



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

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

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Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-18681 Pauline McNeill (Labour): Stop the Lock Changes – That the Parliament notes the coalition of action and activism in Glasgow, and across Scotland, that aims to challenge the Home Office and Serco's policy of forced lock changes; acknowledges the calls on the Scottish Government, Glasgow City Council and its key third sector partners to accelerate their anti-destitution work and put in place a Scottish accommodation-based support system that enables people to have short-term dignified accommodation, to be safe and to get the services and stability to make an informed choice about their futures, and notes the calls for the Scottish Government and Glasgow City Council to act in unison to overturn the Home Office's Hostile Environment Policy, to lower the risk of rendering vulnerable people homeless, open to exploitation and at greater risk of mental deterioration.

UK Parliament Debates

EU Settlement Scheme: Looked-after Children and Care Leavers

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-09-03/debates/505E5FF3-0E9B-43BD-9AFD-72AD201FB365/EUSettlementSchemeLooked-AfterChildrenAndCareLeavers>

Artist Visas

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-09-04/debates/EE644C4B-1E30-46AF-B0C8-F1E15E82646B/ArtistVisas>

UK Parliament, Ministerial Statement

Leaving the EU: Immigration System

The Secretary of State for the Home Department (Priti Patel) [HCWS1817] After Brexit, the Government will take back control by introducing a new, fairer immigration system that prioritises skills and what people can contribute to the UK, rather than where they come from. Yesterday we commissioned the independent migration advisory committee to review the benefits of a points-based system and what best practice can be learnt from other international comparators, including the Australian immigration system.

In a no-deal scenario, free movement as it currently stands will end at 11pm on 31 October. The UK will no longer be under the jurisdiction of the European Court of Justice. EU citizens will be subject to stricter criminality checks and further changes will be introduced to show that the UK has left the EU. I am today publishing a policy statement setting out these changes, and further information will be published in due course.

The Government recognise the need to provide EU citizens, employers and others with certainty about the arrangements that will be in place after Brexit. Border crossing arrangements will not change. However, we do not believe it is right to allow people moving to the UK after Brexit to have the same rights as the EU residents who have lived here, in some cases for decades.

After careful consideration, myself, the Prime Minister and Cabinet have therefore agreed that EU citizens moving here after a no-deal Brexit will be able to access a temporary immigration status, until the new skills-based immigration system goes live at the start of 2021.

To this effect, the Home Office will open a new European temporary leave to remain scheme for EU citizens and their close family members moving to the UK after Brexit, in a no-deal scenario. When the scheme opens it will be voluntary, and we will not charge a fee. It will be open until the end of 2020 and EU citizens who apply will be able to secure a 36 month temporary immigration status which will extend beyond the launch of the UK's future immigration system. Once the future system opens at the start of 2021, anyone without European temporary leave to remain will have to qualify under the provisions in the future system if they wish to stay in the UK. In contrast, those who have applied for the bespoke interim scheme will have more time to transition into the future system and will not need to qualify until their temporary leave expires.

The same arrangements will apply to nationals of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

The 3.4 million EU citizens already resident here, and their family members, deserve a privileged position. They are our family, friends and neighbours and we want them to stay. We have set up the EU settlement scheme to enable them to secure their status under UK

law and—in a no-deal scenario—they have until at least 31 December 2020 to apply. Already over 1 million people have successfully been granted status.

Until the future immigration system is introduced, all EU citizens will be able to prove their rights to take up employment and rent property, as now, by using a passport or national identity card. Their rights to claim benefits and access services in the UK will remain unchanged.

Irish citizens will continue to be able to enter, live and work in the UK without requiring permission. The UK and Irish Governments have made firm commitments to protect common travel area arrangements, including the associated rights of British and Irish citizens in each other's state.

For EU citizens and their family members moving to the UK after Brexit, freedom of movement in its current form will end on 31 October. EU citizens who still want to make a contribution to the UK will soon have a route by which they can secure the certainty of status they need in advance of the future system going live in 2021.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-09-04/debates/19090466000009/LeavingTheEUImmigrationSystem>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

EU Settlement Scheme

Alan Brown (SNP): What recent discussions has [the Minister] had with the Home Secretary on the level of uptake for the EU settlement scheme. [912287]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union (James Duddridge): I spoke to the Home Secretary this week on the issues of the EU settlement scheme. The scheme is operating well: 1 million people have passed through the scheme out of the 3 million, and there have been no rejected applications. The Prime Minister has made a big, bold offer to EU citizens, who remain our friends and neighbours and who are welcome here in the United Kingdom.

Alan Brown: The Minister says that the system is working well, but I can tell him that the reality is that it is not. My wife Cyndi is an EU citizen and, due to the Government rhetoric, she reluctantly decided to apply for settled status. I can tell the Minister that the system crashed, and that the officials operating it said that they could not handle the volume of traffic. Is it because this process is a shambles that the Government have had to do a U-turn on the threat to end freedom of movement on 31 October, or is it the threat of court action that has caused the U-turn?

Reply from James Duddridge: We have improved the system on an ongoing basis, and we are keen to do so. The default position is that we want people to get that settled status. The hon. Gentleman makes specific points about a specific case, and I am sure that the Home Office would be happy to look at that and to understand how it can improve the system further.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-09-05/debates/8A3D50C0-631E-417C-A0B0-F00C04A15F6E/EUSettlementScheme>

Information about the EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Immigration

Neil Coyle (Labour) [282386] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department,

whether it remains her Department's policy to reduce immigration to the UK; and what her policy is on international students coming to the UK to study.

Reply from Seema Kennedy: We strongly believe in the benefits of migration and we will continue to ensure that we attract the best and brightest talent to the UK. We will deliver a system that welcomes to this country the people who want to contribute, but that enables us to control migration.

We want to attract international students to study in the UK and study at our world class institutions.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-25/282386/>

Visas: Applications

Luciana Berger (Independent) [281734] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reasons visa applicants are unable to access a local rate 0330 number to contact UK Visa and Citizenship Application Services until they have succeeded in making such an application; what estimate his Department has made of the number of people who have had to use the premium rate telephone number; and how much revenue was received in revenue from that premium rate number in the last 12 months.

Reply from Seema Kennedy: The Home Office holds limited information relating to the number of customers who have used the premium line number to contact the UK Visa and Citizenship Application Services. In total, 13937 calls have been made to 0900 premium line number from the start of the UKVCAS contract in November 2018. This represents 5% of UKVCAS customers who made an application during this time period. The Home Office does not hold details of the revenue generated through calls made to the premium rate number.

The premium line referenced is an optional added value service, which offers general support to customers, before, during and after their appointment and assists them in finding information and choosing which Service Point to attend. The service utilises a premium rate (09) telephone number, registered with Ofcom and offers full cost transparency. Customers who do not wish to avail themselves of this chargeable service, may also contact SSL via their website, where they can choose from two options "make an enquiry" or "make a complaint". Once an appointment has been booked a '0330' number is provided to customers to support with appointment-related queries. The '0330' number is not for general queries relating to the service.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-24/281734/>

Visas: Applications

Luciana Berger (Independent) [281736] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will undertake a full review of the service and performance of Sopra Steria Ltd regarding the UK Visa and Citizenship Application Services.

Reply from Seema Kennedy: The contract with Sopra Steria for the provision of Front End Services contains clauses and performance measures (KPIs) designed to ensure the timeliness and quality of service provision.

