



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.

Contents

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

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

Please send information for inclusion in MEMO to MEMO@scojec.org and [click here](#) to be added to the mailing list.

The Scottish Parliament is in recess until 2 September.

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-17917 Jenny Marra (Labour): Refugee Festival Scotland 2019 – That the Parliament welcomes Refugee Festival Scotland 2019 and its theme this year, Making Art, Making Home; notes that the festival runs from 20 to 30 June and focuses on the talent, creativity and resilience of "New Scots" artists and community groups; recognises that arts, culture and sport are important in creating spaces for old and new people in Scotland to meet and learn more about each other, break down barriers and lay new foundations of respect, solidarity and friendship; is proud that Refugee Festival Scotland is produced and coordinated by the Scottish Refugee Council, which is an independent charity that has coordinated the festival for over a decade, and is dedicated to providing advice and information to people seeking refugee protection, as well as campaigning with the wider refugee rights movement for positive change and to build a welcoming culture in Scotland;

celebrates that this year's festival has over 100 events, some led by communities and some by national and internationally-acclaimed artists and performers; notes that the programme encompasses all of Scotland, with events in Argyll, Cumnock, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock, Inverness, Kilmarnock, Oban, Perth, Portree, Stirling, Stornoway, Ullapool and Dundee, and emphasises that the festival and its aims have never been more important.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-17917>

UK Parliament Debates

Immigration

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-06-26/debates/1A5B866D-893C-42BA-9BB2-23FEDBA2304D/Immigration>

Serco and Asylum Seeker Lock-change Evictions

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-06-27/debates/CCEFB3F7-636C-4ED4-9BAA-B42BC5D9AB19/SercoAndAsylumSeekerLock-ChangeEvictions>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Evidence: DNA

Afzal Khan (Labour) [266269] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Independent review of the Home Office response to the mandating of DNA evidence for immigration purposes and pursuant to the Answers of 18 June 2019 to Questions 264449 and 264448, whether the Home Office has contacted every person who was identified by the review but not originally identified by his Department.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office continues to proactively and reactively contact all those known to have been affected by the mandating of DNA evidence and offer redress where appropriate. This includes the additional customers highlighted by the Review.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-18/266269/>

The answers referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-13/264449/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-13/264448/>

The review referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/807453/Independent_review_of_the_Home_Office_response_to_the_mandating_of_DNA_evidence.pdf

Biometric Residence Permits

Patrick Grady (SNP) [266841] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessments his Department carried out in determining that £800 was an appropriate fee for the super priority service for a replacement biometric residence permit.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: An application fee for the replacement of a biometric residence permit (BRP) is £56 and uptake of the super premium service in addition

to this is completely optional. The super premium service is an optional service to expedite the application process if an applicant needs a decision within one working day and is available to various types of immigration applications for a fixed fee. As such, £800 was set to reflect the benefits of the service offered, alongside the need to run an effective BIC System. As an optional service applying to a variety of immigration applications it has not had a separate Impact Assessment. Fees are usually reviewed on an annual basis, with a view to providing resources necessary to running the Border Immigration and Citizenship system.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266841/>

Immigration

Kate Osamor (Labour) [266694] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many requests for a change of conditions of leave granted on the basis of family or private life were (a) received, (b) granted, (c) refused and (d) awaiting a decision from August 2017 to August 2018.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Answering this question would require manual inspection of all family and private life leave to remain applications within the date range. This would incur disproportionate cost to the public purse.

The available information relates to grants and refusals of in-country leave to remain, based on family life, or private life, which is published in the quarterly Immigration Statistics, Extensions table ex_01_q, latest edition at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-year-ending-march-2019/list-of-tables#extensions>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266694/>

Immigrants: English Language

Stephen Timms (Labour) [266614] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many criminal investigations have been undertaken into (a) students and (b) other people who were alleged to have cheated in the TOEIC English language test.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The focus of our criminal investigations was on the organised criminal groups operating at a number of colleges or test centres where intelligence supported widespread criminal abuse of the TOEIC test.

Inevitably this led to investigators interviewing students and other people who had allegedly cheated the TOEIC test. Of these 3 have been charged with offences relating to the cheating of the TOEIC test and await trial. One other person is due to be charged but that person's whereabouts is currently unknown. In addition, 5 other test takers admitted cheating the TOEIC test and were deemed suitable for, and accepted, a criminal caution.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266614/>

Visas: English Language

Stephen Timms (Labour) [266615] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, of the 22,694 individuals that the Home Office has identified ETS has limited confidence in the validity of their TOEIC test due to administrative irregularity, how many re-applied for their visas with a new secure English language test.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Whilst ETS notified the Home Office of 22,694 questionable UK test certificates, the actual number where it was relevant to require a fresh test and an interview with a Home Office official was much smaller.

The exact information requested is not held centrally and could only be provided at disproportionate cost.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266615/>

Overseas Students: English Language

Stephen Timms (Labour) [266616] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many students received a section 10 notice as a result of being accused of cheating in the TOEIC English language test.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The exact information requested is not held centrally by the Home Office. UKVI transparency data provides details of refusal, curtailments and removal decisions on those linked to the abuse of secure English language testing. A link to the most recent available data is provided here;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/temporary-and-permanent-migration-data-february-2017>

The table in SELT_02 is the closest match to the information requested

The data was last published in February 2017 and only contains data to the last quarter (December 2016). ETS data is no longer published after this date.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266616/>

Visas: Overseas Students

Stephen Timms (Labour) [268346] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of whether out-of-country appeals are appropriate for students to challenge visa revocations as a result of allegations of cheating in the TOEIC English language test.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: In 2017, the Court of Appeal in the case of Ahsan found that an out of country appeal was not effective where the person was refused on the basis of alleged cheating in a TOEIC English language test, because there was no mechanism to give oral evidence in place at that time.

There is a small cohort of people who did leave the UK and have lodged an appeal from overseas and we have been working with HM Courts and Tribunals Service to ensure that they can have an effective appeal, including providing video links where appropriate. These appellants can apply to the tribunal hearing their case to indicate if they want to give live evidence. It is then for the tribunal to decide whether the arrangements the Home Office is able to put in place are sufficient or whether it is necessary for the individual to return to the UK for their appeal. There have been a number of hearings held abroad using video link and the courts have found that this enabled the appellant to give evidence effectively.

Following the changes to the appeals system made in the Immigration Act 2014, appeals can only be brought where claims raising asylum, humanitarian protection or human rights claims are refused; where protection status is revoked; in EEA cases and for deprivation of citizenship. Some of those refused on the basis of alleged cheating have made human rights claims and will have an in country right of appeal if refused (unless the claim is clearly unfounded).

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-24/268346/>

Visas: Scotland

Kirsty Blackman (SNP) [266700] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, where the assisted digital locations in Scotland will be; and what type of visa applicants will be able to use that service.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Since September 2017, UK Visas & Immigration has offered customers across the UK a free 'Assisted Digital' service. The service is designed to help people who need to use UK Visas & Immigration online services but

don't have the appropriate access, skills or confidence to do so on their own. Support can be provided over the phone, at a local centre or in home with a trained tutor.

As of the 20th June, across the UK, there are over 300 centres across the UK supplemented by a network of over 60 tutors. In Scotland, there are 2 tutors offering in home support and 43 centres offering face to face support.

Customers should contact the Assisted Digital helpline on 03333 445 675 or by texting the word "VISA" to 07537 416 944 and they will be able to advise on the closest support centre. The Assisted Digital service is available to all UKVI customers except for those applying through the following immigration routes, as support should be provided to them by their sponsoring employers or colleges

- Tier 1 (including entrepreneur and exceptional talent)
- Tier 2 (people working for a specific employer in the UK)
- Tier 4 (students in the UK)

In January 2019 the service was extended to support EU citizens and their family members applying for the EU Settlement Scheme.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266700/>

The following seven questions all received the same answer

Visas

Keith Vaz (Labour) [266662] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have applied for the (a) priority service and (b) super priority service for visa applications to the UK in each of the last five years.

Keith Vaz (Labour) [266664] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people who have paid for the priority service for a visa application have received a decision on their application within five days in each of the last five years.

