



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

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Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month, and that the Scottish and UK Parliament and Government websites 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

Scottish Parliament Justice Sub-Committee on Policing

Immigration (Police Scotland's Role): evidence session

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11835&i=107070#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Oral Answer

European Union Citizens (Access to Benefits)

Willie Coffey (SNP): I have recently been contacted by my constituent Laura Nani, a European Union citizen who has lived in Scotland for more than 30 years. Although Laura has lived in Scotland for all her working life, the Department for Work and Pensions has determined that she has no right to reside in the United Kingdom. What can the First Minister and the Scottish Government do to help European Union citizens

who are residing in Scotland who have wrongfully been denied universal credit through the habitual residency test?

Reply from the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon): The case that Willie Coffey has raised is shameful. The right to reside test is applied to low-income benefits that are reserved to the UK Government. It is a complex barrier for EU nationals whom the UK Government deems “economically inactive”. The European Commission has described the test as: “direct discrimination based on nationality”. I advise the chamber that we are taking a more humane approach through our new best start grants, because the Scottish system is defined by dignity, fairness and respect. We value EU nationals and we will not subject them to needless stress, anxiety and financial hardship. EU nationals who are in Laura’s position might be eligible for support from the Scottish welfare fund.

The UK system is increasingly known for two things: inhumanity and incorrect decisions. Therefore, I advise Laura to seek independent advice on whether there is a case for appeal. I encourage members across the chamber to continue to press the UK Government to scrap universal credit and to have an overall welfare policy that is based on dignity, respect and—above all else—humanity, because the current system is definitely not.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11843&i=107141#ScotParlOR>

UK Parliament, Ministerial Statements

Global Compact for Migration

The Minister for the Middle East (Alistair Burt) [HCWS1163] I am writing to update the House on the UK’s endorsement of the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration, which we will announce at the intergovernmental launch event in Marrakesh on 10 December.

Overview

Well-managed migration is in everyone’s interests. But uncontrolled migration erodes public confidence, damages economies, and places people on the move in situations of great vulnerability. The UK is taking significant steps, including with our ODA-funded programming, 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 overseas;

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; and

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 embeds these efforts within the international system and enhances co-operation between states whilst reaffirming the sovereign right of all countries to control their own borders. The compact is not legally binding. It creates a framework to allow countries to work together to make global migration more beneficial for everyone.

UK endorsement of the global compact for migration

On 10 December, the UK will endorse the global compact for migration (GCM) at the intergovernmental launch event in Marrakesh.

The migration compact marks a major milestone for the international community. No country can address the challenges presented by illegal migration on its own and an agreement on this scale, with the overwhelming support of the international community including endorsements from 165 other UN member states including France, Germany,

Canada and Japan, highlights the need for global co-operation.

The compact will not, and is not intended to, affect our continued ability to determine and implement our own migration policy in our national interest. The compact will not in any way create legal obligations for states, nor does it seek to establish international customary law or further interpret existing treaties or national obligations. It protects every country's right to determine its own immigration policies, including in areas such as asylum, border controls and returns of illegal migrants. The GCM emphasises that migrants are entitled to the same universal human rights as any human being, and does not create any new "rights" for migrants. As a result, the UK does not interpret the compact as being in conflict with its current domestic policies. At the same time, the compact will help us take important steps to keep migrants around the world safe and to protect the most vulnerable, domestically and overseas, who can become victims of modern slavery. The compact also sets out actions to harness the economic benefits of safer, regular migration, for example by reducing the costs of remittances that migrants send home.

I believe the end result serves the UK's national interest. The Prime Minister set out the UK's priorities for global migration reform in 2016 and, taken together, the refugee compact and the migration compact help embed these priorities into global migration governance. In practice, that means a refugee compact that helps ensure refugees can claim asylum in the first safe country they reach. And a migration compact which makes a clear distinction between refugees and migrants, and which sets out a well-managed global migration system confirming the sovereign right of States to control their borders and the clear responsibility of states to accept the return of their nationals who no longer have the right to remain elsewhere.

It also includes proposals which will help the UK make a strong contribution to the delivery of the global sustainable development goals, including through our ODA-funded programming. This includes those relating to orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people; and those intended to eradicate forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking, and child labour.

Next steps

After the political launch in Marrakesh, the document will need to be adopted by the UN General Assembly in New York. As part of this process, the UK will issue an explanation of position, alongside likeminded EU member states which will publicly capture the UK's interpretation of the text.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-12-10/debates/181210600015/GlobalCompactForMigration>

The Global Compact for Migration can be read at

https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/180713_agreed_outcome_global_compact_for_migration.pdf

Immigration

The Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes) [HCWS1181] The Government are committed to making it easier for lawful residents to demonstrate their right to work in the UK, and to strengthening the support we provide to employers when complying with the provisions in the Immigration Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 to avoid employing illegal workers.

In April this year, the Home Office launched a new online checking service. This service enables UK employers to check the current right to work, in real time, of a person who holds either a biometric residence permit or a biometric residence card, and to see whether they are subject to any restrictions.

The system works on the basis of the individual first viewing their own Home Office right to work record. They may then share this information with an employer if they wish, by providing their employer with a "share code", which can be used to access the record. This authorisation represents an important safeguard and means employers will only view an individual's information having received their consent and the share code

allowing their access.

We have worked closely with UK employers and with users of the service in developing this new system, which has been operating effectively to provide employers and migrants with additional assurance where used to support right to work checks.

In order for employers to actually rely on the new online service to discharge their legal responsibilities under illegal working legislation, it is necessary to amend the Immigration (Restrictions on Employment) Order 2007 to properly integrate the service into Home Office legislation which stipulates the checks employers should conduct to avoid a penalty for employing an illegal worker. These checks are currently largely predicated on a face value examination of a physical document.

Today we have laid before Parliament the Immigration (Restrictions on Employment) (Code of Practice and Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2018, in accordance with the 2006 Act, together with a revised code of practice, which provides that employers will be able to rely on an online check from the end of January 2019, where a prospective employee has an immigration status that is compatible with the online checking service (holders of biometric residence permits or cards, and those with online immigration status).

From the end of January 2019, employers will be able to request either the online check or the existing document-based check. Online checks will therefore be a voluntary option while migrants and employers develop familiarity with the new service and take up becomes more prevalent.

The online checking service has also been developed to enable EU migrants granted leave to remain under the EU settlement scheme to view their status and to share it with employers and other service providers where appropriate. Current arrangements, under which EU citizens can demonstrate their right to work in the UK by producing their national passport or identity card, will continue after the UK leaves the European Union and for the entire duration of any implementation period. However, with the latest development, EU nationals may alternatively choose to rely on online status issued following a successful application to the EU settlement scheme, by using the online service to share their right to work with their employer. Further detail on the future immigration system will be set out in a White Paper shortly.

The Immigration (Restrictions on Employment) (Code of Practice and Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2018 also seeks to amend the list of documents which demonstrate a right to work, to remove the requirement that a British birth or adoption certificate must be the full certificate for these purposes. The intention is to make it easier for British citizens who do not hold a passport to demonstrate their right to work, using a short birth or adoption certificate with a national insurance number.

In addition to the order, we have also laid the Licensing Act 2003 (Personal and Premises Licences) (Forms) (Amendment) Regulations 2018. The regulations make consequential amendments to prescribed licence application forms to reflect changes to the order.

Successive UK Governments have introduced measures to tackle illegal working which represents the principal pull factor for illegal immigration to the UK, and the 2018 order underscores our commitment to improve the necessary system of checks for employers and workers alike. I would be happy to arrange a demonstration of the new online service for hon. Members.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-12-13/debates/1812133600017/Immigration>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Jonathan Edwards (Plaid Cymru) [198799] To ask the Secretary of State for International Development, what assessment she has made of the potential merits of the proposed UN migration pact; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Alistair Burt: Well-managed migration is in everyone's interests. But uncontrolled migration erodes public confidence, damages economies, and places people on the move in situations of great vulnerability. The UK is taking significant steps to tackle uncontrolled migration both in our domestic policy work and in our ODA-funded programmes 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; and
- 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. 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.

I recently spoke to the APPGs on Migration and Refugees about the Migration Compact and attended the intergovernmental launch in Marrakech. We will issue a Written Ministerial Statement to update parliament.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-04/198799/>

The Global Compact for Migration can be read at

https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/180713_agreed_outcome_global_compact_for_migration.pdf

Immigration

David Simpson (DUP) [198783] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether his Department has any targets for the number of people migrating to the UK once the UK leaves the EU.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We remain committed to reducing net migration to sustainable levels. As we leave the EU, free movement will end and we will take back control of immigration. We will shortly be publishing a White Paper outlining the principles for our future border and immigration system.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-04/198783/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Migrant Workers: Databases

Steve Reed (Labour Co-op) [200709] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many times employers have used his Department's employer checking service to check an employee's or potential employee's immigration status in each year since that service was introduced.

Steve Reed (Labour Co-op) [200710] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much funding the Government has spent on promoting awareness of the employer checking service among employers in each year since that service was created.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Employer Checking Service has received and processed the following right to work checks from employers since April 2012.