This also includes the contract management and governance schedule as described above supported by a dedicated Supplier Management Team with responsibility for ensuring the provider delivers to the required performance standards set out in the contract.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-24/281736/>

Visas: Applications

Luciana Berger (Independent) [281737] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, which organisations his Department has advertised information to outlining that visa applicants wishing to extend their leave to remain will not be penalised in cases where they have had to wait for an appointment at a UK Visa and Citizenship Application Services service point; and how that information has been publicised.

Reply from Seema Kennedy: Information about biometric enrolment timescales for UKVCAS customers is publicised to applicants as part of the online application process on GOV.UK.

If the applicant does not enrol biometrics within this period they are sent a reminder and are given a further period in which to enrol.

If the applicant does not enrol their biometrics within these timescales their application is deemed as invalid and could be rejected. Prior to any action to reject the application UKVI would check to confirm whether an appointment to enrol has been booked. UKVI would not reject an application because the applicant had to wait for an appointment

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-24/281737/>

Visas: Biometrics

Jo Stevens (Labour) [282455] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the number of free points for biometrics was per 10,000 visa applications for 2018 against the projected number of free points for biometrics per 10,000 visa applications in 2020 on current projections of visa applications.

Reply from Seema Kennedy: The specific information requested is not available. We offer free points for biometric submission (photo and fingerprints) in the UK through the UK Visa and Citizenship Application Service (UKVCAS) or overseas through Visa Application Centres (VACs).

In the UK, prior to UKVCAS customers were able to submit their biometrics in over 100 Post Office locations. Since the rollout of UKVCAS in November 2018 customers have been able to submit their biometrics and supporting evidence simultaneously through UKVCAS service points which are run by Sopra Steria (SSL) on behalf of UKVI.

There are currently six core sites across the UK at which application submission services are offered for no additional charge on top of that already paid to UKVI and beyond that, a range of enhanced services in a further 50 locations. The UKVCAS core service points offer appointments up to 35 days in advance and free appointments are available Monday to Friday between 10:00 and 16:00. Any appointments outside these times, and those at enhanced service points, are subject to additional charges.

Overseas, in 99 Visa Application Centres (VACs) across 57 countries, VFS Global and TLS Connect offer customers application submission services for no additional charge on top of the visa application fee.

In 149 locations across 105 countries, customers have the option of attending a premium only centre or submitting their biometrics through a User Pay VAC, all of which incur an additional fee. Both commercial partners allow customers to book appointments within a four week rolling window and appointments outside of core hours are subject to additional charges.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-25/282455/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [281741] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home

Department, pursuant to the Answer of 22 July 2019 to Question 278478 on Immigration: EU Nationals, what mechanisms his Department has established to enable statistics users can make views known.

Reply from Seema Kennedy: Home Office statistics are kept under review in line with the Code of Practice for Statistics, taking account of user needs. This includes requesting feedback in all our regular quarterly and annual statistical publications, as well as via the annual Migration Statistics User Forum conference, and the cross government improving migration and population statistics programme of work led by ONS.

In addition, we monitor the demand for Home Office statistics received through Parliamentary questions, Freedom of Information requests, requests from other government departments, stakeholders and the press.

We will be publishing the first quarterly statistical report on the EU Settlement Scheme, alongside our quarterly Immigration Statistics in August 2019, with a dedicated mechanism for providing feedback on the publication.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-24/281741/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-17/278478/>

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

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

Immigration: EU Nationals

Conor McGinn (Labour) [281829] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 13 March 2019 to Question 230087, whether local Common Travel Area journeys across the Irish land border will not be subject to the proposed future requirement to obtain Electronic Travel Authorisation.

Reply from Seema Kennedy: The detail of our ETA scheme is currently under development and requires primary legislation before it can be introduced.

The ETA requirement will not apply to British or Irish nationals. However, it will require visitors and transit passengers who do not normally need a visa to obtain permission prior to travelling to the UK.

The UK does not operate routine immigration controls on local journeys from within the Common Travel Area and the ETA scheme will be developed to operate in a way which is consistent with those arrangements.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-24/281829/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-03-08/230087/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Preet Kaur Gill (Labour Co-op) [282399] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 27 July 2019 to Question 268537 on Immigration: EU Nationals, what estimate her Department has made of the number of EU citizens from each country that have not applied for settled status.

Reply from Seema Kennedy: The third official statistics – ‘EU Settlement Scheme Statistics, June 2019’ – on the operation of the scheme were published on 18 July 2019, including applications received by nationality. These can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics-june-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.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-25/282399/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

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

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

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

Immigration: EEA Nationals

Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi (Labour) [285439] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate her Department has made of the number of EEA nationals that will not have applied to the EU settlement scheme by (a) 30 June 2021 and (b) 31 December 2020 in the event that the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: The Home Office has put in place a comprehensive communications and engagement plan and is working with a range of stakeholders to ensure that all those who are eligible to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme do so by the relevant deadline.

We are encouraged by the initial number of applications, well over one million people have been granted status under the EU Settlement Scheme, but recognise that we must continue to raise awareness of the Scheme to ensure that all resident EEA and Swiss citizens are aware of the steps they need to take to secure their status in the UK. Advertising and local events are underway to support the cross government Get Ready campaign and further publicity will roll out over the lifetime of the Scheme. All available channels will be used to reach our audiences – such as direct marketing, radio, video-on-demand and outdoor advertising, presentations, email updates, toolkits and webinars to name a few – to direct EU citizens towards reliable sources of information on GOV.UK and the application itself.

We have made clear that we will take a proportionate approach to anyone who misses the deadline and will make provision for those who have reasonable grounds for doing so to apply after the deadline. Those who apply before the deadline but whose application is not decided until after the deadline will have all their rights protected until their application is concluded.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-09-02/285439/>

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

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

Immigration: EU Nationals

Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi (Labour) [284453] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if her Department will provide translations of the EU Settlement Scheme publications (a) Leaflet 1: Important information for EU citizens in the UK and (b) Leaflet 2: Application guidance for EU citizens in the UK into each official language of the EU.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: It is vital that the over three million EU citizens and their family members living in the UK understand how and when to apply under the EU Settlement Scheme. At the end of March, the Home Office launched a new national marketing campaign to encourage EU citizens to apply.

The Home Office has translated advertising and communications materials into 25 European languages and Welsh. This includes the applicant guidance, poster,

factsheet and videos. These materials are all available on GOV.UK. The Home Office continually reviews its translated materials and translated communications and engagement materials will continue to be available throughout the lifetime of the Scheme.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-09-02/284453/>

Information about the EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [282323] To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, pursuant to the Answer to Question of 3 July 2019 to Question 269726 on Immigration: EU nationals, what estimate he has made of the number of applicants to the EU Settlement Scheme for whom HMRC holds tax credit records and not PAYE data.

Reply from Jesse Norman: Information on the number of applicants to the EU Settlement Scheme for whom HMRC holds tax credit records and not PAYE data is not held by HMRC. Producing estimates based on full administrative data would require setting up data sharing arrangements between the Home Office and HMRC which could only be achieved at disproportionate cost.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-25/282323/>

The answer referred to above can be read at <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-26/269726/>

Information about the EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Chris Leslie (The Independent Group for Change) [284892] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what processes his Department has put in place for an EU citizen arriving in the UK to prove to immigration officials at the point of entry that they are eligible to apply for the EU Settlement Scheme in the event that freedom of movement between the EU and UK ends on 1 November 2019; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: We are leaving the European Union on 31 October 2019 and, in a no deal Brexit, freedom of movement as it currently stands will end then.