Keith Vaz (Labour) [266665] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people who have paid for the priority service for a visa application have not received a decision within five days in each of the last five years.

Keith Vaz (Labour) [266666] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people who have paid for the super priority service for a visa application have received a decision within one day in each of the last five years.

Keith Vaz (Labour) [266667] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people who have paid for the super priority service for a visa application have not received a decision within 24 hours in each of the last five years.

Visas: India

Keith Vaz (Labour) [266663] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have applied for the (a) priority service and (b) super priority service for visa applications to the UK at the British High Commission in New Delhi in each of the last five years.

Keith Vaz (Labour) [266668] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average time taken was to process visa applications to the UK made in New Delhi in the most recent period for which figures are available.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The specific information requested is not published, however Home Office published information on in-country visa performance is available at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/in-country-migration-data-may-2019>

The Home Office does not publish information on the out of country Priority and Super Priority visa service. Published information on the international visa operation is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/international-operations-transparency-data-may-2019>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266662/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266664/>

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<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266665/>

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<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266666/>

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<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266667/>

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<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266663/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266668/>

Visas: Ministers of Religion

Mhairi Black (SNP) [266843] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions his Department has had with (a) representatives of the Scottish Government, (b) Scottish local authorities (c) the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (d) other Scottish local authority organisations, (e) Scottish Clergy and (f) other religious organisations in advance of the implementation of changes to the Immigration Rules in relation to Tier (i) 2 and (ii) 5 religious workers visas.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government values the contributions made by religious institutions, to communities across the UK and my officials remain in regular contact with representatives from a range of faith and community groups. I recognise the importance of hearing directly from religious leaders to ensure that the immigration system works for all. Therefore, I am hosting a meeting next month with representatives of a broad-range of faith communities to provide an opportunity to listen to their concerns and share ideas on the future system.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266843/>

Visas: Fees and Charges

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [267739] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 17 June 2019 to Question 263147 on Visas: Applications, what the new costs of out of hours appointments will be.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We are aware that increased demand has had an impact on short term appointment availability which means customers might not always be able to book an appointment at their earliest convenience.

We are working with Sopra Steria Limited (SSL) as a matter of priority on a number of actions to increase the capacity at service points and we expect availability to increase shortly. These measures include; six additional service points in Sheffield, Leeds, Manchester, Edinburgh, Cardiff and Exeter in May and June. SSL are also increasing appointments offered to customers across a number of existing sites and have reduced the cost of out of hours appointments to £50 in the Croydon service point. Charges in other core sites currently range from £75 to £100, but we will continue to monitor prices and customer demand.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-21/267739/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-11/263147/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [267306] To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, pursuant to the Answer of 13 June 2019 to Question 261211 on Immigration: EU Nationals, for what reason the information requested is not recorded in a data set that that can be interrogated through the automated checks for the EU Settlement Scheme.

Reply from Elizabeth Truss: HMRC and the Home Office have worked closely together to ensure that information provided for the automatic residence checks is sufficient to provide a response for the majority of applications. After taking account of the other information sources available to the Home Office, tax credit records have not been included as they would only be relevant to a small number of applicants. Individuals that received tax credits during a period of residence that is not validated automatically will still be able to provide documents directly to the Home Office as evidence of their residence.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-20/267306/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-06/261211/>

Information about the EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

The following three questions all received the same answer

Immigration: EU Nationals

Preet Kaur Gill (Labour Co-op) [268536] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to EU Settlement Scheme Statistics, May 2019: Experimental Statistics, how any applications have been received from the West Midlands.

Preet Kaur Gill (Labour Co-op) [268537] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to EU Settlement Scheme Statistics, May 2019: Experimental Statistics, page 4, if he will provide a breakdown of the proportion of applicants by nationality.

Preet Kaur Gill (Labour Co-op) [268538] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the May EU Settlement Scheme, May 2019: Experimental Statistics, how many of the pre-settled status application conclusions were due to the applicant not having five years' continuous residence.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The second official statistics – 'EU Settlement Scheme Statistics, May 2019' – on the operation of the scheme were published on 20 June 2019, including applications received by nationality. These can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics-may-2019>

The Home Office is committed to publishing more detailed quarterly statistics on the EU Settlement Scheme, alongside our Immigration Statistics, from August 2019. Home Office statisticians and officials are currently considering the content and will take into account the views of statistics users.

Under the current online application process for the scheme, those applicants granted pre-settled status will have agreed that they have been continuously resident in the UK for less than five years.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-24/268536/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-24/268537/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-24/268538/>

Information about the EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

Refugee Week

Mark Hendrick (Labour (Co-op)) [266766] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what activities he (a) has taken and (b) will take part in to highlight Refugee Week 2019.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The UK government is committed to humanitarian efforts to support refugees at home and abroad.

On Monday 17 June, at the start of Refugee Week, the Home Secretary announced that the UK will continue to resettle thousands of refugees under a new scheme to start in 2020. Details can be found on GOV.UK:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-global-resettlement-scheme-for-the-most-vulnerable-refugees-announced>

On the same day, the Home Secretary chaired a roundtable with faith leaders to discuss refugee resettlement and asylum matters; and the Minister of State for Immigration met with refugees, community sponsor groups and representatives from Lambeth Council to hear their experiences of resettlement.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266766/>

The announcement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-global-resettlement-scheme-for-the-most-vulnerable-refugees-announced>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Refugees

Afzal Khan (Labour) [266867] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the global resettlement scheme announced on 17 June 2019, whether refugees entering under that scheme will be granted (a) indefinite leave to remain, (b) refugee status, with five years of leave attached or (c) another form of leave.

Afzal Khan (Labour) [266868] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what plans he has to continue to resettle 5,000 refugees a year after 2021.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: On 17 June 2019, the Home Secretary reaffirmed the UK's commitment to refugee resettlement by announcing a new, global scheme, which will begin in 2020 and aims to resettle in the region of 5,000 refugees in its first year of operation. It is right that we continue to offer safe and legal routes to the UK for the most vulnerable, for whom resettlement is the only durable solution. This announcement is a clear statement of intent and the department will work to secure longer-term funding for the future of resettlement through the next Spending Review. We continue to engage with international and domestic delivery partners and stakeholders as we prepare to transition to the new scheme in 2020 and work through detailed policy of the new scheme, including the form of leave to be granted to refugees arriving under it.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266867/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266868/>

The announcement referred to above can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-global-resettlement-scheme-for-the-most-vulnerable-refugees-announced>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Asylum: Children

Stella Creasy (Labour Co-op) [268477] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for asylum in the UK were made by unaccompanied minors that arrived in the UK by their own means since 2016.

Stella Creasy (Labour Co-op) [268478] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps he is taking to ensure that unaccompanied children in other EU Member States with family in the UK are informed for their rights to apply for family reunification under EU Regulation 604/2013.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: There were 9,512 applications for asylum made by unaccompanied children in the UK from 1 January 2016 to 31 March 2019. This information is published by the Home Office in its quarterly Immigration Statistics release. The latest edition can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/803159/asylum3-mar-2019-tables.ods.

The exact method of entry for asylum applicants is not recorded in published statistics as it would require an examination of each individual case, which could only be carried out at disproportionate costs.

The UK recognises its humanitarian responsibilities towards unaccompanied asylum-seeking and refugee children. The Government is fully committed to the timely and efficient operation of the Dublin III Regulation including the provisions determining responsibility for examining the claims of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. The Regulation provides that unaccompanied asylum-seeking children are given information on the Dublin procedure by the State in which the child has lodged his or her application, the State in which they are present.

The Commission's Regulation implementing Dublin III contains a specific leaflet with information for unaccompanied children pursuant to Article 4 of the Dublin III Regulation EU 604/2013, including that the authorities where the application has been lodged should be told as soon as possible if the child thinks they have family in another Dublin State.