2012/13: 55, 978

2013/14: 54, 701

2014/15: 68, 165

2015/16: 68, 409

2016/17: 94, 247

2017/18: 95, 554

April to December 2018: 43,825

This information is provisional internal management information and subject to change. The Employer Checking Service has been in place since 2008. Prior to 2012, local records and information were held on the checks processed and not recorded on a central system.

In relation to how much funding the government has spent on promoting awareness of the Employer Checking Service, the information requested is not available in the format requested and could only be obtained at a disproportionate cost.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-10/200709/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-10/200710/>

Migrant Workers: EU Nationals

Deidre Brock (SNP) [200137] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what recent estimate he has made of the number of non-UK EU citizens working in health and social care in the UK.

Reply from Chloe Smith: The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the Authority to reply. ...

Estimates of the number of people in employment by nationality are available from the Annual Population Survey (APS), which is a survey of people resident in households in the UK. The APS does not include most communal establishments (managed accommodation such as halls of residence, hostels and care homes), with student's resident in communal establishments only included in APS estimates if their parents (resident in a household) are sampled and include the absent student. The APS will include long-term migrants (migrants are defined as people not born in the UK or not having a UK nationality) and some short-term migrants; however, it is unlikely to sample short-term migrants living in the UK for very short periods of time.

To be classified as being in employment in the APS, respondents have to complete at least one hour of paid work in the survey reference week or be temporarily away from a job that they will return to. Estimates of employment are presented as the number of people in employment over a 12-month reference period, and it is under this basis that this estimate has been provided.

In the APS, the industry section of the respondent's main job is classified using the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) 2007, which is a 5-digit classification system providing the framework for collecting and presenting a large range of statistical data according to economic activity. One of the industry sections identified by SIC 2007 is 'human health and social work activities', and this classification has been used to answer this question.

In the 12-month period July 2017 to June 2018 (the latest period for which APS estimates are available), the number of non-UK EU nationals aged 16 years and over in employment whose main job is in human health and social work activities was estimated to be 217,000.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-07/200137/>

Overseas Students: Immigration

Steve McCabe (Labour) [199286] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, pursuant to the answer of 14 November 2018 to Question 191270 on Overseas Students: Immigration, what guidelines Student Finance England follows when making a decision on whether a student's residence in the UK and Islands has been wholly or mainly for the purpose of receiving full time education.

Reply from Chris Skidmore: Generally, to meet the eligibility requirements for student support, a student should be resident in England, have 'settled' status or a recognised connection with the UK, and have been a resident of the UK and Islands (Channel Islands and the Isle of Man) for the three years prior to the start of the course.

Any period of residence in the United Kingdom and Islands wholly or mainly for the purpose of receiving full-time education does not count towards the period of ordinary residence required to qualify for student support. Student Finance England considers applications on a case by case basis, taking into account all information and evidence available.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-05/199286/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-14/191270/>

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Marion Fellows (SNP) [201218] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 22 November 2018 to Question 192832, whether people who do not apply for pre-settled or settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme will maintain the same rights once the UK has left the EU.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We have agreed with the European Union (EU) that there will be no change to the current rights of EU citizens and their family members living in the UK until the end of the planned implementation period on 31 December 2020. The deadline for applications to the EU Settlement Scheme by those who are resident here by the end of 2020 will be 30 June 2021. Where someone misses the deadline for their application for a good reason, they will be given a reasonable further period in which to apply.

If an application is not made by the deadline and a UK immigration status not obtained, the individual will not be protected by the Withdrawal Agreement and will be subject to the requirements of the future immigration system.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-11/201218/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-19/192832/>

Social Security Benefits: EU Nationals

Priti Patel (Conservative) [198252] To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, how many EU nationals have claimed each type of benefit in each year since 2000.

Reply from Alok Sharma: The nationality and immigration status of claimants is not currently recorded on benefit payment systems.

However, the Department has published statistics relating to access to income-related benefits for EEA and non-EEA migrants in the ad hoc publication "Analysis of migrants' access to income-related benefits", published last year and available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/analysis-of-migrants-access-to-income-related-benefits>

The Department has also published statistics on working age benefit recipients by nationality at point of National Insurance Number (NINO) registration. This information is included in the “Statistical Bulletin on Nationality at point of National Insurance Number registration of DWP working age benefit recipients: data to November 2017”, available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/nationality-at-point-of-national-insurance-number-registration-of-dwp-working-age-benefit-recipients-data-to-november-2017>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-03/198252/>

Social Security Benefits: EU Nationals

Marion Fellowes (SNP) [198882] To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what assessment her Department has made of the potential merits of widening the entitlement to UK welfare payments for EU citizens fleeing domestic violence in the UK.

Reply from Alok Sharma: This Government is committed to tackling violence against all people, including domestic abuse which shatters the lives of victims and families.

EU citizens are permitted to claim income-related benefits if they are legally and habitually resident in the UK and satisfy the eligibility conditions.

The Government’s consultation, ‘Transforming the Response to Domestic Abuse’, which ended in May 2018, sought views on protection and support for victims of domestic abuse, including those with no recourse to public funds. The Home Office is currently analysing the consultation responses and will publish the Government’s response in due course.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-04/198882/>

Social Security Benefits and Legal Aid Scheme: EU Nationals

Wera Hobhouse (Liberal Democrat) [199467] To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, with reference to Article 10 and Article 18 of the Draft Withdrawal Agreement, published on 14 November 2018, whether the Government plans to confer on EU parents who have lived in the UK for more than 3 months but less than 5 years, the same status as a UK citizen in terms of (a) social security benefits and (b) legal aid after the invocation of Article 50.

Reply from Robin Walker: We have been clear that, under the Withdrawal Agreement, EU citizens in the UK on a pathway to settled status will continue to be able to access benefits after the end of the implementation period on the same basis that they can access them now. This broadly means equal access for workers and the self-employed and limited access for those not working. If these individuals go on to acquire settled status, they will then be able to access benefits on the same terms as comparable UK nationals.

Legal aid will continue to be available to all that meet the required criteria under the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (LASPO) and who require legal services that are within scope of LASPO.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-05/199467/>

The Draft Withdrawal Agreement, referred to above, can be read at

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/draft_withdrawal_agreement_0.pdf

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Priti Patel (Conservative) [197369] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what estimate his Department has made of the number of EU nationals who will migrate to the UK in each of the next 10 years.

Reply from Chloe Smith: The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the Authority to reply. ...

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) publish national population projections to provide an indication of the future size and age structure of the UK and its constituent countries based on a set of assumptions of future fertility, mortality and migration. These are published every two years with the latest set of projections - the 2016-based national population projections - published in October 2017.

The migration assumptions in these population projections are made for net migration (immigration minus emigration) as a total and are not broken down by the nationality of migrants. It is therefore not possible to provide estimates for the number of EU nationals who will migrate to the UK in each of the next 10 years but we can provide the net migration assumptions for this period.

The principal long-term assumption for net international migration to the UK is +165,000 migrants each year, derived through the extrapolation of historical time series data. To cover the period between the latest mid-year international migration estimates (mid-2017) and the start of the long-term international migration assumptions (mid-2022), short-term international migration assumptions are created to allow for a smooth transition.

Table 1 shows the net migration assumptions for the 2016-based national principal population projections for the UK, for the period from mid-2016 to mid-2028.

ONS publish further details of the methodology and approach used to set the migration assumptions for the national population projections on their website¹.

Table 1: Net migration assumptions for the 2016-based national population projections, UK, Mid-2016 to mid-2028 (in thousands)

Net International Migration ²	2016-2017	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
		-	-	-	-	-	-
		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
2016-based	246	232	222	211	189	177	165

Net International Migration ²	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
2016-based	165	165	165	165	165	165

¹ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/compendium/nationalpopulationprojections/2016basedprojections/migrationassumptions>

² Net international migration does not include cross-border migration between the countries of the UK.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-29/197369/>

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Keith Vaz (Labour) [198181] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what recent estimate he has made of the number of non-UK EU citizens residing in the UK.

Reply from Chloe Smith: The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the Authority to reply. ...

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) publishes population statistics by nationality, using data collected from the Annual Population Survey (APS). The latest data available are for the year from mid-2017 to mid-2018. The APS is a sample survey based on households and so does not include people living in most types of communal establishments.¹

Please note that estimates from the APS are subject to a margin of uncertainty. The estimated total number of non-UK EU citizens resident in the UK in 2017-18

was 3,723,000 (+/- 91,000).² This figure can be found in table 2.1 of the Annual Population of the United Kingdom by Country of Birth and Nationality publication.³

¹ The Annual Population Survey is a household survey of people in the UK. It covers people in private households, NHS accommodation and students in halls of residence whose parents live in the UK. However, people in other communal establishments such as prisons and private care homes are excluded.

² Both figures rounded to the nearest thousand

³ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/internationalmigration/datasets/populationoftheunitedkingdombycountryofbirthandnationality>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-03/198181/>

Immigrants: EEA Nationals and EU Nationals

Stephen Doughty (Labour Co-op) [198841] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what procedures his Department have established to ensure the accurate calculation of the length of time that (a) non-UK EU and (b) EEA nationals have continuously and lawfully lived in the UK.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: It is not necessary for EU citizens applying for UK immigration status under the EU Settlement Scheme to demonstrate the exact length of time that they have continuously lived in the UK. The Home Office simply needs to establish whether they have continuously lived in the UK for more or less than five years in order to grant settled or pre-settled status accordingly.