The Prime Minister has been clear that we want EU citizens who are resident in the UK by exit to stay and they will be eligible for status under the EU Settlement Scheme to enable them to do so. In a no deal Brexit, they will have until at least 31 December 2020 to apply. Until then, they will continue to be able to use their EU passport or national identity card to prove their rights to work and rent property; and will have the same rights to work and access benefits and services as they have now.

Border crossing arrangements will not change on 1 November 2019; EU citizens will continue to cross the border as they do now, using their passport or national identity card. They will be able to use e-Gates if they are travelling on a biometric passport, and they will not face routine intentions testing.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-09-02/284892/>

Information about the EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

The following four questions all received the same answer

Free Movement of People: Brexit

Daniel Zeichner (Labour) [285288] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will publish the impact assessment of the additional border restrictions for people moving between EU Member States and the UK after the UK leaves the EU that were reported on 19 August 2019; and if she will make a statement.

Daniel Zeichner (Labour) [285289] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what additional border checks will be put in place on people moving between the EU and the UK after the UK leaves the EU; and if she will make a statement.

EU Nationals: Employment

Daniel Zeichner (Labour) [285290] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to provide information for employers on their obligations towards EU nationals living and working in the UK after the UK leaves the EU.

Immigration: EU Nationals

Daniel Zeichner (Labour) [285291] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to provide clarity to EU nationals living and working in the UK on what they need to do to (a) remain and (b) continue to be able to work in the UK after the UK leaves the EU.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: When the UK leaves the European Union on 31 October, free movement as it currently stands will end, if the UK leaves without a deal. The details of new immigration arrangements for EU citizens moving to the UK after a no deal Brexit were announced on 4 September

(<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2019-09-04/HCWS1817/>).

To remain in the UK after 2020, EU citizens moving to the UK after a no deal Brexit, and their close family members, will be able to apply for European Temporary Leave to Remain. Under this scheme, EU citizens will be granted a period of 36 months' leave to remain in the UK, which will provide them and their employers, with greater confidence and certainty during the transitional period before the new points-based immigration system is introduced from January 2021.

The rights of EU citizens resident in the UK before Brexit are unchanged and will be protected by the status they can obtain under the EU Settlement Scheme, as more than one million of them have already done. They will have at least until 31 December 2020 to make an application under that scheme.

Until the new points-based immigration system is introduced in 2021, EU citizens will be able to prove their right to take up employment, as now, by using their passport or national identity card. Alternatively, those with status under the EU Settlement Scheme or with European Temporary Leave to Remain may choose to use the Home Office on-line checking service to demonstrate their entitlement. When the new points-based immigration system is introduced from January 2021, employers will need to check that, in respect of any new recruitment, an EU citizen has a valid UK immigration status.

The Home Office continues to undertake extensive communications activity with employers. This includes events, webinars, and an online guide to employing EU citizens after Brexit. We have also published an employer toolkit to enable employers to provide reassurance and information to their staff. Advertising and local events are now underway to support the cross-government Get Ready campaign.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-09-02/285288/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-09-02/285289/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-09-02/285290/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-09-02/285291/>

The toolkit referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-employer-toolkit>

The Get Ready campaign, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/brexit>

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

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

Immigration: EU Nationals

Marion Fellows (SNP) [285334] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 19 December 2018 to Question 203927, what her Department's policy is on whether EU citizens with Leave to Land who do not apply for pre-settled or settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme will still maintain the same rights once the UK has left the EU.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: A person granted leave to land under earlier (repealed) legislation is treated for the purposes of the Immigration Act 1971 as having been granted leave to enter the UK. Existing leave to enter and the rights conferred by this will not be affected by the UK's withdrawal from the EU.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-09-02/285334/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-12-19/203927/>

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

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

The following two questions both received the same answer

Young Offenders: EU Nationals

Kate Green (Labour) [282339] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether children in secure care or detention are eligible to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme.

Kate Green (Labour) [282340] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether a period of imprisonment will be included in an assessment of a child's (a) eligibility and (b) continuous residence criteria under the EU settlement scheme.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: A person's continuity of residence in the UK for the purposes of eligibility under the EU Settlement Scheme is broken when they serve a sentence of imprisonment. They will not generally be eligible to apply to the scheme while they are serving that sentence. This is consistent with EU law on free movement, as currently given effect in the UK by the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2016. This provision applies to children in detention as it does for all applicants to the EU Settlement Scheme.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-25/282339/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-25/282340/>

Information about the EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

Health Services: EU Nationals

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [285169] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps Spanish and Portuguese citizens visiting the UK after the 31 October 2019 or residing in the UK but without Settled Status will have to take to prove that they are entitled to free healthcare under the bilateral agreements on healthcare rights for EU citizens in the event that the UK leaves the EU without an agreement.

Reply from Chris Skidmore: The Government has made clear in a 'no deal' scenario, the rights of European Union citizens, including Spanish and Portuguese citizens, in the United Kingdom on exit day will be protected. This includes being able to access National Health Service care without charge on the basis that they are ordinarily resident in the UK, and the NHS will apply the same eligibility tests as it does now. It should be noted that EU citizens already living in the UK on exit day have up until 31 December 2020 to apply for Settled Status, but their access to healthcare will remain the same regardless of whether they apply for Settled Status before then.

The Government has proposed to all EU Member States that when we leave, we should maintain the existing healthcare arrangements including the European Healthcare Insurance Card (EHIC) Scheme until 31 December 2020, with the aim of minimising disruption to healthcare provision for UK nationals and EU citizens. This is subject to agreement by individual EU Member States.

For those Spanish and Portuguese citizens visiting the UK after exit day, if agreed under bilateral agreements with Spain and Portugal, visitors will be able to use their EHIC as they do now. Should individual countries not agree to continue reciprocal healthcare, then access to healthcare cover for visitors from those countries may change.

Visitors from Spain or Portugal to the UK whose visit begins before and continues over exit day will still be able to use their EHIC during that visit, should they fall ill or have a medical emergency.

We welcome action from EU Member States such as Spain and Portugal who have prepared their own legislation for a 'no deal' scenario.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-09-02/285169/>

Asylum: Employment

Catherine West (Labour) [282458] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she plans to review the restrictions that prevent asylum seekers from working.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: Asylum seekers are allowed to work in the UK if their claim has been outstanding for 12 months, through no fault of their own. Those permitted to work are restricted to jobs on the shortage occupation list published by the Home Office. The Home Office is currently reviewing this matter.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-25/282458/>

The following five questions all received the same answer

Detention Centres: Staff

Caroline Flint (Labour) [281599] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department is taking to provide mental health support to immigration removal centre staff.

Caroline Flint (Labour) [281600] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department,

what steps his Department is taking to provide support to individuals employed in immigration removal centres who are suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.

Caroline Flint (Labour) [281601] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people employed in immigration removal centres were signed off work as a result of mental health illnesses in each of the last 10 years.

Caroline Flint (Labour) [281602] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people employed in immigration removal centres took early retirement as a result of ill health in each of the last ten years.

Caroline Flint (Labour) [281603] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people employed in immigration removal centres were signed off work as a result of post-traumatic stress disorder in each of the last ten years.

Reply from Seema Kennedy: The Home Office is committed to ensuring that our immigration removal centre (IRC) suppliers provide a high level of service to detainees while also providing value for money to the taxpayer. With regards to our suppliers' staff, we require all our suppliers to put systems in place to fulfil a duty of care to their employees to ensure the wellbeing and resilience of their staff throughout their tenure in the IRC.