As part of the Sandhurst Treaty, signed by the UK and France in January 2018, we have allocated £3.6 million to fund the development of the Dublin process to support transfers of eligible children to the UK (including training for those working with unaccompanied children, family tracing and targeted information campaigns). We are also funding access to the French asylum accommodation service, the provision of health services, psychological and legal support as well as the cost of transporting asylum seekers from reception centres to locations where their asylum claims are considered.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-24/268477/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-24/268478/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Frank Field (Independent) [266715] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home

Department, how many people held in a immigration detention centre (a) are recognised as victims of modern slavery and/or human trafficking and (b) claim to be victims of modern slavery and/or human trafficking.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: (a) The Home Office records the number of individuals that have received a positive Conclusive Grounds decision and this information is published quarterly by the National Crime Agency, found at <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/national-referral-mechanism-statistics>.

As NRM referrals, Reasonable Grounds and Conclusive Grounds decisions are considered separately from immigration enforcement action, there is no central record of those who have received a positive Conclusive Grounds decision and are detained under immigration powers. The Home Office therefore does not collate or publish the data requested

(b) The Home Office record the number of all individuals referred to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) and this information is published Quarterly by the National Crime Agency, found at <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/national-referral-mechanism-statistics>.

This information does not distinguish between those detained under immigration powers and those living in the community. The reason for this is two-fold, firstly because the NRM referral is not an immigration route by which individuals should regularise their stay in the United Kingdom and, secondly, because a person's status in immigration detention is not permanent and can change.

The use of immigration detention in all cases is subject to regular reviews and consequently a change in circumstance may result in a different consideration. It is quite possible that an immigration detainee is referred to the National Referral Mechanism during a detention period and is released into the community at any point during that process.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266715/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Paul Farrelly (Labour) [266799] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent assessment he has made of the merits of introducing a statutory time-limit on the detention of people in immigration removal centres.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: As Stephen Shaw noted in his follow up review of the welfare of vulnerable people in immigration detention, the debate on a time limit for immigration detention rests mainly on slogans rather than evidence. My Rt Hon. Friend, the Home Secretary commissioned an internal review of how time limits work in other countries and how these relate to any other protections within the detention systems in those countries. This has shown that few other countries adopt very short time limits and that many countries face similar challenges to the UK when it comes to returning those who have no right to remain but re-fuse to leave voluntarily.

We are continuously seeking ways to improve the detention system to ensure that it is fair to those who may be detained, upholds our immigration policies, and acts as a deterrent to those who might seek to frustrate those policies.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266799/>

The report referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728376/Shaw_report_2018_Final_web_accessible.pdf

Deportation

Ross Thomson (Conservative) [267362] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have been deported to countries with which the UK holds a Memorandum of Understanding since 2013.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office does not separately record returns by the arrangements that support them including Memoranda of Understanding (MOU), with foreign countries and as such the information requested could only be obtained at disproportionate cost

The UK has a range of returns arrangements with receiving countries including bilateral MOU, EU Readmission Agreements, formal readmission agreements and informal operational arrangements which provide the basis for administrative removal and deportation. There are also formal returns arrangements for third-country nationals to other European countries through the Dublin Regulations.

The latest published statistics for the number of returns to individual countries is available from the GOV.uk website at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/803187/returns5-mar-2019-tables.ods

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-20/267362/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Deportation: Venezuela

Lloyd Russell-Moyle (Labour Co-op) [266192] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people were deported to Venezuela in (a) 2017, (b) 2018 and (c) 2019 to date.

Lloyd Russell-Moyle (Labour Co-op) [266194] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Venezuelan nationals in same-sex marriages have been deported to Venezuela since 2017.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The number of enforced returns from the UK by year and country of destination is published in table rt_05q (returns data tables, volume 5) in 'Immigration Statistics, year ending March 2019', available from the GOV.uk website at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/803187/returns5-mar-2019-tables.ods

The term 'deportations' refers to a legally-defined subset of returns which are enforced either following a criminal conviction or when it is judged that a person's removal from the UK is conducive to the public good. Information on those deported is not separately available and therefore the published statistics refer to all enforced returns. Information for April to June 2019 will be published on 22 August 2019.

The information requested on Venezuelan nationals in same-sex marriage that have been deported to Venezuela is not available in a reportable format.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-18/266192/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-18/266194/>

Offenders: Deportation

Priti Patel (Conservative) [266725] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many foreign national offenders are awaiting deportation from the UK by (a) nationality and (b) type of offence.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office does not routinely comment on the nationalities of Foreign National Offenders (FNO).

Providing the information requested on the type of offence would require a manual check of individual records which could only be done at disproportionate cost. The Home Office do however publish quarterly statistics on the numbers of FNOs who have completed their custodial sentence and are being pursued for removal from the UK. This data can be found by accessing the following:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-enforcement-data-may-2019>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266725/>

The following five questions all received the same answer

Slavery: Victim Support Schemes

Sarah Champion (Labour) [266780] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate he has made of the number of people entering the national referral mechanism in England that require translation support in the last 12 months.

Sarah Champion (Labour) [266783] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of people entering the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) are offered English language learning as part of their package of move-on support; and whether that support is provided by (a) the NRM or (b) charities providing shelter to survivors.

Sarah Champion (Labour) [266784] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many and what proportion of people that re-enter the National Referral Mechanism having been re-trafficked cannot communicate in English.

Sarah Champion (Labour) [266789] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many of the six local authorities where National Referral Mechanism pilots are taking place are offering access to (a) English-language learning and (b) provision with specialist, non-statutory services.

Human Trafficking: Victim Support Schemes

Sarah Champion (Labour) [266785] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the ability of survivors of trafficking who enter the National Referral Mechanism with little or no English language proficiency to learn sufficient English in 45 days to be able to access work in the UK.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: This Government is committed to tackling the heinous crime of modern slavery and ensuring that victims are provided with the support they need to begin rebuilding their lives.

We recognise that language skills can increase an individual's resilience to exploitation. The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is our system for identifying and providing access to support for suspected victims. This support is provided through a Government-funded support service, the Victim Care Contract (VCC), delivered by The Salvation Army and their 12 subcontractors. The VCC provides a package of support to victims of modern slavery including, but not limited to, accommodation if needed, financial support, interpretation services if needed and access to a support worker.

The Home Office does not hold information on the number of people entering the NRM that have required translation support in the last 12 months.

The VCC does not include the provision of English courses, however potential victims are supported to access language classes by their support worker as appropriate.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266780/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266783/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266784/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266789/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-19/266785/>

Human Trafficking

Gavin Robinson (DUP) [268498] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether his Department continues to pursue deportation proceedings in cases in which people have been found to have been trafficked under section 22 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Victims of trafficking and modern slavery who have committed crimes either in the UK or overseas are not exempt from a deportation assessment. As with the operation of the defence for slavery and trafficking victims in relation to certain offences (section 22 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015), an assessment is made, on a case-by-case basis, of the relationship between the crime committed and the circumstances of their trafficking or enslavement.

Under the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, a potential victim of trafficking cannot be removed or deported either during the reflection and recovery period or until a Conclusive Grounds decision has been made. At the end of the 45-day period, which is the minimum recovery and reflection period in Northern Ireland, consideration will be given to whether their deportation is appropriate under the UK Borders Act 2007, the Immigration Act 1971 or the EEA Regulations 2016.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-24/268498/>

Human Trafficking

Gavin Robinson (DUP) [266152] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the first successful use of the statutory defence under section 22 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation Act (NI) by an individual who had been found not to be a victim of human trafficking by the Home Office under the NRM process, if the Home Office will review how it handles such cases to ensure individuals found to be victims of human trafficking by the judicial system can be protected and their rights upheld.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The criminal justice system and NRM are distinct and separate systems. Section 45 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, which provides an equivalent statutory defence as section 22 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation Act (NI) has recently been the subject of an independent review in the Modern Slavery Act. The Government is considering carefully how it will respond to the recommendations of the review.

In addition, the Home Office already operates a process that allows negative NRM decisions to be reconsidered in light of new evidence. Reconsiderations are accepted on a case-by-case basis.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-18/266152/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

Child Refugees

Lord Dubs (Labour): To ask Her Majesty's Government how many unaccompanied child refugees have entered the United Kingdom since the beginning of 2016 under (1) section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 or (2) the provisions of the Dublin III Regulation.

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Williams of Trafford):

My Lords, over 220 children were transferred to the UK under Section 67 in late 2016. Since then, we have made continuous progress towards achieving our commitment to relocate 480 unaccompanied children. Between 2016 and 2018, 426 children were transferred to the UK under Article 8.1 and 8.2 of the Dublin regulation. Since the beginning of 2016 the UK has received 9,512 unaccompanied asylum-seeking children and has separately resettled 9,212 children through our resettlement schemes.

