimates by local authority area which is available online at <http://openaccess.city.ac.uk/12382/>.

In addition, NHS Digital publishes data on the prevalence of FGM within the NHS in England. The most recent quarterly statistics were published in September 2018. A detailed breakdown of these statistics, including by local authority and age, is available online at

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

To improve understanding of the prevalence of so-called 'Honour Based Violence'

including FGM, we amended the police Annual Data Requirement (ADR) to allow police forces the opportunity from April 2018 to record on a voluntary basis where a crime has been committed in the context of preserving the 'honour' of a family or community. This new voluntary collection is also capturing police recorded offences of FGM which were initially reported to the police under the duty.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-30/197584/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Domestic Violence

Baroness Afshar (Crossbench) [HL11538] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether their planned domestic abuse legislation will consider and provide for domestic abuse in communities where men assume that abuse is sanctioned by their faith.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government is clear that domestic abuse is a crime irrespective of whether that abuse is claimed to be sanctioned by faith.

We will be publishing a response to our public consultation on domestic abuse, together with a draft Domestic Abuse Bill, later this Parliamentary session.

The draft Bill will clearly define the types of behaviours that comprise domestic abuse be they controlling, coercive, threatening or violent and recognise that abuse can encompass psychological, physical, sexual, economic and emotional harms.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-19/HL11538/>

Forced Marriage

Baroness Berridge (Conservative) [HL11773] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the case for enacting legislation to provide financial relief under the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 to victims of forced marriages whose religious marriages are not binding under UK law as outlined in section 121(4) of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: The Government is clear that forced marriage is a terrible form of abuse and that we will not allow political or cultural sensitivities to get in the way of tackling it.

However, the purpose of Part II of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 is to set out how the Court orders financial provision on the legal ending of marriage.

Since forced marriage was made a criminal offence in England and Wales in 2014, the Government has continued to introduce measures to protect victims, including lifelong anonymity in 2017. Last month, the Home Secretary launched a consultation to seek views on whether it is necessary to introduce a new legal mandatory reporting duty relating to cases of forced marriage. That consultation also seeks views on how the current guidance on forced marriage could be improved and strengthened.

The Government is committed to keeping this area of family justice under review.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-26/HL11773/>

The consultation referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/756200/Forced_Marriage_Consultation.pdf

New Publication

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) - July 2018 to September 2018, Experimental Statistics Report

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/female-genital-mutilation/july-september-2018/content>

News

Forced marriage law 'could stop victims reporting crime'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-46455013>

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Brexit

Scottish Parliament Debate

European Union Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11826&i=106985#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Government Press Release

Parliament rejects Brexit deal

<https://www.gov.scot/news/parliament-rejects-brexit-deal/>

UK Parliament Debates

House of Commons – European Union (Withdrawal) Act

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2018-12-04/debates/C112155E-C163-4D6B-A4E2-F0F7DD0D7D14/EuropeanUnion\(Withdrawal\)Act](https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2018-12-04/debates/C112155E-C163-4D6B-A4E2-F0F7DD0D7D14/EuropeanUnion(Withdrawal)Act)

and

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-12-05/debates/A7A014E4-2CC3-42E4-8732-8270A2BE9BF3/EuropeanUnion\(Withdrawal\)Act](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-12-05/debates/A7A014E4-2CC3-42E4-8732-8270A2BE9BF3/EuropeanUnion(Withdrawal)Act)

and

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-12-06/debates/6DF8A870-48CC-4304-9051-564F94D74E88/EuropeanUnion\(Withdrawal\)Act](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-12-06/debates/6DF8A870-48CC-4304-9051-564F94D74E88/EuropeanUnion(Withdrawal)Act)

House of Lords – Brexit: Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-12-05/debates/3BA61F14-999B-4AC5-84C4-A668CC5CEE74/BrexitWithdrawalAgreementAndPoliticalDeclaration>

and

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-12-06/debates/6D49893C-C76E-4EFE-956D-153929A47C93/BrexitWithdrawalAgreementAndPoliticalDeclaration>

Office of the Attorney General

EU Exit: Attorney General's legal advice to Cabinet on the Withdrawal Agreement and the Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/761852/05_December-EU_Exit_Attorney_General_s_legal_advice_to_Cabinet_on_the_Withdrawal_Agreement_and_the_Protocol_on_Ireland-Northern_Ireland.pdf