In most cases we can do this via automated checks on tax and benefits records, with an opportunity for applicants to provide additional documentary evidence as necessary. In these cases we will work with applicants to help them identify the most suitable evidence and, as outlined in the published caseworker guidance, will accept a wide range of documentation

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-04/198841/>

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Matthew Pennycook (Labour) [198911] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Prime Minister's statement on the EU negotiations on 21 September 2018, whether people who derive residency rights (a) as (i) a Chen carer (ii) an Ibrahim child (iii) a Teixeira child (iv) an Ibrahim carer (v) a Teixeira carer and (b) under the Surinder Singh route will have their rights protected in the event that the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government does not want or expect a no deal outcome, and we have now reached an agreement, in principle, with the European Union.

The Withdrawal Agreement protects individuals currently resident under the Chen and Ibrahim and Teixeira principles. We have committed that provision will be made in the Immigration Rules for them to apply for leave to remain.

The Government has confirmed that in a deal scenario those here under the Surinder Singh provisions will be eligible to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme, even though they are not protected under the Withdrawal Agreement.

Further details on the provisions for these groups in the unlikely event of no deal will be provided in due course.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-04/198911/>

The statement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-brexit-negotiations-statement-21-september-2018>

For information about Chen, Teixeira, and Ibrahim children and carers see

https://www.childrenslegalcentre.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/EEA-Derivative-Rights.October2017.FINAL_.pdf

For information about the Surinder Singh route see <https://www.gov.uk/family-permit/surinder-singh>

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Layla Moran (Liberal Democrat) [198924] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reason the privacy policy of EU Exit: ID Document Check application requires a user to agree to their information being shared with other public and private sector organisations in the UK and overseas; whether that information includes an applicant's identity documents; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The privacy notice as referenced in the EU Exit: ID Document Check app is for the whole of the Border, Immigration and Citizenship System. It applies to all personal information gathered for the purposes of entering or leaving the UK, securing the border, making an application for a visa, leave, settlement, citizenship or other immigration service, claiming asylum or other form of protection, or gathered as part of the process of securing the border or enforcing immigration laws will be held and processed by the Home Office.

The Home Office collects and processes personal information to fulfil its legal and official functions. We are only allowed to use, gather and share personal information where we have an appropriate legal basis to do so under the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) or the Data Protection Act 2018. The legal basis for the processing of data will, in most cases, be Article 6(1)(e) of the (GDPR) – that is, that the processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller.

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>.

This link is included in the privacy policy text in the app

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-04/198924/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Stephen Doughty (Labour Co-op) [199877] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department is taking to plan for processing new residence documents as outlined in Article 18 of the EU Withdrawal Agreement.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office is introducing the EU Settlement Scheme to enable EU citizens who have chosen to make their lives here to obtain the UK immigration status they need in accordance with Article 18 of the Withdrawal Agreement.

The Scheme will be fully open by 30 March 2019 and will be delivered through a streamlined, digital application process. In preparation, the Scheme entered private beta testing in August and is now in the second phase of that testing. This approach is now standard for the launch of new government services and enables the system and processes to be tested to ensure that they work effectively before being fully introduced.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-06/199877/>

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Afzal Khan (Labour) [199919] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Department for Exiting the European Union policy paper entitled Citizens' Rights - EU citizens in the UK and UK nationals in the EU published on 6 December 2018, how the Government will distinguish between EU citizens who are

resident in the UK before 29 March 2019 and those who arrive after that date.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government has been clear that, in an unlikely no deal scenario, the UK will honour its commitment to all EU citizens, and their family members resident by 29 March 2019, that they will be able to remain in the UK. This will be done through the EU Settlement Scheme.

EU citizens will need to provide evidence of their residence in the UK by 29 March 2019 in line with the requirements for the Scheme. Where possible, we will confirm it through automated checks of HMRC and DWP data. It will also be possible for applicants to submit a wide range of documentary evidence to prove their residence. Guidance on how applicants can evidence their residence in the UK is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/eu-settlement-scheme-evidence-of-uk-residence#submitting-documents-as-evidence-of-residence>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-06/199919/>

The policy paper referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/762222/Policy_paper_on_citizens_rights_in_the_event_of_a_no_deal_Brexit.pdf

Immigration: EU Nationals

Afzal Khan (Labour) [199920] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the report, EU Settlement Scheme Private Beta 1, published on 31 October 2018, what assessment he has made of the reasons why 12 per cent of applications were waiting for a decision as at 30 October 2018; and what the average length of time has been to reach a decision in each of those cases.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The remaining cases that are yet to be decided are awaiting responses from applicants where we have contacted them for further information to confirm the leave that they qualify for. We recognise that applicants may lack documentary evidence for assorted reasons, we are committed to working flexibly with applicants to help them evidence their continuous residence in the UK by the best means available to them.

Caseworkers will be able to exercise discretion in favour of the applicants where appropriate, to avoid unnecessary administrative burdens and delays. In addition, we have created a new helpline specifically for the settlement scheme and are working with applicants to help them avoid any errors or omissions we are looking for reasons to grant applications, not refuse them.

In Private Beta Phase 1, the average time taken on all decisions was just under 9 calendar days, with the fastest application decision being made within 3 days.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-06/199920/>

The Draft Agreement referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/756374/14_November_Draft_Agreement_on_the_Withdrawal_of_the_United_Kingdom_of_Great_Britain_and_Northern_Ireland_from_the_European_Union.pdf

Undocumented Migrants: English Channel

Keith Vaz (Labour) [198272] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many migrants were rescued from the English Channel in (a) 2017 and (b) for each month this year; and what the nationality was of those migrants.

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/2018-12-03/198272/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Refugees: Children

Helen Hayes (Labour) [199461] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions he has had with his French counterpart on the protection of unaccompanied child refugees in northern France from trafficking and exploitation.

Helen Hayes (Labour) [199462] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions he has had with his French counterpart on educational support for unaccompanied child refugees in northern France.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The United Kingdom and France are committed to a whole of route approach on migration, as set out in the Sandhurst Treaty, which was signed in January 2018. It is not acceptable that people continue to lose their lives making the dangerous journey to Europe through illegal channels. The United Kingdom and France will coordinate our collective influence and expertise to address the shared challenges posed by illegal migration, “modern slavery”, and human trafficking, and to support regular and well managed legal migration flows.

A commitment has been made in the Sandhurst Treaty to help protect and support unaccompanied children in northern France from trafficking and exploitation. The UK-FR Migration Committee, who meet quarterly, oversee the programme of work that underpins the Sandhurst Treaty. The allocation of a £3.6M development fund, as part of the UK’s overall £45.5M funding commitment, aims to identify projects which support eligible claims through the Dublin process and ensure that those with no prospect of transferring to the UK are informed of their options.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-05/199461/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-05/199462/>

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: Children

Helen Hayes (Labour) [199464] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Court of Appeal ruling of 3 October 2018, when his Department plans to provide unaccompanied minors refused entry to the UK under the Dubs scheme full explanations for that refusal.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: In the case of Help Refugees v SSHD, handed down on the 3 October 2018, the Court of Appeal made a finding that the provision of inadequate reasons to children refused transfer to the UK under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 breached the common law duty of fairness and was therefore unlawful. The cohort of children impacted by this judgment is limited to those who were considered for transfer to the UK during the clear-ance operation regarding the Calais camp in 2016 the judgment is not reflective of the operation of the section 67 scheme generally.

The relief granted by the Court of Appeal in its judgment is declaratory, the court did not identify or mandate a particular course of action to be taken in response to its findings. The response to the judgment is currently a matter of active consideration.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-05/199464/>

The judgement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/help-refugees-v-sshd.pdf>

Asylum

Kate Green (Labour) [199868] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he plans to extend the grace period refugees are afforded before eligibility for support under the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 is ended after asylum is granted.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Whilst there are currently no plans to extend the period, the Government is working on a number of important initiatives to ensure that refugees are able to access benefits and housing promptly once their Home Office support ends, taking into account the views of the key voluntary sector groups that work with the refugees.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-06/199868/>

Asylum: Children

Andrew Rosindell (Conservative) [198760] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied minors who were held in Calais detention centres have been resettled in the UK.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: In October 2016, the UK acted decisively and on an exceptional basis at the time of the Calais camp clearance to remove 769 vulnerable unaccompanied children from a dangerous situation where they were at risk of violence and abuse. Our action at that time resulted in 220 children being relocated to the UK under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016, and the remaining 549 children being transferred to reunite with family members already in the UK.

Following the clearance of the camp, the French authorities arranged for the children who had previously been there to be moved to specialist reception centres around France. Children who could not be transferred to the UK and who remained in France were transferred into the French care system.

We are continuing to work closely with French authorities and non-governmental organisations in France to support the identification and transfer of eligible children to the UK under Dublin. 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. The Treaty also includes a commitment to reduce timescales for decisions and transfers under Dublin. A UK asylum liaison officer has been deployed to France to support the process.