Lord Dubs: My Lords, I am grateful to the Minister for the figures she has given. Is it not incredibly disappointing that the Government themselves set an artificial cap of 480 unaccompanied child refugees under Section 67 of the Immigration Act? So far we have taken 220; no progress is being made at all. Why are the Government so reluctant to do what Parliament agreed we should do?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, the Government are not reluctant to do what Parliament asked them to do: the 480 figure was based on local authorities' abilities to take children. I know the noble Lord understands that. As to the 220, we can only move as fast as France, in particular, will allow us to in putting down children's names for transfer to the UK. The broader picture, which I outlined in my Answer, is that we have been hugely generous to children who need our protection.

Lord Hylton (Crossbench): My Lords, I understand that, following the Sandhurst treaty, £1.6 million was allotted by the Government to help eligible children in France to come here. What has been the result of that? Has there been any success in tracing families here who could welcome such children?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Certainly, in terms of families who could welcome people here, we have the Gateway scheme, and the Mandate scheme more particularly, for people with family here. In addition, we have issued more than 26,000 family reunion visas in the past five years.

Lord Kennedy of Southwark (Labour Co-op): Have the Government satisfied themselves that they are doing everything possible to protect vulnerable unaccompanied children arriving at camps in Europe and, in particular—with our European partners—to protect them from traffickers, modern-day slavers, sexual abuse, rape and other horrific crimes that know no borders or boundaries?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I appreciate the noble Lord's question because it goes to the heart of what we are trying to do—to protect vulnerable children and to ensure, so far as possible, that they come to this country through recognised routes. I spoke to him last week and he will know that we are now consolidating some of those routes to allow one route for vulnerable children and adults to come here. As to our commitment to resettling 20,000 vulnerable people from the MENA region under the VPRS and VCRS, by 2020 we will have resettled 23,000 of them, which is over the commitment we originally intended.

Baroness Manzoor (Conservative): My Lords, what are the Government doing to ensure that refugee children are safeguarded once they are in the UK? There have been press reports that we could do more.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: As my noble friend said, safeguarding is the prime concern for any local authority or anyone taking a child who has come from particularly traumatic circumstances anywhere in the world. It is the first priority

for local authorities. That is why, when we agreed the 480 figure under Section 67, it was based on local authorities' abilities to take children.

The Lord Bishop of Chichester: My Lords, is the Minister aware of the recent report by the Church of England's Children's Society entitled *Distress Signals*, in which the mental health of unaccompanied children entering the UK for asylum was examined? The report notes that these children show a high risk of suicide and self-harm and find it extremely difficult to communicate their needs and fears to professionals. Does she recognise the value of these young people being assured and guaranteed access to a guardian—a respected, stable, safe and trained person—so that they can have the support they need?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I have not read the report but I totally appreciate what the right reverend Prelate is saying, because any child who finds themselves in strange circumstances may well be expected to have mental health problems arising from trauma. For children fleeing war-torn regions of the world, often without their families, that state is manifest by numerous factors. I agree that support systems should be and are in place to safeguard them. I also pay tribute to the Church of England for the role it has played in community sponsorship schemes.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat): Is it not possible to amend so that we can still open our gates to and welcome more of these refugee children? We also need to look at the consequences of the British Nationality Act 1981. Under that Act, in January 1983 the automatic acquisition of British citizenship by those born to Commonwealth parents was destroyed. Now people find themselves deported because of the mistakes made then. I would very happy if the Minister could meet me to discuss how on earth we can make it possible for those folk of an older generation to have settled status in the United Kingdom and thus remove their anxiety.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: On the first part of the noble Lord's question, I do not know what he is asking me specifically to amend. Of course, I am perfectly happy to meet him. The issue of settled status is incredibly important, particularly as we leave the European Union.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2019-06-25/debates/629E6399-F8B4-4987-86CD-53A2B1FDED22/ChildRefugees>

The report referred to above can be read at

https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/sites/default/files/distress-signals-report_.pdf

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Africa: Visas

Lord Judd (Labour) [HL16197] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they made of the letter, published in *The Observer* on 9 June, from 70 senior leaders from universities and research institutes across the UK warning that "visa refusals for African cultural, development and academic leaders ... [are] undermining 'Global Britain's' reputation as well as efforts to tackle global challenges"; and what steps they intend to take in response.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: All visa applications are considered on their individual merits and on the basis of the evidence available, in line with the immigration rules. We welcome international academics and recognise their contribution to the UK's world-leading education sector.

When we are informed of large academic events, UKVI strategic engagement teams can assist event organisers and attendees with the visa application process.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-10/HL16197/>

The letter referred to above is not available online, but an associated news report can be read at

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/jun/08/home-office-racist-refusing-research-visas-africans>

The following two questions both received the same answer

English Language: Education

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL16381] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to (1) review the provision of English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) for recognised refugees, and (2) issue guidance on funding and best practice for ESOL.

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL16382] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to publish a strategy for English for speakers of other languages for refugees in England, ensuring access for all, especially women.

Reply from Lord Agnew of Oulton: The government recognises that learning English is essential in enabling refugees to rebuild their lives. We are working across government to develop a new strategy for English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) in 2019. This strategy will provide a shared vision for all publicly funded English language provision, including addressing the needs of refugees.

The department funds ESOL through the Adult Education Budget (AEB), which is allocated to providers on an annual basis. Colleges and adult learning providers have the freedom and flexibility to determine how they use their AEB allocation to meet the needs of their communities. This includes planning, with local partners, the ESOL courses that they will deliver locally. The AEB also provides additional support for learners who face specific financial hardship which is preventing them from taking part and/or continuing in learning.

The Home Office and the Department for Education have also provided £10 million to enable refugees resettled through the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme to access additional classes.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-14/HL16381/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-14/HL16382/>

Refugees: English Language

Lord Alton of Liverpool (Labour) [HL16235] To ask Her Majesty's Government what progress they have made on their commitments given to co-ordinate and fund community-based English language provision made in their Integrated Communities Action Plan published in February; whether they intend to respond to Refugee Action's campaign Let Refugees Learn and the recommendations in its report Turning words into action, published in June; and what assessment they have made of the importance of refugees learning English as a driver for integration and in combatting social exclusion.

Reply from Lord Agnew of Oulton: Following the commitments set out in the cross-government Integrated Communities Action Plan (attached), the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) established a new Integrated Communities English Language programme, worth £4.5 million, in April 2019. It will deliver community-based English language learning in 2019-20 for over 19,000 learner places. In addition, MHCLG has committed £1.2 million to support 8 local authorities to deliver coordination models through the Integrated Communities English Language Coordination Fund.

The government recognises that learning English is essential to enabling refugees to rebuild their lives. We are working across government to develop a new strategy for English for speakers of other languages in 2019. This strategy will provide a

shared vision for all publicly funded English language provision and this will include addressing the needs of refugees. We will consider the 'Turning Words into Action' report as we develop the strategy.

[HL16235_report](#)

[HL16235_report](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-11/HL16235/>

Education: Refugees

Lord Lexden (Conservative) [HL16314] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the report by Refugee Action Turning Words into Action: why the Government must invest now to let refugees learn, published in June.

Reply from Lord Agnew of Oulton: The government recognises that learning English is essential in enabling refugees to rebuild their lives. We are working across government to develop a new strategy for English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) in 2019. The strategy will provide a shared vision for all publicly funded English language provision and it will include addressing the needs of refugees. We will explore what needs to be done to enable good local solutions and to support greater access to English language provision. We will consider the 'Turning Words into Action' report, attached, as we develop the strategy.

The department funds ESOL through the Adult Education Budget (AEB), which is allocated to providers on an annual basis. Colleges and adult learning providers have the freedom and flexibility to determine how they use their AEB allocation to meet the needs of their communities. This includes planning, with local partners, the ESOL courses that they will deliver locally. The Home Office and the Department for Education have provided £10 million to enable refugees resettled through the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme to access additional classes.