In line with other contractual agreements, IRC suppliers are required to meet set service standards, including ensuring minimum staffing levels are met.

The new contract to manage the IRCs at Gatwick will set high expectations for the quality of management and staffing in key elements of the estate.

Information on numbers of IRC staff is not centrally recorded in the format requested.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-24/281599/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-24/281600/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-24/281601/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-24/281602/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-24/281603/>

Offenders: Deportation

Preet Kaur Gill (Labour Co-op) [282394] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many EU foreign national offenders have been deported as opposed to returned from the UK following a criminal conviction in each of the last five years.

Reply from Seema Kennedy: The Home Office publishes quarterly statistics on the number of EU Foreign National Offenders removed from the UK. This information can be found by accessing the following link:

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

Providing a breakdown of those that have been deported, as opposed to returned, can only be done at disproportionate costs.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-25/282394/>

Human Trafficking

Frank Field (Independent) [284574] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the outcome was of her Department's review into different responses provided to FOI requests 53533 and 52979 in relation to the immigration outcomes of victims of trafficking.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: An internal review was conducted on request 53533 and a response sent to the requester on 12 July. This found that the outcome of the original response (refusal under the cost limit) was correct. The two requests (53533 and 52979) asked for distinct information, hence the difference in responses: in one case the information could be provided within the cost limit, in the other it could not.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-09-02/284574/>

The FOI responses referred to above can be read at

<https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/572226/response/1397189/attach/3/53533%20Esslemont%20Internal%20review%20Final%20Response.pdf>

and

<https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/563964/response/1365528/attach/5/FOI%2052979%20Response.pdf>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Human Trafficking: Vietnam

Vernon Coaker (Labour) [284657] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions she has had with the Foreign Secretary on the trafficking of people between the UK and Vietnam; and if she will make a statement.

Human Trafficking: Nigeria

Vernon Coaker (Labour) [284661] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions she has had with the Foreign Secretary on the trafficking of people between the UK and Nigeria; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The UK Government is committed to the eradication of all forms of modern slavery, forced labour and human trafficking globally by 2030, in line with UN Sustainable Development Goal 8.7. The Home Office and Foreign Office work closely to combat modern slavery internationally and to engage governments in dialogue, including countries of origin for victims of modern slavery. In addition to engagement, the UK has committed £200 million in UK aid to tackle modern slavery. This supports a range of interventions, such as the commitment of £5 million to a programme in Nigeria and £3 million to Vietnam through the Home Office Modern Slavery Fund to prevent modern slavery and build capacity to tackle it at source. HMG also agreed a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Countering Human Trafficking with the Vietnamese government in 2018.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-09-02/284657/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-09-02/284661/>

Press Releases

Brexit help for EU citizens

<https://www.gov.scot/news/brexit-help-for-eu-citizens/>

Britain and France to strengthen joint action against small boats

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/britain-and-france-to-strengthen-joint-action-against-small-boats>

New system to simplify and speed up modern slavery referrals

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-system-to-simplify-and-speed-up-modern-slavery-referrals>

New Publications

Scotland's population needs and migration policy: summary

<https://tinyurl.com/yx1w3bao>

No deal immigration arrangements for EU citizens moving to the UK after Brexit

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/no-deal-immigration-arrangements-for-eu-citizens-moving-to-the-uk-after-brexit/no-deal-immigration-arrangements-for-eu-citizens-arriving-after-brexit>

Updated Guidance: Moving to the UK after Brexit: EU citizens and their families

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/european-temporary-leave-to-remain-in-the-uk>

Right to work checks on EU citizens if the UK leaves the EU without a deal

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/employing-eu-eea-and-swiss-citizens-and-their-family-members-after-brexit>

Welcome: a guide for new refugees

The guidance is available in English, Albanian, Amharic, Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Kurdish Sorani, Pashto, Punjabi, Tigrinya, Urdu, and Vietnamese

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/welcome-a-guide-for-new-refugees>

Briefing: EU Settlement Scheme and looked-after children and care leavers

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CDP-2019-0207/CDP-2019-0207.pdf>

Briefing: Artist Visas

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CDP-2019-0208/CDP-2019-0208.pdf>

Home Secretary's commissioning letter to the chair of the Migration Advisory Committee on a review of the Australian immigration system and other similar systems

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/829234/Home_Secretary_Professor_Manning_-_Points-based_system.pdf

Turning the Tide: How immigration is helping reverse depopulation and decline

<https://ourglobalfuture.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Turning-the-tide-web.pdf>

News

Dozens of areas across UK would have suffered population decline without immigrants, finds report

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/immigration-uk-population-local-authorities-report-global-future-a9090216.html>

End to freedom of movement after Brexit postponed

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/end-to-freedom-of-movement-after-brexit-postponed-xbgmflzqp>

Priti Patel told checks on EU migrants after Brexit may be illegal

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-08-26/news/checks-on-citizens-may-be-illegal-vgqtm9ls0>

Brexit: £3m fund to help UK nationals with EU forms

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-49515487>

Brexit: Home Office advert banned for 'misleading' EU citizens

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-49488324>

Home Office ad telling EU citizens how to stay in UK after Brexit banned for being 'misleading'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/brexit-eu-nationals-ad-banned-misleading-home-office-advertising-standards-authority-asa-a9080756.html>

Home Office advert for post Brexit scheme banned for misleading Europeans

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-08-28/news/home-office-advert-for-post-brexit-scheme-banned-for-misleading-europeans-zfmv2lbp5>

EU citizens to be barred from entering UK with ID cards in crackdown on criminals using fakes

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/09/06/eu-citizens-barred-entering-uk-cards-crackdown-criminals-using/>

Rise in EU citizens not getting UK settled status causes alarm

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/aug/30/eu-citizens-uk-settled-status-alarm>

Hundreds of EU citizens use Windrush scheme to stay in UK

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-49569137>

Increased patrols planned to combat surge in illegal cross-Channel migrants after Anglo-French talks

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/08/30/increased-patrols-planned-combat-surge-illegal-cross-channel/>

English Channel migrants must be sent back faster, Priti Patel told

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-08-28/news/english-channel-migrants-must-be-sent-back-faster-priti-patel-told-6cbphkj2n>

Channel migrants: Sixty six people found in small boats

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-49539293>

Border Force intercept more than 50 migrants arriving at Dover

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/08/31/search-rescue-operations-launched-channel-amid-wave-migrant/>

Channel migrants: Border Force find boats carrying 28 people

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-49476524>

Channel smugglers cram 30 migrants into boats made for six

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/sep/01/channel-people-smugglers-cram-30-into-boats-for-six>

Eight migrants detained after crossing Channel in dinghy as numbers attempting journey surge

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/eight-migrants-detained-dinghy-crossing-channel-kingsdown-kent-coastguard-border-force-a9086616.html>

Search-and-rescue operations launched in Channel amid wave of crossings

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/aug/31/search-and-rescue-operations-launched-in-channel>

Dozens more child refugees could make dangerous Channel crossing in event of no-deal Brexit, charities warn

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/child-refugees-brexit-no-deal-cross-channel-dublin-home-office-a9088626.html>

Channel migrants: Man 'drowns trying to swim to UK'

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-49473160>

Body of Iraqi man who 'tried to swim to UK' wearing makeshift life vest of plastic bottles found off Belgian coast

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/iraqi-refugee-drowns-migrant-dead-belgian-belgium-channel-uk-a9080121.html>