European Court of Justice

Advocate General Campos Sánchez-Bordona proposes that the Court of Justice should declare that Article 50 TEU allows the unilateral revocation of the notification of the intention to withdraw from the EU

<https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/upload/docs/application/pdf/2018-12/cp180187en.pdf>

The full judgement can be read at

<http://curia.europa.eu/juris/document/document.jsf?jsessionid=6653C974D14C03A554ACD46E29C64F27?text=&docid=208385&pageIndex=0&doclang=EN&mode=req&dir=&occ=first&part=1&cid=242866>

News

Brexit: Full legal advice to be published after contempt vote

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-46446694>

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Other News

Halal Scottish salmon blessed for Muslim customers

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-business-46426001>

Man travels 400 miles to bless Scottish salmon for sale at Muslim market

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/man-travels-over-400-miles-13687114>

Girls 'at heightened risk' of FGM and forced marriage as police not told of protection orders

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/fgm-forced-marriage-girls-children-protection-orders-national-police-chiefs-council-safeguarding-a8673346.html>

School just converted my daughter to Christianity

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/opinion/school-just-converted-my-daughter-to-christianity-jane-bradley-1-4841154>

'I've got two months to find a donor'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-46454494>

Family threaten to kill daughter for having a baby

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-46424500/family-threaten-to-kill-daughter-for-having-a-baby>

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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>

Health and Sport Committee: stage 1 evidence session

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11810&i=106859#ScotParlOR>

**** Vulnerable Witnesses (Criminal Evidence) (Scotland) Bill**

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/108702.aspx>

Justice Committee: state 1 evidence session

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11812&i=106885#ScotParlOR>

and

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11825&i=106940#ScotParlOR>

UK Parliament

Border Control Bill

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

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>

Gypsy and Traveller Communities (Housing, Planning and Education)

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

Holocaust (Return of Cultural Objects) (Amendment) Bill

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

Human Trafficking (Child Protection) Bill

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

Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill

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

**** Immigration (Time Limit on Detention) Bill**

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

First Reading, House of Commons

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-12-05/debates/FE0E3770-454D-4815-B2AD-3BA26FEC115A/Immigration\(TimeLimitOnDetention\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-12-05/debates/FE0E3770-454D-4815-B2AD-3BA26FEC115A/Immigration(TimeLimitOnDetention))

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>

Online Forums Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/onlineforums.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

The future of civil partnership in Scotland (closing date 21 December 2018)

<https://consult.gov.scot/family-law/the-future-of-civil-partnership-in-scotland/>

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Bill (closing date 4 January 2018)

<https://consult.gov.scot/violence-against-women-team/female-genital-mutilation/>

Shortage occupation list review 2018 (closing date 6 January 2019)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/754865/SOL_call_for_evidence_Final_Version_for_publication.pdf

Equality and Human Rights Commission Draft Strategic Plan 2019 to 2022 (closing date 7 January 2019)

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work-have-your-say>

Ethnicity pay reporting (closing date 11 January 2019)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/747546/ethnicity-pay-reporting-consultation.pdf

**** Racial harassment in higher education** (closing date 15 February 2019)

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/inquiries-and-investigations/racial-harassment-higher-education-our-inquiry>

Preventing and tackling forced marriage (closing date 23 January 2019)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/756200/Forced_Marriage_Consultation.pdf

One Scotland: Hate Has No Home Here (closing date 24 February 2019)

<https://consult.gov.scot/hate-crime/consultation-on-scottish-hate-crime-legislation/>

Social inclusion, loneliness and belonging in society (closing date not stated)
<http://app.surveymethods.com/EndUser.aspx?B397FBE3BAF0E3E2B3>

Raising skills and standards of supporters of refugees and asylum seekers
(closing date not stated)
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3R8SDYN>

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

Cyber grants now available to Scottish charities
Closing date for applications: 18 December 2018

The cyber grants help charities to meet the costs of preparing for and receiving Cyber Essentials accreditation. Eligible organisations can receive up to £1,000 towards the costs of achieving Cyber Essentials accreditation. For information and to apply see <https://scvo.org.uk/digital/evolution/cyber-resilience>

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Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Overcoming Unconscious Bias

11 December 2018 in Kirkcaldy (9.30-4.00)

Fife Centre for Equalities training to help those in positions of leadership to understand hidden factors that contribute to the success or failure of organisational policy and strategy. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y97ofh8b>