From the start of the 2019/20 academic year approximately 50% of the AEB will be devolved to 6 Mayoral Combined Authorities (MCAs) and to the Mayor of London through the Greater London Authority (GLA). The MCAs and GLA will be responsible for commissioning and funding AEB provision, including ESOL, for learners resident in their areas.

We know that there are many examples of good practice to overcome barriers for learners with childcare needs. Through the ESOL strategy, we will explore what else needs to be done to enable good local solutions and to support greater access to English language provision.

[HL16314_report](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-12/HL16314/>

The report referred to above can be read at

<https://www.refugee-action.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Turning-Words-into-Action.pdf>

Asylum: LGBT People

Lord Scriven (Liberal Democrat) [HL16329] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether their introduction of a new asylum casework database will improve the capturing and recording of the details of LGBTQI+ people who (1) claim asylum, and (2) are held in detention; and if so, how.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The new Atlas case working system remains in development. It is therefore not possible to confirm at this time exactly what data it will record. Atlas is intended to improve how cases are recorded, managed and reported. This includes building on current reporting fields for

LGBTQI+ people claiming asylum or being held in detention.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-12/HL16329/>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Patrick Grady (SNP) (2523) Refuweegee Claiming Back the Narrative photographic Exhibition That this House congratulates the Glasgow-based Refuweegee organisation, for its Claiming Back the Narrative photographic exhibition, which is being displayed at Kelvingrove Museum and Art Gallery from 20 to 25 June 2019, following its launch at the new Refuweegee hub on the city's Byres Road; understands that the exhibition presents informative photographs, art and written work, created by individuals who arrived as refugees to Glasgow in 2016; recognises Refuweegee, and its partners and community who donated, in providing welcome packs for 2000 refugees on arrival in Scotland since 2016; notes that the welcome packs contain a letter from a local resident and essential items to help refugees feel at home; recognises Refuweegee's success in providing 120 welcome packs per month to new arrivals in Scotland; further recognises Refuweegee's organisation of pop up events for refugees, providing free clothing, toys and household items; notes the exhibition coincides with Refugee Week, falling at the start of the Refugee Festival Scotland, the theme for which is Making Art, Making Home and is about talent, creativity and resilience of New Scots artists and community groups; hopes that this event further raises the voices of refugees and promotes Scottish communities to continue to welcome them; recognises Oxfam Scotland's role in supporting Refuweegee and in its Stand as One campaign aiming to bring people together in solidarity with and support for people forced to flee, and counteract negative attitudes towards displaced people; and wishes all the best to all participants in the Refugee Festival Scotland 2019

<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/53063/refuweegee-claiming-back-the-narrative-photographic-exhibition>

UK Parliament Petition

Nnamani Family, Glasgow

David Linden (SNP): I rise to present a petition from the ever-compassionate constituents of Glasgow East who have joined in solidarity with the Church of Our Lady and St George in Penilee. ... The petition of Glasgow East, Declares that Mary Nnamani and her family who fled from Nigeria in danger of their lives have become a full and valued part of our community in Glasgow through our schools and Church Community; further that the Nnamani family have claimed asylum here and we would dearly love them to stay. The petitioners, therefore, request that the House of Commons urges the Home Office to grant Mary Nnamani and her family the right to remain in this country, where they have claimed asylum. ... [P002474]

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-06-24/debates/39B6AC13-1877-470A-9F66-6F55F418D1B8/NnamaniFamilyGlasgow>

Press Releases

Home Secretary asks independent migration experts to advise on future salary thresholds

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-asks-independent-migration-experts-to-advise-on-future-salary-thresholds>

Severe labour exploitation of migrant workers: FRA report calls for 'zero tolerance' of severe labour exploitation

<https://fra.europa.eu/en/press-release/2019/severe-labour-exploitation-migrant-workers-fra-report-calls-zero-tolerance-severe>

New Publications

EU Settlement Scheme Guidance: View and prove your rights in the UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-view-and-prove-your-rights-in-the-uk/view-and-prove-your-rights-in-the-uk>

The Home Secretary's commissioning letter to the chair of the Migration Advisory Committee, on salary thresholds

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/811269/MAC_commission_210619.pdf

Letter from Professor Alan Manning to Home Secretary responding to the salary threshold commission

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/811266/Letter_from_Professor_Alan_Manning_salary_threshold_commission.pdf

Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration Annual Report for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/812537/ICIBI_Annual_report_April_2018_to_March_2019.pdf

English for speakers of other languages: Access and progression Research report

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/811750/English_for_speakers_of_other_languages.pdf

Protecting migrant workers from exploitation in the EU: workers' perspectives

https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2019-severe-labour-exploitation-workers-perspectives_en.pdf

News

Sajid Javid reviews £30k post-Brexit migrant pay threshold

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-06-25/news/sajid-javid-reviews-30k-post-brexit-migrant-pay-threshold-3njvj9jx2>

English language tests: MPs to hold inquiry into cheating row

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/jun/27/commons-inquiry-foreign-students-accused-cheating-sajid-javid>

EU citizens must apply to stay — but what will happen to those who don't?

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-06-27/news/eu-citizens-must-apply-to-stay-but-what-will-happen-to-those-who-dont-279k7n3hn>

'It's hard to help a refugee with PTSD who is 112th in line for a council flat'

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2019/jun/24/hard-help-refugee-ptsd-line-council-flat>

Hundreds of children wait years for asylum decisions

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-47359592>

UN finds at least one migrant child has died every day since 2014

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/migrant-death-toll-children-world-un-report-a8979306.html>

UK to deport aspiring astrophysicist, 23, to Pakistan where she faces death or forced marriage to cousin

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/pakistan-asylum-seeker-uk-home-office-immigration-honour-killing-a8968996.html>

TOP

Community Relations

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-18016 Angus MacDonald (Labour): Eid in the Park 2019 – That the Parliament celebrates Eid in the Park 2019, which took place in Callendar Park in Falkirk on 16 June 2018; recognises that the event is planned to mark the end of Ramadan, bringing communities together to celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr and promote the benefits of multiculturalism within society; congratulates the organisers of the event, Falkirk Muslim Forum, which is an umbrella group representing leaders of the Muslim community in Falkirk district, on its 4th annual Eid in the Park, which included stalls, attractions and good food and drink for the whole community to take part in and enjoy; commends the work of Falkirk Muslim Forum in promoting inclusion and cohesion within local communities, and looks forward to celebrating Eid in the Park again in 2020 and beyond.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-18016>

TOP

Equality

Scottish Parliament Written Answer

Race Pay Gap

S5W-23761 Mark Griffin (Labour): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5W-23316 by Jamie Hepburn on 6 June 2019, what the race pay gap is in (a) the Scottish Government, (b) its agencies, (c) NHS boards and (d) all other public bodies, broken down by public body.

Reply from Jamie Hepburn: The following table show the mean and median ethnicity gap for a) Scottish Government core and b) the Agencies for which it holds pay data, except for those bodies where only a small number of staff within these organisations that have self-declared their ethnicity to avoid identifying any individual members of staff.

For the purposes of this table, pay includes both salary and on-going allowances, such as pay supplements, but excludes overtime. Part-time staff are reckoned at their full-time equivalent.

Ethnicity pay gap as at 31 December 2018		Pay Gap	
		Mean	Median
SG Core	SG Core	5.37%	8.90%
Agencies	Disclosure Scotland	17.60%	15.66%
	Social Security Scotland	7.53%	13.65%
	Transport Scotland	20.23%	29.36%
Others	Food Standards Scotland	-2.64%	-9.25%
	National Records of Scotland	0.96%	-5.03%

The Scottish Government does not hold relevant payroll data for b) Agencies, other than those listed above, c) NHS boards, or d) all other public bodies. A list of public bodies and their contact details are available at

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-public-bodies-directory/>.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-23761>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Race in the Workplace Review

Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi (Labour) [267779] To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, what steps the Government has taken to implement the recommendations of the Race in the workplace: the McGregor-Smith review, published on 28 February 2017.

Reply from Kelly Tolhurst: The Government has been working with Business in the Community and others to provide support and guidance to employers in implementing the McGregor-Smith review recommendations. In March 2017 the first annual best employer for race list was opened with 66 employers listed. In October 2017 BITC published the 'let's talk about race' booklet and a portal of best practice for employers.