Responsibility for unaccompanied children on French territory lies with the French authorities, however France is bound by many of the same international obligations as the UK. Children have access to day centres where they can access support and information about the French asylum procedures.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-04/198760/>

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

Human Trafficking: Victim Support Schemes

Alex Norris (Labour Co-op) [199474] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer on 3 December 2018 to Question 196808 on Human Trafficking: Victim Support Schemes, if he will conduct a public consultation on the adequacy of guidance to be issued under 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.

There is no duty to consult on the s49 statutory guidance, and as such, there are no plans for a public consultation at this time. However, the Home Office began working closely with stakeholders across the sector to draft guidance shortly after commencement of the Act. This work was paused to accommodate changes to identification and support as part of the reforms to the National Referral Mechanism. Work on the guidance has resumed and we will publish it as soon as we are able.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-05/199474/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

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

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Immigration Controls

Lord Wigley (Plaid Cymru) [HL11824] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Draft Political Declaration setting out the framework for the future relationship between the United Kingdom and the European Union, published on 22 November, how "short-term visits" in relation to visa-free travel will be defined.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The mobility section of the Political Declaration on our Future Framework with the EU sets out our intention to provide for visa-free travel for short term visits.

The detail of how the mobility provisions will apply under the future relationship will be for further negotiation with the EU

Under current UK immigration rules, a visitor is a person who is coming to the UK, usually for up to six months, for a temporary purpose, for example as a tourist, to visit friends or family or to carry out a business activity. Visitors cannot work or study in the UK unless this is allowed by the permitted activities that are set out in the Visitor Rules.

We plan to publish a White Paper setting out the future border and immigration system later this year.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-26/HL11824/>

The Declaration referred to above can be read at

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/37059/20181121-cover-political-declaration.pdf>

Immigration Controls

Lord Wigley (Plaid Cymru) [HL11826] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Draft Political Declaration setting out the framework for the future relationship between the United Kingdom and the European Union, published on 22 November, how will "legitimate travel" in paragraph 55 be defined.

Reply from Lord Callanan: The Political Declaration setting out the framework for the future relationship between the EU and the UK is clear that both side will explore the possibility to facilitate the crossing of their respective borders for legitimate travel. This would ensure smooth passage for UK nationals when they travel to the EU, for example on business or on holiday, and vice versa for EU citizens. The detail of how these mobility provisions will apply under the future relationship will be for further negotiation with the EU.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-26/HL11826/>

The Declaration referred to above can be read at

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/37059/20181121-cover-political-declaration.pdf>

Visas

Baroness Manningham-Buller (Crossbench) [HL11859] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many visas they have refused to delegates wishing to enter the UK to attend international scientific conferences; how many of those refusals were for applicants from low and middle income countries; and what were their reasons for such refusals.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The information requested is not available in published data. Visa nationals travelling to the UK for this purpose would normally apply for a visit visa.

The large majority of entry clearance visit visa applications are granted. Information on grants and refusal rates for entry clearance visitor visas is published in the quarterly Immigration Statistics, Visas volume 1, table vi_01_q, latest edition at:

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

Entry Visas - Sept 2018

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-27/HL11859/>

Migrant Workers

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL11812] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to attract more highly skilled workers to the UK.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government continues to welcome high skilled workers to the UK and recognises the valuable contribution they make to the UK economy and our society. We plan to publish more details about our future immigration arrangements in a White Paper later this year.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-26/HL11812/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Lord Greaves (Liberal Democrat) [HL11783] To ask Her Majesty's Government which biometric and other data that will be stored on the central register of EU citizens who have applied for, or been granted, settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme may be shared with other public and private organisations in the UK and overseas; and with which organisations such information may be shared.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: 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>

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/Lords/2018-11-26/HL11783/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Lord Greaves (Liberal Democrat) [HL11784] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether biometric and other data that has been supplied as part of applications for settled status by EU citizens under the EU Settlement Scheme will be deleted in the case of persons whose applications have been rejected; and if so, at what point such deletion will take place.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Biometrics enrolled as part of an application to EU Settlement Scheme will be retained in accordance with the Immigration (Physical Data) Regulations 2006, as amended. In practice, this means that fingerprints will normally be retained for up to 10 years, unless the person has settled status or is considered to be a risk of high harm to the UK.

All fingerprints are deleted from the Immigration and Asylum Biometric System when the person becomes a British citizen. Facial images may be retained until the person becomes a British citizen and obtains a British passport. Biometrics may only be retained as long as the Secretary of State considers it is necessary to retain them for use in connection with the exercise of a function by virtue of the Immigration Acts or a function in relation to nationality.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-26/HL11784/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Lord Wigley (Plaid Cymru) [HL11873] 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, when they aim to have application forms available for residency documents under Article 18; and when the deadline will be for submitting such applications.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: In line with Article 18 of the draft Withdrawal Agreement, the Home Office will introduce the EU Settlement Scheme which will provide a simple, streamlined process for resident EU citizens and their family members to obtain their new UK immigration status.

The EU Settlement Scheme is being implemented on a phased basis and will be fully open by 30 March 2019. Once the scheme is fully open, EU citizens and their family members will be able to apply online, via an app, or by post.

The deadline for applications will be 30 June 2021.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-27/HL11873/>

The Draft Agreement referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/756374/14_November_Draft_Agreement_on_the_Withdrawal_of_the_United_Kingdom_of_Great_Britain_and_Northern_Ireland_from_the_European_Union.pdf

Immigration: EU Nationals

Lord Wigley (Plaid Cymru) [HL11874] 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 they will appoint an independent commissioner to oversee the working of the administrative procedures under Article 18 for the issuance and administration of documents to persons applying for residence status in the UK.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The draft Withdrawal Agreement

already provides for an Independent Monitoring Authority to oversee implementation of Part 2 of the Agreement. This will be legislated for in the Withdrawal Agreement Bill.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-27/HL11874/>

The Draft Agreement referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/756374/14_November_Draft_Agreement_on_the_Withdrawal_of_the_United_Kingdom_of_Great_Britain_and_Northern_Ireland_from_the_European_Union.pdf

Refugees: Syria

Lord McInnes of Kilwinning (Conservative) [HL11858] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many refugees resettled in the UK under the Syrian Vulnerable Resettlement Scheme since 2015; what were the ages of such refugees when resettled; and what proportion of them were from refugee camps in (1) Lebanon, (2) Turkey, and (3) Jordan.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Home Office is committed to publishing data in an orderly way as part of the regular quarterly Immigration Statistics, in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

The statistics are available at the quarterly release on the gov.uk website.

As of September 2018, a total of 13,818 people had been resettled in the UK under the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS) since 2015, of which almost half were children. We do not currently publish a breakdown of resettlements by age or host country.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-27/HL11858/>

The quarterly statistics referred to above can be read at

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

Although the UK parliament has listed this question under a heading of

“EU Immigration: Children”

it is actually about

“Asylum Seekers: Children”

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL11905] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the report by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund and International Organization for Migration, Refugee and Migrant Children in Europe Overview of Trends 2017, published on 2 May, and in particular of the report's findings that (1) in 2017, 32,963 refugee and migrant children arrived in Europe, of whom over 60 per cent were unaccompanied or separated from their families, (2) in 2017, 5,000 out of 17,000 unaccompanied children arriving in Italy went missing, and (3) in Greece, 600 unaccompanied children have been identified as street-homeless and 2,800 are in unacceptable conditions while awaiting a secure placement.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government takes the welfare of unaccompanied asylum seeking children extremely seriously and is fully committed to helping and supporting the most vulnerable children affected by the migration crisis. The UK provided protection to almost 6,400 children in 2017 and nearly 33,000 since the start of 2010. Of the 15,170 people granted asylum, protection and resettlement in the year ending September 2018, 6,394 (42%) were children. The UK currently hosts the fourth highest number of UASC in the EU. Children present in Greece and Italy are under the responsibility of the authorities of the country where they have arrived, and it would not be appropriate for us to comment on their actions.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-28/HL11905/>

The report referred to above can be read at
<https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/63435.pdf>

Although the UK parliament has listed this question under a heading of
“EU Immigration: Children”
it is actually about

“Child Migrants arriving in Europe”

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL11906] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the actions which the other 27 member states of the EU are taking, individually and collectively, to address the problems faced by child migrants arriving in Europe.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The UK Government takes the welfare of unaccompanied asylum seeking children extremely seriously, and the UK has a proud history of providing protection for those in need, including some of the most vulnerable children affected by the migration crisis.

Whilst we are unable to comment on the specific actions taken by individual EU Member States, it is true to say that those States are bound by many of the same international obligations as the UK.

The June 2017 European Council conclusions on the protection in children in migration reaffirmed that the European Union is implementing a comprehensive approach to manage migration and that the protection of children is a mainstreamed element of this approach. It also underlined that the best interests of the child must be a primary consideration in all actions or decisions concerning children and in assessing the appropriateness of all durable solutions.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-28/HL11906/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Baroness Barker (Liberal Democrat) [HL11922] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the statement made by the Home Secretary on 24 July (HC Deb, col 908), whether they plan to publish more data on the number of LGBTQI+ immigration detainees.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: On the 29th November the Government published additional information on those held within the Immigration Detention Estate in direct response to the statement made by the Home Secretary in July and committed to a review of our published data to further improve transparency.