Scottish Refugee Council: Open letter to Mears Group

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3474_open_letter_to_mears_group

One Hundred Evictions Blocked by Glasgow Sheriff Court

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3472_one_hundred_evictions_blocked_by_glasgow_sheriff_court

Investigation prompts rapid upgrades to asylum seekers' homes

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/aug/27/investigation-prompts-rapid-upgrades-to-asylum-seekers-homes>

Glasgow asylum seeker evictions prompt fears of humanitarian crisis

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/aug/28/glasgow-asylum-seeker-evictions-prompt-fears-humanitarian-crisis-serco>

Orphaned in Syria's civil war, how a refugee boy defied the odds to study in the UK

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/syria-refugee-uk-lebanon-orphan-school-boarding-education-a9090801.html>

Disabled refugee still homeless more than a year after brutal street attack

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/refugee-disabled-homeless-attack-atif-al-sharif-tower-hamlets-a9088766.html>

Fraudsters target Chinese students in UK visa scam

<https://www.theguardian.com/money/2019/aug/31/fraudsters-target-chinese-students-in-visa-scam>

Surge in self-harm at immigration removal centre with dozens of ‘vulnerable’ detainees, finds report

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/self-harm-immigration-detention-centre-morton-hall-report-home-office-a9082351.html>

Immigration centre Dungavel House issues air fresheners to fight body odour

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-08-30/scotland/immigration-centre-dungavel-house-issues-air-fresheners-to-fight-body-odour-zxwb6gcqt>

‘I look after the elderly in Britain every day, but I can’t see my own mum’: The African nurses whose parents aren’t allowed to visit

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/africa-visa-uk-elderly-refused-visit-home-office-family-racism-a9076466.html>

Victim of degree scam who helped Home Office convict perpetrators denied right to remain in UK

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/victim-scam-degree-home-office-man-pakistan-a9081001.html>

Do we have a moral responsibility to open our borders to address inequality?

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/dylan-fotoohi-do-we-have-a-moral-responsibility-to-open-our-borders-to-address-inequality-1-4992602>

TOP

Community Relations

News

With antisemitism on the rise, it is crucial that Jewish people are meaningfully included in telling Jewish stories

<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/theatre-dance/features/falsettos-play-jewish-actors-representation-antisemitism-film-theatre-a9088771.html>

TOP

Equality

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Local Enterprise Partnerships: Ethnic Groups

Preet Kaur Gill (Labour Co-op) [282397] To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, what estimate he has made of the level of BAME representation on Local Enterprise Partnership boards.

Reply from Jake Berry: Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) must be accountable to their area and representative of the communities they serve. The 2018 Government Review – *Strengthening Local Enterprise Partnerships* – set out what LEPs should themselves do to improve the diversity of Chairs and board members, both in terms of protected characteristics and also in drawing from a more diverse representation of sectors. Through the publication of the National Local Growth Assurance Framework we will hold LEPs to account for achieving that.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-25/282397/>

The review referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728058/Strengthened_Local_Enterprise_Partnerships.pdf

The following three questions all received the same answer

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

Richard Burgon (Labour) [281810] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, with reference to the Tackling Racial Disparity in the Criminal Justice System: October 2018 Update, how many FTE employees work within the dedicated team in his Department coordinating work on ethnic and racial disparity in the criminal justice system.

Richard Burgon (Labour) [281811] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, with reference to the Tackling Racial Disparity in the Criminal Justice System: October 2018 Update report, what the total spend has been on the dedicated team in his Department coordinating work on ethnic and racial disparity in the criminal justice system.

Richard Burgon (Labour) [281812] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, with reference to the Tackling Racial Disparity in the Criminal Justice System: October 2018 Update, how many full-time equivalent employees worked within the dedicated team in the Department co-ordinating work on ethnic and racial disparity in the criminal justice system when it was first set up.

Reply from Wendy Morton: Currently, there are five employees equating to 4.0 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) working within the Ministry of Justice team dedicated to coordinating work on ethnic and racial disparity in the criminal justice system (MoJ's CJS Race Disparity Team).

When first established in September 2017 the team had 1.5 FTE staff. This increased to 3.5 FTE by January 2018, coinciding with the establishment of the Race and Ethnicity Board (which oversees the implementation of the Lammy Review recommendations and work on tackling race disparity).

The team does not have any dedicated budget (beyond for staffing costs), since work is resourced separately by the various business areas of Ministry of Justice and partner organisations responsible for actions to address racial disparities. Staff costs have been met within existing MOJ budgets.

Beyond this team, it is the responsibility of all policy and operational areas to consider equalities in their work. There are other teams beyond the team asked about which have a focus on tackling racial disparity, including a dedicated youth justice disproportionality team and HM Prison and Probation Service's equalities team.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-24/281810/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-24/281811/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-24/281812/>

Maternal Mortality: Ethnic Groups

Catherine West (Labour) [281788] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, if he will commission an urgent review of maternal care in response to the findings of the MBRRACE-UK maternal deaths and morbidity statistics 2014-16 relating to

increased maternal mortality rates for women from BAME communities.

Reply from Nadine Dorries: The Department is funding the Maternal and Neonatal Policy Research Unit at the University of Oxford to investigate the factors associated with the excess perinatal mortality experienced by black, Asian and minority ethnic babies; and identify the factors associated with the excess risk of maternal death for black and South Asian women.

The NHS Long Term Plan outlines plans to reduce health inequalities and address unwarranted variation in maternity care. This work is led by NHS England through the Maternity Transformation Programme. Targeted and enhanced continuity of care from the same midwife, or group of midwives can significantly improve outcomes for women. The NHS Long Term plan sets out that 75% of black women will receive continuity of carer from midwives by 2024.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-24/281788/>

The Long Term Plan referred to above can be read at

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-term-plan/>

Pupil Premium: Travellers

Sarah Champion (Labour) [284684] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what assessment he has made of the effectiveness of pupil premium criteria for meeting the needs of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children.

Reply from Kemi Badenoch: The pupil premium is additional funding, worth over £2.4 billion in the current financial year, to help schools improve the progress and attainment of disadvantaged pupils. Allocations to schools are based on the number of pupils on roll at the time of the January school census who are currently registered for benefits-based free school meals (FSM) or who have been registered at any point in the last 6 years (known as 'Ever 6 FSM'); or who are currently looked after, or have left local authority care in England or Wales through adoption or other specified routes. In 2019-20, 27.3% of all pupils in state-funded education in England attract pupil premium funding to the schools they attend.

The department knows that a significant proportion of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller of Irish Heritage (GRT) pupils qualify for the pupil premium. In 2017-18, 41.1% of GRT pupils at the end of key stage 2 and 33.7% at the end of key stage 4 were registered for FSM.

Nonetheless, the department is aware that there are concerns that some GRT pupils from financially disadvantaged family circumstances do not attract pupil premium funding to the schools they attend, because their parents choose not to apply for those benefits that would qualify their children for FSM. We encourage those parents who are eligible for qualifying benefits to take up the offer of support, so that all available resources can be brought to bear in improving the futures of all our young people.

It should also be noted that the pupil premium is not ring-fenced funding and schools have flexibility over how they use their allocations to address the needs of their pupils. This can include the implementation of whole school approaches that will improve the progress and attainment of all pupils, as well as being particularly beneficial for those pupils who are formally classed as disadvantaged and attract pupil premium funding. We actively encourage schools to adopt evidence-based approaches to their pupil premium spending, and to look at the pupil premium guide recently produced by the Education Endowment Foundation on how to maximise the impact of the funding. This information can be found at the following link:

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/evidence-summaries/pupil-premium-guide/>.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-09-02/284684/>

Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport: Ethnic Groups

Seema Malhotra (Labour Co-op) [279046] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, how many BAME staff are employed at (a) grade 7, (b) grade 5 and (c) grade 3 in his Department.