One Scotland: Hate Has No Home Here

16 January 2019 in Glasgow (10.00-1.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/y7aqqavn>

17 January 2019 in Stornaway (10.00-1.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/yczkv4gm>

22 January 2019 in Dundee (10.00-1.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/y93w7aq4>

24 January 2019 in Galashiels (10.00-1.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/y9jlfzds>

31 January 2019 in Edinburgh (10.00-1.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/y9rygo77>

6 February 2019 in Aberdeen (12.00-3.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/y9a9x6h8>

7 February 2019 in Shetland (10.00-1.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/yahlmwvm>

Scottish Government Hate Crime consultation meetings to provide information about the proposals, and enable individuals and communities to give their views. For information and to book a place, please click on the relevant link above.

Discrimination Law in 2019

21 January 2019 in Edinburgh (9.00-4.00)

Equality and Human rights Commission conference to provide authoritative guidance on important recent and proposed changes to discrimination legislation. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y775nbkz>

Working with refugees and the asylum process

22 January 2019 in Glasgow

28 February 2019 in Glasgow

15 May 2019 in Glasgow

18 September 2019 in Glasgow

31 October 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine why people might need to flee their own country, how they seek asylum in the UK, and what opportunities exist for rebuilding their lives here in Scotland. Reduced fees available for relevant organisations. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/z68a5k8> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Working with Interpreters

29 January 2019 in Glasgow

7 March 2019 in Glasgow

24 April 2019 in Glasgow

8 October 2019 in Glasgow

28 November 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to train service providers in the processes of using an interpreter, examine the pitfalls – and consequences – of this aspect of service provision, looking at confidentiality, professional boundaries, including appropriate behaviour and standards, and evaluation processes. Reduced fees available for relevant organisations. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/jt93fog> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Working with refugees and VPRS resettlement

5 February 2019 in Glasgow

23 May 2019 in Glasgow

2 October 2019 in Glasgow

21 November 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine the issues facing Syrian refugees as they move from countries around Syria to the UK, and highlight the challenges and opportunities they face as they build new lives in Scotland. Reduced fees available. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/zy436gr> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Working with unaccompanied refugee children

14 February 2019 in Glasgow

1 May 2019 in Glasgow

26 September 2019 in Glasgow

6 November 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to enable service providers to better understand separated children, and how you can help them in their journey. Reduced fees available. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y7mz5uuv> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Age assessment awareness

20 February 2019 in Glasgow

9 May 2019 in Glasgow

13 November 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to give social workers and other relevant staff an awareness of the components that are used to build a picture of a person's age. It draws on a variety of existing Age Assessment practice guidelines and demonstrates how these apply in Scotland. Reduced fees available. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y8f2z7p4> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

**** Working with People from Diverse Religion & Belief Backgrounds**

5 March 2019 in Glasgow (9.30-1.00)

Interfaith Scotland course to increase confidence in discussing and responding to the religion and belief of others at work, learn about the core beliefs and cultural practices of the main faiths, and the individual needs that may arise from a person's faith or belief identity. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y9bkt6e2>

**** Three Mottos for Excellence in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

14 March 2018 in Glasgow (9.30-1.00)

Interfaith Scotland course to consider three models that help guide our thinking, as we seek to tackle discrimination, communicate across difference and understand the relationship between our identities, our experiences and our worldview. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yd8uhfeq>

Refugee rights to housing

22 March 2019 in Glasgow

7 November 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course identifying the different groups of asylum seekers and refugees most likely to seek housing in Scotland, their legal rights, and the duties and obligations on local authorities and other housing organisations towards them. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y9pvpl5r> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Engaging with seldom heard voices

27 March 2019 in Glasgow

5 December 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course looking at the various approaches, tools and techniques we can adopt to reach out to people who are seldom heard. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y8tg2x4k> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Refugee community sponsorship

21 May 2019 in Glasgow

11 December 2019 in Glasgow

For information see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/what_we_do/training or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

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Useful Links

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Interfaith Scotland <https://interfaithscotland.org/>

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

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

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

ACAS <http://www.acas.org.uk/>

SCVO <https://scvo.org.uk/>

Volunteer Scotland <https://www.volunteerscotland.net/>

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

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

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

Volunteer Scotland Disclosure Services <https://www.volunteerscotland.net/for-organisations/disclosure-services/>

BBC News <https://www.bbc.com/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) <https://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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