However, we are unable to publish data on LGBTQI detainees. The identification of an LGBTQI individual detained under immigration powers, is entirely at the discretion of the individual. Consequently, even a manual trawl of cases of individuals detained will not necessarily be representative of the true number of LGBTQI individuals detained during any period.

The fact that an individual detained under immigration powers within an IRC or prison is transsexual will always be recorded in a manner sensitive to the needs of that individual, not for statistical purposes. As it is rare for the detention of a trans or intersex person to occur, any reporting would risk the identification of individuals.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-29/HL11922/>

The statement referred to above can be read at

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

The Immigration Detention information referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/760222/IE_Q3_2018_Published_.ods

Immigrants: Detainees

Lord Stevens of Kirkwhelpington (Crossbench) [HL11939] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to address the conditions of immigration detainees who are being detained for indeterminate lengths of time due to a lack of appropriate alternative accommodation.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government treats detainee welfare as a matter of the utmost seriousness and expects the highest standards from those who manage the detention estate on its behalf. Conditions at all detention facilities, are kept under regular review. Independent scrutiny is a vital part of assurance that our removal centres are secure and humane. We will continue to implement actions in response to recommendations made by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons and by the individual centre's Independent Monitoring Board (IMB) in their published reports

Any asylum seeker, including foreign national offenders released from detention on bail, can apply for accommodation and other support if they would otherwise be destitute.

Asylum seekers who require support are housed where there is appropriate accommodation available. Agreements between the Government and participating local authorities are voluntary and our dispersal policy ensures a reasonable spread amongst UK local authorities

Decisions about accommodation and detention are made on a case by case basis. We work closely with the Police, HM Prison and Probation service to source and offer suitable accommodation as quickly as possible when it is required.

We are aware of some cases that are waiting for accommodation to be allocated and we are working closely with the accommodation providers, Police and HM Prison and Probation Service to source suitable accommodation. These are complex cases, as they relate mostly to Foreign National Offenders who have specific accommodation needs and restrictions that must be met before they can be released safely from detention.

Detention and removal of those with no lawful basis to stay in the UK are essential parts of effective immigration controls. However, we do not detain individuals indefinitely when people are detained, it is for the minimum time possible and detention is reviewed on a regular basis.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-29/HL11939/>

Deportation: Skilled Workers

Lord Beecham (Labour) [HL11772] To ask Her Majesty's Government what requests they have received to provide compensation to skilled migrants wrongly forced to leave the UK under terrorism related legislation; whether they have provided any response to such requests; and if not, whether, and when, they will respond.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Without accessing individual case files, we are unable to identify how many such requests have been received to date. Each case is being looked at on its merits and we will consider any compensation where appropriate

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-26/HL11772/>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Robert Halfon (Conservative) (1922) Home Office and Passport Issue for Iraqi Kurds – That this House notes that some Iraqi Kurds have been deprived of their British passports by the Home Office on the grounds that their names and birth dates are

inaccurate; further notes that this is the case for those who fled from Saddam Hussein's dictatorship and who feared, in the event of their being returned to Iraq, a prison sentence or execution; and considers that the Home Office should recognise their original and understandable caution given real threats and fears and, as it has done with others in the past, adopt a policy of regularising the status of those affected by aligning such data between their Iraqi and British documents or an equivalent solution.

<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/52392/home-office-and-passport-issue-for-iraqi-kurds>

UK Parliament Petition: Ministerial Response

Asylum of Nelly Gelves

The petition of residents of North East Lincolnshire, Declares that the situation in Venezuela is desperate and inhumane; further that it would be wrong for an asylum seeker of 73 years old to be returned to political and religious repression in a country where she has practically no access to money, food and basic medicines.

The petitioners therefore request that the House of Commons urges the Government to support the Asylum and Humanitarian Protection of Nelly Gelves in the UK to allow her to continue to live with her family.

And the petitioners remain, etc.—[\[Presented by Melanie Onn, Official Report, 21 November 2018; Vol. 649, c. 976.\]](#)

[P002295]

Observations from the Minister of State for Immigration (Caroline Nokes): The Government cannot comment on individual cases, because doing so would breach their obligations to treat such personal matters in confidence.

The Government have a proud record of providing protection for those who genuinely need it, in accordance with our international obligations under the Refugee Convention and the European Convention on Human Rights. Every asylum claim is carefully considered on its individual merits, by assessing all the evidence provided by the claimant against policy, relevant caselaw and available country information from a wide range of recognised and publicly disclosable sources. These include the UN and its agencies, Governments, the media and human rights organisations, such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

The Government will grant protection where someone demonstrates they face persecution or serious harm in their country and they are unable to seek protection from the national authorities or move to another part of their country to live safely. The Government are very clear that we do not return anyone who faces persecution or serious harm to their country.

There may be exceptional situations where conditions in a particular country, for example, absence of water, food or basic shelter, are unacceptable to the point that return in itself would constitute inhuman and degrading treatment for the individual concerned. Some of the factors which will be taken into account by asylum decision makers when considering the asylum claim include age, gender, ill-health, the effect on children, other family circumstances, and available support structures.

There is also provision in the Home Office policy on Discretionary Leave to allow people to stay in the UK on a discretionary basis, where they do not qualify for protection, but where there are other exceptional circumstances such that expecting them to return to their country would not be appropriate.

Those who are found not to need protection are refused and have a right of appeal to the courts. Once their appeals rights are exhausted they are required to leave the UK. If they do not leave voluntarily, the Government will seek to enforce their removal.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-12-13/debates/18121337000037/AsylumOfNellyGelves>

Press Releases

Online right to work checks

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/online-right-to-work-checks>

October marks highest number of asylum applications lodged in 2018

<https://www.easo.europa.eu/news-events/october-marks-highest-number-asylum-applications-lodged-2018>

Humanitarian visas to avoid deaths and improve management of refugee flows

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181205IPR20933/humanitarian-visas-to-avoid-deaths-and-improve-management-of-refugee-flows>

World Leaders Adopt First-Ever Global Compact on Migration, Outlining Framework to Protect Millions of Migrants, Support Countries Accommodating Them

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2018/dev3375.doc.htm>

MEPs strongly welcome the Global Compact on Migration

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181210IPR21430/meps-strongly-welcome-the-global-compact-on-migration>

Global Compact on Refugees: How is this different from the migrants' pact and how will it help people forced to flee?

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2018/12/1028641>

Settling In 2018 – a joint EU-OECD report on integration of migrants

https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/news/settling-2018-joint-eu-oecd-report-integration-migrants_en

New Publications

Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/764738/Immigration_Rules_-_11_December_web.pdf

The UK government's approach to evaluating the Vulnerable Persons and Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Schemes

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/764130/uk-approach-evaluating-vulnerable-resettlement-schemes-horr106.pdf

Updated: Community Sponsorship Guidance for prospective sponsors

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/764990/2018-12-04_Community_Sponsorship_Guidance.pdf

Updated: Community Sponsorship Guidance for Local Authorities

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/764991/2018-12-01_Community_Sponsorship_LA_guidance.pdf

Briefing: Migration Statistics

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN06077/SN06077.pdf>

Letter from Baroness Stedman-Scott to Baroness Sheehan regarding points raised during the debate on displaced children.

http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2018-1258/Baroness_Stedman-Scott_to_Baroness_Sheehan_Displaced_Children_Debate.pdf

Letter from Baroness Stedman-Scott to Lord Judd regarding points raised during the debate on children displaced from their homes internationally

http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2018-1238/Baroness_Stedman-Scott_to_Lord_Judd_DfID_debate_Displaced_children.pdf

Letter from Baroness Stedman-Scott to Lord McConnell of Glenscorrodale regarding issues arising from the debate on children displaced from their homes internationally: the situation in Libya, and the UK's family reunion laws.

http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2018-1239/Baroness_Stedman-Scott_to_Lord_McConnell.pdf

Settling In 2018: Indicators of Immigrant Integration

https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/indicators-of-immigrant-integration-2018_9789264307216-en#page1

News

'Gold-plated' investor visa scheme 'not suspended'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-46528513>

Home Office fails to suspend 'golden visa' scheme

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/11/home-office-fails-to-suspend-golden-visa-scheme>

Home Office delays plan to suspend 'golden visas' for super-rich foreign nationals

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/news/golden-visas-not-suspended-tier-1-investment-home-office-announcement-a8677826.html>

Home Offices backtracks over investor visa suspension

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/home-offices-backtracks-over-investor-visa-suspension-p8fqxv2dv>

EU migrants will have to earn £30,000 before coming to Britain under crackdown

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2018/12/14/eu-migrants-will-have-earn-30000-coming-britain-crackdown/>

Sajid Javid bids to slash EU immigration by 80%

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/javid-bids-to-slash-eu-immigration-by-80-qs3q288t3>

Home Office invites Zimbabwean officials to interrogate asylum seekers who have fled political persecution