In October 2018, the Prime Minister launched a consultation on how best to implement mandatory ethnicity pay reporting and we will set out next steps in due course. Alongside this, the Race at Work Charter was announced which commits signatories to effective practices that support fairness at work. So far over 160 employers have signed up.

The Government commissioned a 'One year on' report to assess the extent to which the review's recommendations had been implemented and this was published in October 2018.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-21/267779/>

The Review referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/594336/race-in-workplace-mcgregor-smith-review.pdf

The One Year On report referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/746970/BITC_Race_At_Work_Report.pdf

Information about the Race at Work Charter, referred to above, can be read at

<https://race.bitc.org.uk/issues/racecharter>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Treatment Of, and Outcomes For, Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Individuals in the Criminal Justice System Independent Review

Yasmin Qureshi (Labour) [264756] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what steps his Department has taken to implement recommendation 11 of the Lammy Review; and what information his Department holds on (a) racial and (b) gender breakdowns of (i) plea and (ii) remand decisions in magistrates' courts in the last 12 months.

Yasmin Qureshi (Labour) [264757] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what recent steps have been taken to implement recommendation 12 of the Lammy Review on the Open Justice initiative.

Reply from Edward Argar: Recommendation 12 of the Lammy Review has been implemented. MoJ now publishes both sentencing and offence tools which break data down by demographic characteristics, whilst preserving the privacy of individuals where sample groups are small. This was first implemented in May 2018's Criminal Justice Statistics publication and will be updated annually. Latest versions of these data can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/criminal-justice-system-statistics-quarterly-december-2018>

In relation to the implementation of recommendation 11 of the Lammy Review, research into current processes does not reveal evidence to indicate plea and remand decision data gaps. HMCTS standard operating processes, supported by IT case management systems applying data integrity and validation checks, satisfy the court's duty under Part 5 of the Criminal Procedure Rules to make records. However, it is true that plea data is not available for a considerable volume of summary only non-imprisonable cases. Unfortunately, this results from a defendant failing to engage with the court process (as opposed to HMCTS failing to record the plea).

One of the ways HMCTS is making it easier for defendants to engage with the court process is for defendants to respond online via the make a plea service. Furthermore, while most defendants arrive in the magistrates' court on bail or in custody, remand decision data is not available for those cases arriving at court (first hearing) by way of postal requisition, summons or single justice procedure notice because, as a matter of law, these defendants are not on remand.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-14/264756/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-14/264757/>

The Lammy Review, referred to above, can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/643001/lammy-review-final-report.pdf

Treatment Of, and Outcomes For, Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Individuals in the Criminal Justice System Independent Review

Yasmin Qureshi (Labour) [264759] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, with reference to the update to recommendation 10 on page 25 of the Lammy Review, what assessment his Department has made of the cost of each of the pilots in (a) London (North West Borough Command Unit), (b) Surrey, (c) Cumbria and (d) West Yorkshire; and when his Department plans to publish an interim report on the effectiveness of those pilots.

Reply from Edward Argar: The Ministry of Justice has partnered with police forces, Police and Crime Commissioners and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime in London to develop pilots of a Chance to Change ('deferred prosecution') model in

London (North West Borough Command Unit), Surrey and West Yorkshire. Cumbria are no longer pursuing a pilot.

Pilots are yet to fully commence, however, once they are operational we will share updates on progress within wider updates on tackling racial disparity work. Pilot areas have been asked to assess the effectiveness of their schemes. Results on effectiveness should include data on reoffending which will not be available until at least 12 months after any period considered, so will not be immediately available.

The department has not made an assessment of the cost of each of the pilots.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-14/264759/>

The Lammy Review, referred to above, can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/643001/lammy-review-final-report.pdf

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Education: Travellers

Lord Judd (Labour) [HL16312] To ask Her Majesty's Government what guidance and training they provide to teachers and educational institutions about Gypsy, Roma and Traveller culture; and how they ensure full understanding amongst teachers of that culture.

Reply from Lord Agnew of Oulton: Our education reforms, including those aimed at improving teaching, encouraging good attendance and behaviour, and strengthening the curriculum and examination system, are designed to deliver opportunity and high standards for all pupils, whatever their background. Teachers, schools and local authorities also have access to information and best practice in supporting Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils, as well as advice from community representative organisations.

The government does not prescribe the content of initial teacher training (ITT) courses. It is for individual ITT providers to determine the content, structure and proportion of courses. However, courses must be designed so that teacher trainees can demonstrate that they meet all of the Teachers' Standards at the appropriate level. The Standards set out the key elements of effective teaching and the minimum expectations for the professional practice and conduct of teachers. These include the requirements that they have a clear understanding of the needs of all pupils, including Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils. In order to be awarded Qualified Teacher Status, trainees must satisfy the Standards.

The Teachers' Standards can be found here and attached:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/teachers-standards.

The 'Framework of Core Content for ITT (2016)' states, "Providers should ensure that trainees are equipped to identify the needs of all pupils, avoiding labelling by group, and make provision for them." This framework can be found here and attached:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/initial-teacher-training-government-response-to-carter-review>.

For training to be effective, it must be tailored to the needs of the teacher. That is why decisions relating to continuous professional development (CPD) rightly rest with schools, headteachers, and teachers themselves. To support schools, in 2016, the department published the 'Standard for Teachers' Professional Development' and we have re-convened the CPD Expert Group to develop recommendations that ensure that all teachers have access to high-quality, meaningful support and CPD.

[HL16312_A_framework_of_core_content_for_ITT](#)

New Publications

Scottish Government Race equality action plan: year 1 progress update

<https://tinyurl.com/y66zo89z>

Guidance: The Civil Service faith and belief toolkit

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/faith-and-belief-toolkit/the-civil-service-faith-and-belief-toolkit>

News

First diversity programme recruits complete probation

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/whats-happening/news/2019/june/first-diversity-programme-recruits-complete-probation>

BAME appointments: Welsh Government 'must do more'

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-politics-48771948>

TOP

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answer

Prime Minister's Questions

Khalid Mahmood (Labour): A recent YouGov poll on Islamophobia in the Conservative party revealed an astounding level of racism. Nearly 50% of those polled would not want a Muslim Prime Minister, while only 8% would be proud if there was one; 67% believe racist myths about Muslim communities, yet eight out of 10 do not think that it is a problem. In the light of that, and as one of the final acts of her premiership, will the Prime Minister finally agree to commission an external inquiry into Islamophobia within her increasingly “nasty party”? [911577]

Reply from the Prime Minister: We take any allegations of Islamophobia very seriously in the Conservative party. Every allegation is properly investigated. We have seen my right hon. Friend the Member for Great Yarmouth (Brandon Lewis), the chairman of the Conservative party, take swift action. We have seen people suspended from the party; we have seen people excluded from the party. I would just say to the hon. Gentleman that that is in direct contrast to the way in which the Labour party deals with antisemitism. Indeed it is easier to be kicked out of the Labour party for voting Liberal Democrat than for being antisemitic.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-06-26/debates/671AA192-FBB2-4FAC-9723-53C8AF5F0D01/Engagements#contribution-FE1CA426-2700-4783-A8D7-DA44FBC2B336>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Hate Crime: Victim Support Schemes

Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi (Labour) [267778] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps the Government is taking to improve the support services available to victims of hate crime.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: In October 2018 the Government published Action Against Hate: the Government's plan for tackling hate crime – two years on. Two key themes of the action plan are encouraging reporting and increasing support to victims.

The Action Plan includes a number of commitments that are addressing all forms of hate crime, including a review of hate crime legislation by the Law Commission which commenced earlier this year, a public awareness campaign which has run twice, and the current Online Harms White Paper consultation.