Reply from Nigel Adams: The department's declaration rate for ethnicity is currently at 69%, meaning that the figures in the table below are not an accurate reflection of the department's true population.

Grade	DCMS equivalent	Percentage who have declared as BAME
Grade 7	Grade A	10.60%
Grade 5	SCS 1	*
Grade 3	SCS 2	*

*Percentage not provided where the figure relates to fewer than 5 individuals.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-18/279046/>

New Publication

Briefing: Unemployment by ethnic background

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN06385/SN06385.pdf>

News

Racial tensions heightened at Edinburgh festivals,' claims campaigner

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/racial-tensions-heightened-at-edinburgh-festivals-claims-campaigner-1-4991732>

Black women 'five times more likely to die in childbirth'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/stories-49607727/black-women-five-times-more-likely-to-die-in-childbirth>

TOP

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Oral Answers

First Minister's Questions: Sectarian Behaviour

Annie Wells (Conservative): To ask the First Minister what action the Scottish Government will take in response to the sectarian disorder in Glasgow at the weekend. (S5F-03500)

Reply from the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon): First, I take this opportunity to praise Police Scotland for the swift and effective way in which it managed an extremely difficult and challenging situation.

The Government has been clear and will continue to be clear that the right to

peaceful and lawful assembly is an important part of our democracy, but we are equally clear that violent and sectarian disruption is not part of our democracy and should never be tolerated. That is why the justice secretary is working with Glasgow City Council and Police Scotland to ensure that we do all that we can to avoid that kind of behaviour being repeated.

As we have already stated, we remain open to giving full consideration to any proposals to tackle sectarianism in addition to the work that we are already undertaking, and to working with all partners to eradicate the scourge of sectarianism from our society once and for all.

Annie Wells: I understand that Police Scotland has advised that this weekend's marches should go ahead because, after last week's disgrace, it thinks that people will turn up anyway. We have to understand how we got here.

How on earth did an Scottish National Party Glasgow City Council leader think it was a good idea to let a republican march go through Govan on an old firm weekend? Anyone in Glasgow could have told her that that was a bad idea.

Everyone here condemns the unacceptable behaviour that shamed our city last week. Does the First Minister think that Susan Aitken was right to let that march go ahead?

Reply from the First Minister: I think that a really bad idea—probably the worst idea of all in this context—is to try to turn such a serious issue into a party-political bun fight in the way that Annie Wells has done. I say to her in all seriousness that she should reflect very carefully on the content and tone of the question that she has just asked. I suggest to the interim leader of the Scottish Conservatives that he might want to do likewise. This is not a party-political issue; it is a long-standing and challenging issue, but we are determined to eradicate it.

First and foremost, the people who are responsible for the outrageous and unacceptable scenes on the streets of Govan last Friday night are the people who behaved in an unacceptable, violent and sectarian way.

Glasgow City Council operates within the law on the basis of police and other advice. It takes the decisions that it is advised are the right ones to take. We are having discussions with Glasgow City Council to develop an understanding of whether the council has the powers that it needs within the existing law or whether changes to the law might be required. We will continue to take forward those discussions in a responsible way.

We will continue to invest heavily in projects and initiatives to tackle sectarianism. In this chamber, we opposed the repeal of the legislation that was trying to deal with the issue at football matches. I regret the fact that Opposition parties repealed that legislation, but Parliament took its decision.

Above all, we will listen and talk to anybody in considering how we deal effectively with a societal problem that has no place in modern Scotland. It is a scourge in our society. Politicians who are serious about tackling the problem will come together, so that we speak with one voice and do not engage in the tactics that Annie Wells has disgracefully used.

John Mason (SNP): The First Minister might know that, of the two marches that are planned for this Saturday, one is starting in my constituency and one is finishing there. Can she give any reassurance to my constituents that they will be able to go about their normal lives on Saturday without being disrupted?

Reply from the First Minister: Citizens, whether they are in John Mason's constituency, my constituency or any other constituency, have a right to go about their normal business. I have a duty—we all have a duty—to stand up for the rights of law-abiding citizens.

The two marches that will take place in Glasgow this weekend have been given approval. I strongly support Police Scotland to take the necessary action to facilitate the marches. I appeal to all those who will be involved to conduct themselves in an

orderly manner and to demonstrate that the right to march and demonstrate can be exercised without being abused.

A strong framework of legislation is already in place but, as I said to Annie Wells, we will look carefully at where improvements can be made. Dr Michael Rosie, an independent adviser, has been asked to review the implementation of the 2016 recommendations on marches, parades and static demonstrations, and he will put forward proposals on what more might be needed. Of course, legislation has an important part to play, but it is not the only way to tackle such problems. The discussions that the justice secretary will have with Glasgow City Council and Police Scotland will not be limited to looking only at legislative measures.

James Kelly (Labour): The scenes that we witnessed in Govan on Friday night were unacceptable and shocking. Bigotry and intolerance have no place in a modern progressive society. In reacting to those events, we all have a responsibility to be careful about our language and tone.

In response to Lord McConnell's comments that more can be done to tackle sectarianism, what is being done to work with parties across Parliament and with groups across Scotland to tackle bigotry and intolerance?

Reply from the First Minister: In one respect, Lord McConnell is right: when we see the scenes that we saw on Friday night, it is self-evident that more needs to be done. First and foremost, there is a responsibility on Government, through its work with councils, but I am glad to hear James Kelly agree that there is a responsibility on all of us. Cross-party and non-political leadership is needed on the issue.

We have invested heavily by increasing the funding that goes to anti-sectarian education projects in schools, prisons, workplaces and communities, and we will continue to do that. We will also continue to work with those who are doing very good work in this area.

James Kelly said that he wants to work with us. I welcome that. I recall that when the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act 2012 was being repealed, he said that he would develop an anti-sectarianism strategy that was fit for 2018. I am not aware of him having brought forward such a strategy yet, but I make an open offer to him: if he does so, we will consider that, in addition to the work that we are already doing and the further work that we are considering doing. I believe that the issue is one that we should come together to tackle. If James Kelly wants to bring forward his proposals, I am happy to give him an assurance that we will consider them fully.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12229&i=110504#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Motions

S5M-18610 John Mason (SNP): Sectarianism and Racism in Scottish Football – That the Parliament welcomes what it sees as UEFA's tough sanction on Rangers, forcing the club to shut a section of its stadium an upcoming European match as punishment for reported sectarian and racist chanting; appreciates the seriousness with which Rangers has taken the sanction; acknowledges that sectarianism and racism have no place in football or in society in general, and calls on Scottish football to take a similar approach to that of UEFA, which imposes strict liability on clubs for sectarian or racist chanting that occurs at stadiums during matches in its competitions.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-18610>

S5M-18734 Gordon MacDonald (SNP): Tackling Racial Abuse in Youth Football – That the Parliament notes with concern recent media reports of racial abuse between players in youth football matches in Edinburgh; understands that such abuse is acknowledged to happen “every weekend” by the Scottish Youth Football Association League; further understands that recently two such allegations of racial abuse were made in games involving teenagers in Edinburgh on the same day; applauds the reported action taken by the players of Hutchison Vale FC, a community youth football club in Edinburgh, who, after one of their players allegedly received racial abuse, walked off the pitch; appreciates that, although the referee could not corroborate the allegation, such a firm and non-confrontational response sends a strong message that racist behaviour will not be tolerated, and agrees that football clubs and governing bodies at all levels have a duty of care to ensure that action is taken against racist and sectarian behaviour.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-18734>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answer