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/asylum-seekers-home-office-zimbabwe-immigration-embassy-political-persecution-africa-a8675571.html>

High court rejects challenge to 'hostile environment' NHS charge

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/10/high-court-rejects-windrush-challenge-to-hostile-environment-nhs-charge>

Windrush man charged for NHS cancer treatment loses legal challenge against 'hostile environment' regulations

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/windrush-scandal-nhs-cancer-treatment-high-court-legal-challenge-ruling-home-office-a8675781.html>

Demand for NHS staff rises as EU applicants 'drop off a cliff'

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/dec/11/nhs-staff-demands-rise-as-eu-applicants-drop-off-a-cliff>

Police face first 'super-complaint' over immigration referrals

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/15/police-face-immigration-data-sharing-super-complaint>

Stansted 15 activists vow to overcome 'dark, dark day for the right to protest'

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/10/stansted-15-activists-vow-to-overcome-dark-dark-day-for-the-right-to-protest>

The Stansted protesters saved me from wrongful deportation. They are heroes

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/dec/10/stansted-15-protesters-deportation>

The Stansted 15: a sledgehammer prosecution

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/dec/11/the-guardian-view-on-the-stansted-15-a-sledgehammer-prosecution>

We've just been found guilty for stopping a deportation flight – but it should have been the Home Office in the dock, not us

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/stansted-15-trial-deportation-plane-airport-migrants-home-office-hostile-environment-a8670351.html>

As someone who works to challenge our brutal immigration laws, I wish detainees had more champions like the Stansted 15

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/stansted-15-trial-guilty-verdict-deportation-flight-airport-immigration-law-detentions-a8677811.html>

Four children in group of 11 migrants rescued off Dover

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-kent-46578611>

Four children among 11 people rescued from boat off Kent coast

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/15/four-children-among-11-people-rescued-from-boat-off-kent-coast>

'The lessons of Windrush have not been learned'

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/dec/16/windrush-lessons-not-learned-free-legal-service-jcwi-charity-appeal-2018>

Home Office trying to force two disabled children to leave country

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/12/home-office-disabled-children-leave-country>

Chinese women trafficked to UK 'being failed by Home Office'

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/12/chinese-women-trafficked-uk-failed-home-office-medical>

Trafficked Chinese woman: 'The lorry door opened and we ran'

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/12/trafficked-chinese-woman-lorry-door-opened-we-ran>

Dundalk dad Mark Morris deported to South Africa

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-46565564>

How one man's story exposes the myths behind our migration stereotypes

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/dec/12/myths-migration-stereotypes-insecure-low-paid-work>

Hostile immigration policies threaten pilgrimage to Iona, birthplace of Christianity

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/hostile-immigration-policies-threaten-pilgrimage-to-iona-birthplace-of-christianity-1-4841501>

Iranian asylum seeker who raped a 17-year-old spared deportation due to Christian conversion judge accepted was faked

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/12/15/iranian-asylum-seeker-raped-17-year-old-spared-deportation-due/>

Hundreds of trafficked children 'lost' by local authorities

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2018/dec/15/uk-care-system-failing-trafficked-children-lost-and-missing>

TOP

Community Relations

Press Release

Culture Secretary steps into secure Black Cultural Archives' future

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/culture-secretary-steps-into-secure-black-cultural-archives-future>

New Publication

From Mecca to Musselburgh: Islam in the Scottish Context – Teacher's Pack

https://mwrc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Mecca-to-Musselburgh_260918_1.pdf

TOP

Equality

Scottish Parliament Debate

Demonstrating Leadership in Human Rights

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11843&i=107175#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Motions

S5M-15126 Christina McKelvie (SNP): Demonstrating Leadership in Human Rights – That the Parliament reaffirms its long-standing commitment to human rights and human dignity and to the principles of equality, democracy and the rule of law; notes with approval that 2018 is the 70th anniversary of the adoption by the UN of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; further notes similarly that Scotland has enjoyed 20 years of the vitally-important human rights safeguards that are contained in the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Scotland Act 1998; expresses its wish that all of Scotland should work in concert to promote and vindicate human rights for all, keeping

pace with progressive international standards and demonstrating global leadership; notes the publication on Human Rights Day 2018 of the report and recommendations of the First Minister's Advisory Group on Human Rights Leadership; welcomes the report and recommendations of the Equalities and Human Rights Committee, which was published on 26 November 2018, following the human rights inquiry that it carried out, and agrees that the Scottish Government should now take action, in partnership with civil society, the Parliament and all parties, to ensure that Scotland continues to lead by example across the full spectrum of civil, political, economic, social, cultural and environmental rights.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-15126>

S5M-15126.1 Annie Wells (Conservative): Demonstrating Leadership in Human Rights – As an amendment to motion S5M-15126 in the name of Christina McKelvie (Demonstrating Leadership in Human Rights), after “carried out,” insert “and notes the balance of support within the committee for the report’s conclusions,”.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-15126.1>

S5M-15126.2 Alex Cole-Hamilton (Liberal Democrat): Demonstrating Leadership in Human Rights – As an amendment to motion S5M-15126 in the name of Christina McKelvie (Demonstrating Leadership in Human Rights), insert at end “, and welcomes the Scottish Government’s commitment to incorporate the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child into law and its move to meet the minimum age of criminal responsibility specified by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, both of which are prerequisites in establishing Scotland as an international human rights leader.”

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-15126.2>

S5M-15126.3 Mary Fee (Labour): Demonstrating Leadership in Human Rights – As an amendment to motion S5M-15126 in the name of Christina McKelvie (Demonstrating Leadership in Human Rights), insert at end “; believes that cuts to public services and social security pose a risk to the human rights of those living in Scotland, and agrees with the First Minister’s Advisory Group on Human Rights Leadership that ‘too many people are not enjoying their rights in everyday life’ and ‘in too many places services are not meeting needs’.”

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-15126.3>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Travellers: Caravan Sites

Sandy Martin (Labour) [198339] To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, whether his Department has taken steps to implement the Equality and Human Rights Commission’s recommendation that local authorities in England should have a duty to provide sufficient safe and adequate sites for Gypsies and Travellers based on the pre-2015 Planning policy for Traveller sites definitions of Gypsy and of Traveller.

Reply from Kit Malthouse: Under section 8 of the Housing Act 1985, there is a statutory requirement on local authorities to consider the needs of people residing or resorting to their district with respect to the provision of caravan sites. The *Planning Policy for Traveller Sites* (PPTS) sets out the Government’s planning policy for traveller sites and should be read in conjunction with the revised National Planning Policy Framework. The PPTS is clear that local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes

of planning. They should identify and update annually a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide 5 years' worth of sites against their locally set targets. Travellers who do not fall within the definition in Annex 1 of the PPTS should have their housing needs assessed under the National Planning Policy Framework.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-03/198339/>

The recommendation referred to above can be read at

https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/file/6506/download?token=8L_E32Zq

The planning policy referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/457420/Final_planning_and_travellers_policy.pdf

Mental Health Act 1983 Independent Review

Luciana Berger (Labour Co-op) [199858] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, with reference to the Final report of the Independent Review of the Mental Health Act 1983, published on December 2018, what steps the Government plans to take to seek greater representation of people from ethnic minority backgrounds, especially those of black African and Caribbean heritage in key health and care professions.

Reply from Jackie Doyle-Price: We welcome the final report of the independent review of the Mental Health Act 1983.

We will consider the report and its recommendations in detail and respond in due course. We remain committed to reforming mental health law and will develop and bring forward legislation when Parliamentary time allows.

The Government recently set a goal for the National Health Service to ensure that representation of black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) individuals at very senior management levels will match that across the rest of the NHS workforce within 10 years. As part of this, ongoing implementation of the NHS Workforce Race Quality Standard is taking steps towards ensuring employees from BAME backgrounds have equal access to career opportunities and receive fair treatment in the workplace.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-06/199858/>

The report referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/762206/MHA_reviewFINAL.pdf

The following four questions all received the same answer

Mental Health Act 1983 Independent Review

Luciana Berger (Labour Co-op) [199859] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, with reference to the Final report of the Independent Review of the Mental Health Act 1983, published on 6 December 2018, what steps his Department plans to take to enable patients to choose a new Nominated Person to replace the current Nearest Relative role under section 26 of the Mental Health Act 1983.

Luciana Berger (Labour Co-op) [199860] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, with reference to the Final report of the Independent Review of the Mental Health Act 1983, published on 6 December 2018, what steps his Department plans to take to assess the alternatives to detention and prevention of crisis.

Luciana Berger (Labour Co-op) [199861] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, whether the Government plans to accept all of the recommendations of the Final report of the Independent Review of the Mental Health Act 1983, published on 6 December 2018.

Compulsorily Detained Psychiatric Patients: Ethnic Groups

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [199761] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and

Social Care, with reference to the Independent Review of the Mental Health Act 1983, published on 6 December 2018, what assessment he has made of the finding that a disproportionate number of people from ethnic minorities have been sectioned under the Mental Health Act 1983.

Reply from Jackie Doyle-Price: We welcome the final report of the independent review of the Mental Health Act 1983.