There are also a number of specific commitments addressing homophobic, biphobic and transphobic hate crime, which have been informed by the Government's 2018 LGBT Action Plan. These include: the Crown Prosecution Service working with partners to improve the recording and monitoring of equalities data for LGBT victims of hate crime and reviewing and refreshing its LGBT Hate Crime Schools Pack; further Government Equalities Office funding for anti-bullying interventions in schools from March 2019 to March 2020; support from the Home Office to the police to improve training in responding to victims; multiple Home Office funded projects aimed at tackling homophobic, biphobic and transphobic hate crime; and continued engagement with LGBT stakeholders.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-21/267778/>

The Action Plan referred to above can be read at

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

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Hate Crime: Internet

The Marquess of Lothian (Conservative) [HL16425] To ask Her Majesty's Government what progress they have made, further to the Law Commission's Scoping Report on Abusive and Offensive Online Communications published on 1 November 2018, to improve the current criminal law concerning abusive and offensive online communications, in order to tackle online abuse more effectively.

Reply from Lord Ashton of Hyde: The Department for Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport and the Ministry of Justice have engaged the Law Commission on a second phase of their review of abusive and offensive online communications. This will begin in July 2019 and will build on the analysis undertaken for the Scoping Report. In Phase 2, the Law Commission will review existing communications offences to establish whether the law is fit for purpose, and make specific recommendations about options for reform in this area. This will include considering whether co-ordinated harassment by groups of people online could be more effectively dealt with by the criminal law.

The Law Commission will also look at the criminal law around the non-consensual taking and sharing of intimate images. The review will look at existing offences and identify whether there are any gaps in the scope of the protection already offered to victims, making recommendations to ensure that the criminal law provides

consistent and effective protection against the creation and sharing of intimate images without consent.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-17/HL16425/>

The report referred to above can be read at

https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/lawcom-prod-storage-11jsxou24uy7q/uploads/2018/10/6_5039_LC_Online_Comms_Report_FINAL_291018_WEB.pdf

Pupils: Travellers

Lord Judd (Labour) [HL16313] To ask Her Majesty's Government what measures they have in place to safeguard against bullying and harassment of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children in schools and to prevent off-loading of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children when any such bullying and harassment occurs.

Reply from Lord Agnew of Oulton: The government has sent a clear message to schools that bullying is unacceptable and should never be tolerated. All schools are legally required to have a behaviour policy with measures to prevent all forms of bullying. The public sector Equality Duty means that schools must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, and victimisation. Schools must also have regard to the need to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic, including race, and people who do not share it. Policies should reflect this where appropriate. We have issued guidance to schools about how to prevent and respond to bullying as part of their overall behaviour policy.

The department is providing over £2.8 million of funding between September 2016 and March 2020 to 4 anti-bullying organisations to support schools tackle bullying. This includes the Anne Frank Trust, who have developed the Free to Be debate programme, encouraging pupils to think about the importance of tackling prejudice, discrimination, and bullying.

The department's preventing and tackling bullying guidance is clear that schools should do all they can to ensure bullied pupils continue to attend school. Removing bullied pupils from school, even for a short time, disrupts their education, and fails to address the causes of the problem.

In 2017, the department wrote to all secondary schools, reminding them of the rules surrounding exclusion. All schools must notify the local authority when a pupil's name is to be deleted from the admission register. The law is clear that a pupil's name can only be deleted from the admission register on the grounds prescribed in regulation 8 of the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006, as amended.

Ofsted already considers records of pupils taken off roll and has also recently consulted on proposals that will see a strengthened focus on this issue. From September 2019, where Ofsted inspectors find off-rolling, this will always be addressed in the inspection report, and where appropriate will lead to a school's leadership being judged inadequate.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-12/HL16313/>

Information about the "Free to Be" programme, referred to above, can be read at
<https://annefrank.org.uk/education/free-to-be/>

UK Parliament Home Affairs Committee

Inquiry into Islamophobia: evidence session

<http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/home-affairs-committee/islamophobia/oral/103379.html>

New Publications

Consultation on amending Scottish hate crime legislation: Scottish Government analysis of responses

<http://tinyurl.com/yxk64p2x>

Employment Appeal Tribunal rulings concerning the impact of religious beliefs on decisions about adoption

The appellant was a Non Executive Director of an NHS Trust and a magistrate, in which roles he was involved in making adoption decisions. He had been disciplined and removed from the magistracy for his views about adoption by same-sex couples, and was subsequently suspended from the NHS Trust, and his term of office was not renewed. The Employment Tribunal supported the disciplinary measures, and he has now been dismissed.

https://www.bailii.org/uk/cases/UKEAT/2019/0304_18_1906.html

and

https://www.bailii.org/uk/cases/UKEAT/2019/0183_18_1906.html

Court of Appeal ruling concerning a Jewish Housing Association that only lets properties to members of the Orthodox Jewish community.

This case considered whether Z, a single mother with four children, had suffered unlawful discrimination when Hackney council had failed to put her name forward for suitable housing due to Agudas Israel Housing Association Ltd's (AIHA) practice of letting properties only to members of the Orthodox Jewish community. It was agreed that AIHA's procedures constituted direct discrimination on grounds of religion. The question was whether this discrimination was lawful. The Divisional Court decided that it was lawful on the grounds that it was proportionate means of compensating a disadvantaged community, in particular alleviating high levels of child poverty within the Orthodox Jewish community. This judgement was appealed, but the appeal has now been dismissed.

<https://www.bailii.org/cgibin/format.cgi?doc=/ew/cases/EWCA/Civ/2019/1099.html&query=Agudas+israel>

News

Humza Yousaf calls on Scottish football chiefs to back new curbs on sectarianism

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17727811.humza-yousaf-calls-on-scottish-football-chiefs-to-back-new-curbs-on-sectarianism/>

Football chiefs support moves to show sectarianism the red card

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-06-29/scotland/football-chiefs-support-moves-to-show-sectarianism-the-red-card-5z3gb2t3r>

Holyrood to probe anti-Muslim hatred in Scotland

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17727035.holyrood-to-probe-anti-muslim-hatred-in-scotland/>

Why we need Scotland's first-ever Islamophobia inquiry – Anas Sarwar

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/opinion/columnists/why-we-need-scotland-s-first-ever-islamophobia-inquiry-anas-sarwar-1-4953251>

Humza Yousaf would like to meet his racist trolls

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17737109.humza-yousaf-would-like-to-meet-his-racist-trolls/>

Humza Yousaf: I would meet Twitter trolls who send me racist messages

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/crime/humza-yousaf-i-would-meet-twitter-trolls-who-send-me-racist-messages-1-4956141>

Meet me, Humza Yousaf urges racists

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-06-29/scotland/meet-me-humza-yousaf-urges-racists-t2br0lwk8>

Man sentenced over racist emails to Labour MSP Anas Sarwar

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-48757004>

Anas Sarwar 'feared for family's safety' due to racist emails

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/anas-sarwar-feared-for-family-s-safety-due-to-racist-emails-1-4954195>

Anas Sarwar lived in fear after racist emails

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-06-26/scotland/anas-sarwar-lived-in-fear-after-racist-emails-s7clmwxq9>

SNP Westminster leader calls for Islamophobic councillor to lose "position of authority".

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17739113.snp-westminster-leader-calls-for-islamophobic-councillor-to-lose-position-of-authority/>

Anti-Semitism: Aberdeen councillors adopt international guidelines

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-48743753>

Aberdeen City Council adopts guidelines on anti-semitism

<https://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/fp/news/aberdeen/1781231/aberdeen-city-council-adopts-guidelines-on-anti-semitism/>

Labour MP Chris Williamson suspended again over anti-Semitism row

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-48806066>

Corbyn's close ally Chris Williamson is suspended again over antisemitism claims

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-06-28/news/corbyn-s-close-ally-chris-williamson-is-suspended-again-over-antisemitism-claims-f76l2xvc2>

Pressure mounts on Jeremy Corbyn to sack MP in anti-Semitism row

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17736439.pressure-mounts-on-jeremy-corbyn-to-sack-mp-in-anti-semitism-row/>

Labour anti-Semitism row: MPs attack decision on Chris Williamson

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-48790803>

Labour anti-Semitism row: Chris Williamson allowed back into party

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-48778129>

Labour in fresh anti-Semitism storm as MPs revolt over move to readmit Chris Williamson to party

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/06/26/labour-fresh-anti-semitism-storm-mps-revolt-move-readmit-chris/>

Chris Williamson: 90 Labour MPs and peers demand Corbyn withdraw whip from MP over antisemitism row

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/chris-williamson-labour-letter-mps-peers-watson-antisemitism-a8977791.html>

More than 100 Labour MPs protest at decision to readmit Chris Williamson

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/jun/27/chris-williamson-labour-mp-suspension-lifted-antisemitism-anger-jewish-members>

Chris Williamson: Revolt over return of Corbyn ally in antisemitism row

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-06-27/news/chris-williamson-revolt-over-return-of-corbyn-ally-in-antisemitism-row-dtxd6lp6v>

A guide to Labour Party anti-Semitism claims

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-45030552>

Corbyn let the poison of antisemitism in — when will Labour MPs say enough is enough?