Prime Minister's Questions

Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi (Labour): If I decide to wear a turban, or you, Mr Speaker, decide to wear a cross, or he decides to wear a kippah or skull cap, or she decides to wear a hijab or a burqa, does that mean that it is open season for right hon. Members of this House to make derogatory and divisive remarks about our appearance? For those of us who, from a young age, have had to endure and face up to being called names such as towelhead or Taliban, or to people saying we come from bongo, bongo land, we can appreciate full well the hurt and pain felt by already vulnerable Muslim women when they are described as looking like bank robbers and letterboxes. So rather than hide behind sham and whitewash investigations, when will the Prime Minister finally apologise for his derogatory and racist remarks? *[Applause.]* Those racist remarks have led to a spike in hate crime. Given the increasing prevalence of such incidents within his party, when will the Prime Minister finally order an inquiry into Islamophobia within the Conservative party, which was something that he and his Chancellor promised on national television? *[Applause.]* [912223] ...

Reply from the Prime Minister: If the hon. Gentleman took the trouble to read the article in question, he would see that it was a strong liberal defence of—as he began his question by saying—everybody's right to wear whatever they want in this country. I speak as somebody who is proud not only to have Muslim ancestors, but to be related to Sikhs like him. I am also proud to say that, under this Government, we have the most diverse Cabinet in the history of this country. We truly reflect modern Britain. We have yet to hear from anywhere in the Labour party any hint of apology for the virus of antisemitism that is now rampant in its ranks. I would like to hear that from the hon. Gentleman.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-09-04/debates/A7A1E43B-AD26-4F52-BB21-E7715164C5B4/Engagements#contribution-9BAB8BCF-78C5-481A-9A9A-739940A9F837>

The article referred to above can be read at

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/08/05/denmark-has-got-wrong-yes-burka-oppressive-ridiculous-still/>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Religious Hatred: Islam

Nick Coyle (Labour) [282391] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, what steps the Government plans to take through the Online Harms Bill to tackle Islamophobia.

Reply from Matt Warman: Islamophobia is completely unacceptable and has no place in our society. The Online Harms White Paper sets out our plans for world-leading legislation to make the UK the safest place in the world to be online, by making companies more responsible for their users' safety online. We will establish in law a new duty of care on companies towards their users, overseen by an independent regulator. Companies will be held to account for tackling a comprehensive set of online harms, and hate crime is one of the harms in scope of these proposals. We will continue to work closely with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, which has the cross-government lead on countering Islamophobia, as this policy is developed.

It is also important that the criminal law is fit for purpose to deal with online harms. The Law Commission has recently started the second phase of its review of abusive and offensive online communications, which will review existing communications offences and make specific recommendations about options for legal reform in a final report in 2021. In parallel, the Law Commission is looking into the adequacy of protection offered by hate crime legislation, and this strand of work is expected to report in 2020.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-25/282391/>

The White Paper referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/793360/Online_Harms_White_Paper.pdf

Information about the Law Commission reviews referred to above can be read at

<https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/law-commission-to-undertake-phase-2-of-the-abusive-and-offensive-online-communications-project/>

and

<https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/law-commission-review-into-hate-crime-announced/>

Hate Crime: Sikhs

Preet Kaur Gill (Labour Co-op) [282566] To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, pursuant to the Answer of 23 July 2019 to Question 277247, what funding his Department has allocated to help support hate crime reporting by the Sikh community in each of the last 10 years.

Luke Hall: Pursuant to the Answer of 23 July 2019 to Question 277247, my Department has allocated £250,000 in total over 2016/17 and 2018/19 to the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC). £150,000 of this was to support work encouraging reporting from groups who are less likely to report hate crime. These groups included EU citizens, Hindus, Christians, and the ultra-Orthodox Jewish community, as well as Sikhs.

In February, my Department organised a hate crime workshop for representatives from the Sikh community with contributions from across government, the police and criminal justice system. Outcomes included further engagement between the Sikh community and organisations including the NPCC, Crown Prosecution Service, Metropolitan Police and Department for Education.

My Department and the NPCC continue to work with the Sikh community and other groups who are less likely to report to raise awareness of hate crime and encourage

reporting. This work forms part of our commitment to tackling faith and race based hate crime made in the refreshed Cross-Government Hate Crime Action Plan.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-25/282566/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-15/277247/>

Hate Crime: Sports

Rosena Allin-Khan (Labour) [280438] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, what funding the Government has allocated to tackle hate speech in sport; and what proportion of that funding has been spent, in each of the last five years.

Nigel Adams: It is not possible to isolate government funding to tackle hate speech in sport. Government and its arm's length body for grassroots sport, Sport England, work with National Governing Bodies of Sport and organisations such as Kick It Out, Stonewall and Women in Football to tackle discrimination in local, national and international sport. Grassroots sports clubs can also access free support and learning in tackling discrimination through Sport England's "Club Matters" programme.

There is no place in sport or society more generally for any acts of discrimination, including hate speech. Sports clubs and fans must continue to embrace diversity and report incidents of discrimination wherever it occurs.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-22/280438/>

Press Releases

Tell MAMA Annual Report 2018: Normalising Hatred

<https://tellmamauk.org/tell-mama-annual-report-2018--normalising-hate/>

Racist man sentenced for two hate crimes after abuse towards Jewish family

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/london-north/news/racist-man-sentenced-two-hate-crimes-after-abuse-towards-jewish-family>

Neo-Nazi jailed of stirring up racial hatred

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/cps/news/neo-nazi-jailed-stirring-racial-hatred>

New Publications

FoI release: Number of religiously aggravated charges by local authority

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/foi-201900003020/>

Normalising Hatred: Tell MAMA Annual Report 2018

<https://tellmamauk.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Tell%20MAMA%20Annual%20Report%202018%20-%20Normalising%20Hate.pdf>

Designating Hate New Policy Responses to Stop Hate Crime

<https://institute.global/sites/default/files/inline-files/Hate%20crime%20V09B.pdf>

Narratives of Hate: The Spectrum of Far-right Worldviews in the UK

https://institute.global/sites/default/files/inline-files/Far%20Right%20report%20V10_final_0.pdf

News

Hate Crime Awareness Week Competition – for Glasgow Schools

Closing date for entries: 26 September 2019

Glasgow Hate Crime Awareness Week Art Competition aims to encourage collaboration and creativity that promotes an anti-discriminatory ethos in school communities.