One of the reasons the Government commissioned the review was to understand better the reasons behind the disproportionate number of people from black and minority ethnic groups detained under the Act, and for suggested next steps to be recommended.

The Government has already accepted two of the recommendations of the review including the creation of a new role of nominated person, chosen by the patient, to replace the current nearest relative provisions.

We will consider the report and its recommendations in detail and respond in due course. We remain committed to reforming mental health law and will develop and bring forward legislation when Parliamentary time allows.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-06/199859/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-06/199860/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-06/199861/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-06/199761/>

The report referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/762206/MHA_reviewFINAL.pdf

Ministry of Defence: Equality

Nia Griffith (Labour) [199369] To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, pursuant to the Answer of 4 December 2018 to Question 197453 on Ministry of Defence: Equality, what assessment he has made of whether the means for collecting statistics on religious representation among Ministry of Defence civilian staff, as published in the Civilian Personnel Biannual Diversity Dashboard is compatible with his Department's commitments under the Equality Act 2010.

Reply from Tobias Ellwood: The Ministry of Defence (MOD) is compliant with its obligations under the Equality Act 2010. Detailed data on religion, ethnicity and sexual orientation is collected for MOD civilian staff and is used to inform policy decisions. However, statistics published by Defence are required to strike a balance between transparency and usability. I am satisfied that the MOD's statistical outputs are clear and concise and inform users of the overall patterns in the data. The inclusion of small sub-categories of non-Christian staff and Christian denominations would not add any additional benefit to the analysis provided in the Civilian Personnel Biannual Diversity Dashboard (CPBDD), and would make the document far longer and more difficult to understand as the small sub-sets would likely be represented by a series of dashes and tildes, representing zeroes and numbers less than five. In addition, the same granular approach would necessarily have to be taken with the BAME, and sexual orientation categories.

The CPBDD has been designated an Official Statistic by the United Kingdom Statistics Authority (UKSA) in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007, meaning that Defence is required to publish the logic and overall methodology which can be found at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/mod-civilian-personnel-quarterly-report-background-quality-report>.

The CPBDD complies with the UKSA's Code of Practice for Official Statistics. The process of determining compliance with the Code and designation as an Official Statistic is known as assessment. Details of this assessment can be found at the following link:

<https://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/publication/statistics-on-uk-defence-personnel>.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-05/199369/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

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

Press Releases

Scottish Budget 2019-20: Equality and Fairer Scotland statement

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/equality-fairer-scotland-budget-statement-scottish-budget-2019-20/>

Enhancing human rights

<https://www.gov.scot/news/enhancing-human-rights/>

Human Rights Day

<https://firstminister.gov.scot/human-rights-day/>

70th anniversary of Human Rights Day observed in the Scottish Parliament

<http://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/110477.aspx>

Commission welcomes "significant and bold" recommendations for new human rights framework

<http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/news/commission-welcomes-significant-and-bold-recommendations-for-new-human-rights-framework/>

New proposals to incorporate human rights principles into Scots law

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/news/new-proposals-incorporate-human-rights-principles-scots-law>

New Publications

Equality Statement, Scottish Budget 2019-20

<https://tinyurl.com/ybxemfw>

Recommendations for a new human rights framework to improve people's lives

<http://humanrightsleadership.scot/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/First-Ministers-Advisory-Group-on-Human-Rights-Leadership-Final-report-for-publication.pdf>

Promoting and Protecting Human Rights in Scotland Ten Years in Review: 2008-2018

http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/media/1818/ten_year_review.pdf

Improving educational outcomes for children and young people from travelling cultures: guidance

<https://tinyurl.com/y7uzxlls>

Boys on Track Improving support for Black Caribbean and Free School Meal Eligible White Boys in London

<https://www.lkmco.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/LKMco-and-GLA-Boys-on-Track-FINAL-version-for-web.pdf>

Reaching Out: Tackling Disengagement among Pakistani and Bangladeshi Women in Britain

https://www.ippr.org/files/2018-12/1544712271_reaching-out-december18.pdf

News

Nicola Sturgeon moves to create new human rights framework in Scotland

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/nicola-sturgeon-moves-to-create-new-human-rights-framework-in-scotland-1-4841734>

Police Scotland 'must strive to be more diverse'

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/police-scotland-must-strive-to-be-more-diverse-1-4844646>

We've got the degrees, so why do Muslim women struggle to get jobs?

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/dec/14/degrees-muslim-women-jobs-austerity-racism-islamphobia>

'Mum this is me!': the pop-up bookshop that only sells diverse children's books

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2018/dec/14/readtheonepercent-brixton-bookshop-knights-of>

Promoting messages of tolerance and acceptance of all

<https://www.actiononsectarianism.info/news/promoting-messages-of-tolerance-and-acceptance-of-all-3>

TOP

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Department for Transport: Bullying and Discrimination

Grahame Morris (Labour) [200110] To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, for (a) his Department and (b) each agency of his Department, what proportion of staff in the 2018 People Survey reported that during the past 12 months they had personally experienced (a) discrimination and (b) bullying or harassment at work.

Reply from Jesse Norman: The table below provides details on the proportion of 2018 People Survey respondents who indicated that they had personally experienced discrimination or bullying/harassment during the past 12 months:

	Discrimination	Bullying or harassment
DfTc	10%	10%
DVLA	10%	8%
DVSA	18%	20%
MCA	13%	15%
VCA	13%	16%

The Department does not tolerate any form of bullying, harassment and discrimination, and where it occurs it is essential that it is reported and tackled

appropriately and effectively.

As part of the Department's Inclusion Strategy, during this year the Department has taken several actions to address bullying and harassment:

- created a number of Fair Treatment Ambassadors, to help create an inclusive culture by providing a first point of contact for individuals who need support.
- launched a Bullying and Harassment Toolkit which can be used by line managers and senior leaders to help build understanding and tackle issues and instances of bullying and harassment by creating a more inclusive culture within teams.
- started reviewing its policies, practices and processes to be sure they fully support staff and are as transparent as possible.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-07/200110/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Religious Hatred: Islam

Baroness Tonge (Non-affiliated) [HL11998] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they consider Islamophobia to be a form of racism; and if so, whether they will adopt a definition of Islamophobia comparable to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definition of antisemitism.

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: The Government takes the issue of Islamophobia extremely seriously. The Prime Minister made this unequivocally clear after the Finsbury Park Mosque terror attack in 2017.

The Government is committed to tackling all hate crime, and to taking the issues of anti-Muslim hatred and Islamophobia forward. It is now of vital importance that we hear a range of views on the proposed definition.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-12-03/HL11998/>

Press Releases

Persistent antisemitism hangs over EU

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/press-release/2018/persistent-antisemitism-hangs-over-eu>

Commission presents its response to Antisemitism and a survey showing Antisemitism is on the rise in the EU

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6724_en.htm

New Publications

Briefing: Islamophobia in the UK

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/LLN-2018-0142/LLN-2018-0142.pdf>

Experiences and perceptions of antisemitism – Second survey on discrimination and hate crime against Jews in the EU

http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2018-experiences-and-perceptions-of-antisemitism-survey_en.pdf

Reflections on the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) survey of Jewish people's experiences and perceptions of antisemitism
http://www.jpr.org.uk/documents/JPR.2018.Reflections_on_the_FRA_antisemitism_survey.pdf

Unmasking bias motives in crimes: selected cases of the European Court of Human Rights
http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2018-unmasking-bias-motives-paper_en.pdf

News

Anti-Semitism pervades European life, says EU report
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-46439194>

Key UK findings of EU antisemitism survey
<https://cst.org.uk/news/blog/2018/12/14/key-uk-findings-of-eu-antisemitism-survey>

British politics has worst record for antisemitism in Europe, poll says
<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2018/dec/10/britain-has-worst-record-for-antisemitism-in-europe-says-report>

Four out of five British Jews believe anti-Semitism has infected UK politics
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/12/10/four-five-british-jews-believe-anti-semitism-has-infected-uk/>

Over a third of European Jews have considered emigrating over antisemitism fears, study finds
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/antisemitism-survey-europe-jews-emigration-eu-hate-crimes-a8676766.html>

British Jews tell of rising antisemitism
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-12-11/news/british-jews-tell-of-rising-antisemitism-220kd5s75>

Labour suspends Mohammed Yasin, who blamed 'all wars in the world' on Jewish people
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/labour-suspends-official-who-blamed-all-wars-in-the-world-on-jewish-people-v7phcqftj>

Government urged to adopt new definition of Islamophobia following rise in hate crimes
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/islamophobia-definition-racism-uk-british-muslims-letter-government-discrimination-a8682621.html>

Police use force disproportionately against black people in England and Wales, figures suggest
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/police-racism-force-violence-black-people-uk-white-race-mental-health-taser-restraint-firearms-a8682516.html>

Black people more likely to have force used against them by police
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/13/black-people-more-likely-to-have-force-used-against-them-by-police-data-shows>

Herman Ouseley to stand down as chairman of football's Kick It Out
<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2018/dec/11/lord-herman-ouseley-stand-down-chairman-football-kick-it-out>

Lord Ouseley says it is 'not unusual' to receive hate mail before announcing he will step down as Kick It Out chairman

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2018/12/11/lord-ouseley-step-kick-25-years-chairman/>

Teachers biased against black pupils and white boys from underprivileged backgrounds, report says

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/teachers-bias-black-pupils-caribbean-school-results-education-racism-report-study-london-a8676336.html>

Exeter University law society disbanded after students posted 'racist' WhatsApp messages

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/exeter-university-students-racist-messages-rape-jokes-whatsapp-bracton-law-society-a8681646.html>

Fire at mosque ruled as an Islamophobic hate crime, police launch appeal

<https://tellmamauk.org/fire-at-mosque-ruled-as-an-islamophobic-hate-crime-police-launch-appeal/>

Raheem Sterling becomes face of new Nike advert after speaking out on racism

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2018/12/15/raheem-sterling-becomes-face-new-nike-advert-speaking-racism/>

We need to stamp out football's ugly racism blight immediately

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/need-stamp-out-footballs-ugly-13721954>

Sterling: Is football racism rising?