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-06-27/news/corbyn-let-the-poison-of-antisemitism-in-when-will-labour-mps-say-enough-is-enough-fxcstn6l>

'He has to go': Momentum leader joins more than 120 Labour MPs and peers in demanding Chris Williamson lose whip over antisemitism

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/chris-williamson-labour-antisemitism-mps-jeremy-corbyn-inquiry-anti-jewish-a8978806.html>

Momentum founder urges Corbyn to boot out Chris Williamson in antisemitism row

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-06-28/news/momentum-founder-urges-jeremy-corbyn-to-boot-out-chris-williamson-in-antisemitism-row-88k92d7r9>

Tory Islamophobia inquiry now 'general investigation', says Boris Johnson

<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2019/jun/27/tory-islamophobia-inquiry-will-be-general-investigation-boris-johnson-sajid-javid>

Nearly half of Tory members would not want Muslim PM – poll

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/jun/24/tory-members-would-not-want-muslim-prime-minister-islamophobia-survey>

Two-thirds of Tory members believe UK areas 'under sharia law', as poll reveals scale of Islamophobia in party

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/tory-islamophobia-sharia-law-poll-conservative-party-members-leadership-a8971731.html>

Tory members poll: Only one in ten would be proud to have Muslim PM

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-06-24/news/tory-members-poll-only-one-in-ten-would-be-proud-to-have-muslim-pm-pg3fd60vb>

NUS president attacks education system as 'institutionally racist' as she steps down
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/shakira-martin-national-union-students-nus-president-racism-black-a8976111.html>

Five-year-olds target Muslim classmate with abuse
<https://tellmamauk.org/five-year-olds-target-muslim-classmate-with-abuse/>

Black Councillor Racially Abused on London Underground
<https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/racial-abuse-racism-london-underground-tube-muswell-hill-councillor-a8972116.html>

TOP

Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Scottish Parliament Justice Committee

Evidence session: "Independent Review of Complaints Handling, Investigations and Misconduct Issues in Relation to Policing: Preliminary Report"
<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12209&i=110310#ScotParlOR>

Press Releases

Scottish Parliament opens its doors to celebrate 20th Anniversary
<https://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/112282.aspx>

Civil partnerships to be extended to all
<https://www.gov.scot/news/civil-partnerships-to-be-extended-to-all/>

New Publications

20 Years of the Scottish Parliament
<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdnep.azureedge.net/published/2019/6/27/20-years-of-the-Scottish-Parliament-1/SB%2019-46.pdf>

Scottish Parliament Annual Report 2018-1019
<https://www.parliament.scot/Annualreportsandaccounts/SPAnnualReport2018-19DPS.pdf>

News

Holyrood anniversary: Queen speaks of 'great affection for Scotland'
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-48802738>

Queen hails 'remarkable' Scottish Parliament while visiting MSPs
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17738795.queen-hails-remarkable-scottish-parliament-while-visiting-msps/>

Why is Scotland setting up a Citizens' Assembly?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-48759720>

TOP

Other UK Parliament and Government

Press Release

Travel and health advice for Hajj pilgrims

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/travel-and-health-advice-for-hajj-pilgrims>

TOP

Bills in Progress ** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

Disclosure (Scotland) Bill

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/111895.aspx>

Female Genital Mutilation (Protection and Guidance) (Scotland) Bill

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/111850.aspx>

UK Parliament

Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) Bill

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

Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) (No. 2)

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/asylumseekerspermissiontoworkno2.html>

Banknote Diversity

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

Border Control Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/bordercontrol.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 and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Bill

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

Unauthorised Encampments

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

[TOP](#)

Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Online Harms White Paper (closing date 1 July 2019)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/online-harms-white-paper>

English language tests for overseas students (closing date 8 July 2019)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/public-accounts-committee/inquiries/parliament-2017/inquiry33/>

**** Islamophobia in Scotland** (closing date 26 August 2019)

<https://forms.ncl.ac.uk/view.php?id=13027>

Female Genital Mutilation (Protection and Guidance) (Scotland) Bill (closing date 30 August 2019)

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/112128.aspx>

Section 38 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015: Duty to notify and provide information about victims (closing date 6 September 2019)

<https://consult.gov.scot/justice/duty-to-notify-and-provide-information/>

Use of interpreters in the asylum process (closing date not stated)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/call-for-evidence-use-of-interpreters-in-the-asylum-process>

Experiences of Islamophobia (closing date not stated)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/amina-islamophobia>

Raising skills and standards of supporters of refugees and asylum seekers

(closing date not stated)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3R8SDYN>

Police Scotland: Your view counts (open all year)

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

TOP

Job Opportunities

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

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

TOP

Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

Diversity Week Activity Fund – Fife

Closing date not stated

Fife Centre for Equalities funding of up to £100 for groups hosting a one-off activity that will take place during Fife Centre for Equalities Diversity Week 2-8 September 2019, and will encourage people to celebrate the diverse population in Fife. For information and to apply see <https://tinyurl.com/y45jmk92>

TOP

Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

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

30 July 2019 in Glasgow (9.30-1.00)

6 September 2019 in Glasgow (1.00-4.30)

21 November 2019 in Glasgow (9.30-1.00)

Interfaith Scotland course to 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, and consider where unintentional discrimination may occur and discuss steps to remove it. For information about the July event see <https://tinyurl.com/y63r67cs> the September event see <https://tinyurl.com/yxqh4wb9> and the November event see <https://tinyurl.com/yxrr95j2>

**** 3 Mottos for Guiding our Approach to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

8 August 2019 in Glasgow (9.30-1.00)

17 September 2019 in Glasgow (9.30-1.00)

Interfaith Scotland course to consider why some people ignore or deny the disadvantages that others experience; how to respond to misunderstandings or offence; and the impact of our inner narratives on our interactions. For information about the August event see <https://tinyurl.com/yxg4z6a3> and the September event see <https://tinyurl.com/y69h9tyz>

**** Interpreting Culture – Improving Cross-Cultural Communication**

21 August 2019 in Glasgow (9.30-1.00)

16 October 2019 in Glasgow (1.00-4.30)

Interfaith Scotland course to consider the wide-ranging influence of cultural background on people's behaviour, expectations and beliefs, consider responses to the behaviour of others, and improve communication skills with people from other cultures. For information about the August event see <https://tinyurl.com/y374w8md> and the October event see <https://tinyurl.com/y4r8ed8f>

We Are One – Citizenfest

9-10 August 2019 in Glasgow

Festival asserting and celebrating diversity and equality with a programme of events in a variety of city centre venues: celebrating our rights – ethnic, political, minority, and common human rights – through music, seminars, food, drama, talks, art, and much more. For information see <https://www.facebook.com/citizenfestweareone>

Meet the Charity Regulator

28 August 2019 in Dunfermline (1.15-4.00)

25 September 2019 in Glasgow (1.15-4.00)

1 October 2019 in Fort William (9.30-12.15)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator events to give charity trustees and staff the opportunity to hear about latest developments, meet OSCR staff and board and ask questions. For information see <https://www.oscr.org.uk/news/meet-the-scottish-charity-regulator-2019/>

Working with refugees and the asylum process

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 unaccompanied refugee children

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

Working with refugees and VPRS resettlement

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

Refugee rights to housing

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/y9pvp15r> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Age assessment awareness

13 November 2019 in Glasgow

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

Engaging with seldom heard voices

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

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

TOP

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>

TOP

SCoJeC

The Scottish Council of
Jewish Communities

Representing, connecting and supporting Jewish people in Scotland



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

Empowering Scotland's Ethnic and
Cultural Minority Communities

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/>



gov.scot

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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