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-46507364>

Maurizio Sarri calls alleged racist abuse of Raheem Sterling 'disgusting'

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2018/dec/12/mauricio-sarri-alleged-racist-abuse-raheem-sterling-disgusting>

Raheem Sterling shouldn't have to educate the media about racism

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/dec/11/raheem-sterling-educate-media-racism-football>

Why should someone like Raheem Sterling be seen as 'fair game'?

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2018/dec/10/raheem-sterling-manchester-city-media-abuse-racism>

Jürgen Klopp on Raheem Sterling: 'He gave the right response not to react to these people'

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2018/dec/10/raheem-sterling-abuse-right-response-jurgen-klopp>

If every racist at football was silenced stadiums would still be full of racists

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/blog/2018/dec/12/racist-football-silenced-stadiums-john-barnes>

Football elite too slow to react to racism, says Kick It Out campaigner

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2018/12/10/football-elite-slow-react-racism-says-kick-campaigner/>

Raheem Sterling responds to abuse suffered at Stamford Bridge and says newspapers 'fuel racism'

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2018/12/09/raheem-sterling-responses-abuse-suffered-stamford-bridge-says/>

Chelsea ban four fans pending investigation into alleged racial abuse of Raheem Sterling

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2018/12/10/chelsea-fan-accused-rationally-abusing-raheem-sterling-identified/>

Pep Guardiola says racism is everywhere after abuse of 'incredible' Raheem Sterling

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/pep-guardiola-says-racism-is-everywhere-after-abuse-of-incredible-raheem-sterling-v6p050rzq>

Foul Play

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/the-times-view-on-racism-in-football-raheem-sterling-9rk6qwx2r>

'Chelsea incident just serves to highlight the problem' – anti-Semitism on rise in grass-roots game

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2018/12/14/special-report-chelsea-incident-just-serves-highlight-problem/>

Chelsea attack 'brain-power' of own fans over anti-Semitic chants in Budapest

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2018/12/13/chelsea-involved-race-row-fans-sing-anti-semitic-chant-budapest/>

It's not for fans to 'reclaim' Jewish slurs - football has no place for such words

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2018/12/15/not-fans-reclaim-jewish-slurs-football-has-no-place-words/>

Roman Abramovich concern as Chelsea at centre of new racism outrage

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/fabregas-happy-if-chelsea-are-taught-a-lesson-over-fans-behaviour-5j8k80955>

Jamie Robson disciplined by Dundee United after 'blacking up' storm

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/sport/football/football-news/jamie-robson-disciplined-dundee-united-13725085>

Dundee United to probe player over claims he 'blacked up' for party

<https://www.scotsman.com/sport/football/teams/dundee-united/dundee-united-to-probe-player-over-claims-he-blacked-up-for-party-1-4842057>

Dundee United star in 'black face' storm after dressing up as African salesman

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/dundee-united-star-jamie-robson-13721830>

Jamie Robson disciplined by Dundee United for blacking up at players' party

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2018/dec/12/jamie-robson-disciplined-dundee-united-blacking-up-players-party>

Racist job painted Asian woman's face white while posing as make-up artist at posh store

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/racist-job-painted-asian-womans-13735173>

Fake make-up artist paints woman's face in Beales, Bournemouth

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-dorset-46578782>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Releases

Investing in Scotland's future

<https://www.gov.scot/news/investing-in-scotlands-future-1/>

New Publication

Scottish budget: 2019-20

<https://tinyurl.com/y7vtzcec>

Scottish Budget 2019-20

<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdnp.azureedge.net/published/2018/12/14/Scottish-Budget-2019-20/SB%2018-84.pdf>

News

Scottish budget: At a glance

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-46541974>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

The following two questions both received the same answer

Meat: Ritual Slaughter

Danielle Rowley (Labour) [198326] To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps his Department is taking to respond to representations for greater clarity from consumers of meat products on whether the animals involved have been stunned.

Danielle Rowley (Labour) [198330] To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, whether he plans to bring forward legislative proposals requiring meat products to include labels denoting whether the animal had been stunned; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from David Rutley: The Government would prefer all animals to be stunned before slaughter but respects the right of the Jewish and Muslim communities to eat meat prepared in accordance with their religious beliefs. The Government is aware that there is public interest about meat from animals slaughtered in accordance with religious beliefs being sold to consumers who do not require their meat to be prepared in this way. Where meat is labelled as halal or kosher this must be accurate and must not be misleading to the consumer. The Government believes that consumers should have the necessary information available to them to make an informed choice about their food and this is an issue that we are considering in the context of our departure from the EU.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-03/198326/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-03/198330/>

Coroners: Bradford

John Grogan (Labour) [199781] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what the policy is of the Bradford coroner on the use of digital scans to establish cause of death rather than tradition post-mortems; and how many times such scans have been used in (a) 2017 and (b) 2018 to date.

Reply from Edward Argar: The use of digital scans to establish cause of death is a matter for individual coroners who decide how to proceed in light of guidance from the Chief Coroner. The guidance can be found on his website at:

www.judiciary.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/guidance-no-1-use-of-port-mortem-imaging.pdf

The figures for the number of post mortems held in 2017 which involved less invasive techniques are available at:

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

Bradford is in the West Yorkshire (western) coroner area, in which 267 less-invasive post mortems were conducted in 2017.

Annual coroner statistics are collected at the end of the year. Statistics for 2018 will be published in May 2019.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-06/199781/>

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Brexit

Scottish Government Press Release

Supreme Court judgment

<https://www.gov.scot/news/supreme-court-judgment/>

Prime Minister's Statement

Exiting the European Union

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-12-10/debates/45B04B71-E595-4C17-AA41-686E96BF70E3/ExitingTheEuropeanUnion>

UK Parliament Debate

Exiting the European Union: Meaningful Vote

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-12-11/debates/020AA4B6-7CB9-4891-B789-6FB040457599/ExitingTheEuropeanUnionMeaningfulVote>

Supreme Court Judgment

The UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Legal Continuity) (Scotland) Bill

Press release

<https://www.supremecourt.uk/cases/docs/uksc-2018-0080-press-summary.pdf>

Full judgment

<https://www.supremecourt.uk/cases/docs/uksc-2018-0080-judgment.pdf>

News

Key Holyrood Brexit legislation breaches law, rules UK supreme court

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/dec/13/key-holyrood-brexit-legislation-breaches-law-rules-uk-supreme-court>

Brexit ruling: UK can cancel decision, EU court says

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-46481643>

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Other News

Organ donors to be asked if they are religious

<https://www.bbc.com/news/health-46538926>

Kurdish community in Scotland being “terrorised” by police

<http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/tfn-news/kurdish-community-in-scotland-being-terrorised-by-police>

Called the wrong name at work? Awkward...

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-46362259>

If the Shoe Fits – the first Muslim panto

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/if-the-shoe-fits-the-first-muslim-panto-shzd9z3vm>

New £50 bank note 'must recognise ethnic minorities'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-46577975>

Stars among voices to campaign for BME figure to be on new £50 note

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17301281.stars-among-voices-to-campaign-for-bme-figure-to-be-on-new-50-note/>

Campaign for historic BME figure to appear on new £50 note backed by 200 public figures

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/bme-50-note-multicultural-britain-campaign-bank-england-a8684621.html>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

Human Tissue (Authorisation) (Scotland) Bill

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/108681.aspx>

Vulnerable Witnesses (Criminal Evidence) (Scotland) Bill

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

UK Parliament

Border Control Bill

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

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

**** closes 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 2019)
<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>

****Islamophobia** (closing date 11 January 2018)
<https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/news-parliament-2017/islamophobia-call-for-further-evidence-17-19/>

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

**** The Macpherson Report: Twenty Years On** (closing date 16 January 2019)
<https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/inquiries/parliament-2017/macpherson-report-twenty-years-on-inquiry-17-19/>

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>

**** State of the Voluntary Sector 2018** (closing date not stated)
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SectorForecast2018>

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

**** closes 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

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

**** Overcoming Unconscious Bias**

12 February 2019 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/y87rbupl>

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 provide social workers and other relevant staff with an awareness of the components used to build a picture of a person's age. 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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