<https://actiononprejudice.info/2019/08/hate-crime-awareness-week-competition-glasgow-schools/>

Islamophobic incidents rose 375% after Boris Johnson compared Muslim women to 'letterboxes', figures show

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/boris-johnson-muslim-women-letterboxes-burqa-islamphobia-rise-a9088476.html>

Labour MP John Mann to step down after 18 years, saying Corbyn has 'given the green light to anti-Semites'

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/09/07/labour-mp-step-18-years-saying-jeremy-corbyn-has-given-green/>

Labour MP John Mann quits to become government anti-semitism tsar

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-09-07/news/labour-mp-john-mann-quits-to-become-government-anti-semitism-tsar-hlrwb66z5>

Council vows to 'push the law' over sectarian disorder in Glasgow

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-49549266>

Glasgow Council vows to “push the law” to ensure public safety after sectarian disorder

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/glasgow-council-vows-to-push-the-law-to-ensure-public-safety-after-sectarian-disorder-1-4996144>

Govan clashes: Sturgeon condemns 'sectarian' disorder in Glasgow

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-49534599>

Two men arrested after trouble at Irish unity march causes riot scenes in Glasgow

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17872754.two-men-arrested-trouble-irish-unity-march-causes-riot-scenes-glasgow/>

Two men arrested after 'sectarian' riot in Glasgow

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/crime/two-men-arrested-after-sectarian-riot-in-glasgow-1-4994875>

Gun-toting anti-Muslim guilty of hate crime

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/cymruwales/news/gun-toting-anti-muslim-guilty-hate-crime>

White supremacist behind 'Punish a Muslim Day' jailed for 12 years

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/david-parham-court-punish-muslim-day-sentence-white-supremacist-trial-a9090186.html>

Former royal surgeon has denied 'bullying' Muslim colleagues when they took time off for prayer

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/08/29/former-royal-surgeon-has-denied-bullying-muslim-colleagues-took/>

Manchester Pride faces racial prejudice claims

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-49491431>

Man who built homemade taser to threaten Muslims jailed

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/darren-dale-muslim-taser-jailed-prison-blackpool-preston-crown-court-islamophobia-a9095256.html>

Government 'must ban far-right hate groups from making media appearances', report says

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/far-right-extremism-hate-groups-media-appearances-bbc-list-ban-a9081191.html>

Would banning far-right 'hate groups' help combat extremism?

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/far-right-extremism-terrorism-hate-groups-list-media-ban-a9081231.html>

Man jailed for shouting 'heil Hitler' and 'go have a sausage sandwich' at Jewish family in London

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/man-antisemitic-jewish-family-bus-hackney-david-aherne-london-a9090001.html>

Enid Blyton's racism needs to be challenged

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/enid-blyton-s-racism-needs-to-be-challenged-laura-waddell-1-4993173>

Racist African stereotypes are as prevalent as ever on TV

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/aug/28/racist-africans-stereotypes-tv-colonial>

Twitter defends approach to tackling racism after Premier League players subject to abuse

<https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/premier-league/twitter-premier-league-racist-abuse-pogba-abraham-kick-it-out-statement-a9091611.html>

Football chiefs defy SNP Justice Secretary on secret sectarianism reports

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17888401.football-chiefs-defy-snp-justice-secretary-secret-sectarianism-reports/>

Rangers: Uefa orders Ibrox section closure after sectarian chanting

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/football/49523405>

Rangers facing second Uefa charge for racist behaviour

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17866440.rangers-facing-second-uefa-charge-racist-behaviour/>

Rangers hit by partial stadium closure after sectarian chants in Europa League qualifier

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2019/08/30/rangers-hit-partial-stadium-closure-sectarian-chants-europa/>

Racist chants by Rangers fans have to stop, says Paul Gascoigne

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-08-29/scotland/racist-chants-by-rangers-fans-have-to-stop-says-paul-gascoigne-kjc8p8swn>

Yakou Meite: Reading striker chose to share racist abuse to demonstrate impact on players

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/football/49481148>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Releases

Protecting Scotland's Future: Programme for Government 2019-20

<https://www.gov.scot/news/protecting-scotlands-future/>

Citizens' Assembly remit published

<https://www.gov.scot/news/citizens-assembly-remit-published/>

First Minister's Islamic New Year message

<https://firstminister.gov.scot/first-ministers-islamic-new-year-message/>

Scottish Parliament's Festival of Politics programme unveiled

<https://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/112784.aspx>

New Publications

Protecting Scotland's Future: the Government's Programme for Scotland 2019-2020

<https://tinyurl.com/y23zlbb3>

Remit and Terms of Reference for the Citizens' Assembly of Scotland – Scotland's Constitutional Future

<https://cdn.prgloo.com/media/d336e17fc11240bea76cd989a3dbf67e>

News

Ruth Davidson quits as Scottish Conservative leader

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-49509275>

Ruth Davidson resignation: Scottish Conservative leader steps down

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/ruth-davidson-resignation-scottish-conservative-leader-steps-down-1-4993407>

Ruth Davidson quits citing family pressures and election 'dread'

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17868135.ruth-davidson-quits-citing-family-p pressures-election-dread/>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

News

Brexit: 'Get ready' advertising campaign launches

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-49545743>

Home Office faces legal challenge over appointment of 'biased' reviewer of Prevent counter-extremism programme

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-legal-challenge-prevent-counter-extremism-lord-carlile-a9083486.html>

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Other News

Charity Fraud Awareness Week 2019

Like all sectors, charities are susceptible to fraud and can be seen as easy target for criminals. Fraud and cyber crime is on the rise, which is why it's important for charities of all shapes, sizes and types to protect their income and assets by building strong defences. The main aims of the week are to: raise awareness of the key risks affecting the sector, promote and share good counter-fraud practices, and promote honesty and openness about fraud. For information see

<https://www.oscr.org.uk/news/charity-fraud-awareness-week-2019/>

20/20 Vision: Scottish Review's Young Scots of the Year

20/20 Vision is a biennial award that aims to highlight 20 notable young people in their 20s who are involved in remarkable work – from young artists and musicians to entrepreneurs and environmentalists, who are, for example, inspiring other young people, embarking on humanitarian work, inventing new technologies, or achieving other remarkable feats in their field.

If you know someone who fits the criteria: a young person in their 20s who has shown outstanding promise and determination, please send your nomination/s, with details of their name/s and age/s and why you are putting them forward, no later than Thursday 10 October, to islay@scottishreview.net.

Money Talk Team

The Citizens Advice network in Scotland provides a free and confidential face-to-face or telephone advice service on behalf of the Scottish Government to help low income families to maximise their household income. For information see

<http://www.parentclub.scot/articles/who-are-money-talk-team>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

**** Children (Scotland) Bill**

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/112632.aspx>

Bill as introduced

https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/SPBILL52S052019.pdf

Policy Memorandum

https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/SPBILL52PMS052019.pdf

Explanatory Notes

https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/SPBill52ENS052019.pdf

Financial Memorandum

https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/SPBill52FMS052019.pdf

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>

Scottish Parliament Information Centre Briefing

<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdnep.azureedge.net/published/2019/9/5/Female-Genital-Mutilation--Protection-and-Guidance---Scotland--Bill/SB%2019-56.pdf>

UK Parliament

Asylum Seekers (Accommodation Eviction Procedures) Bill

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

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>

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>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

Islamophobia in Scotland (closing date 30 September 2019)

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

Strategic police priorities for Scotland (closing date 4 October 2019)

<https://tinyurl.com/y5qo62n3>

National Transport Strategy (closing date 23 October 2019)

<https://www.transport.gov.scot/our-approach/national-transport-strategy/>

** **Independent Child Trafficking Guardians** (closing date 17 November 2019)

<https://consult.gov.scot/looked-after-children-unit/independent-child-trafficking-guardians/>

** **Freedom of Information extension of coverage** (closing date 22 November 2019)

<https://consult.gov.scot/constitution-and-cabinet/freedom-of-information-extension-of-coverage/>

**** Widening the scope of the current victim statement scheme** (closing date 24 November 2019)

<https://consult.gov.scot/justice/current-victim-statement-scheme/>

**** Financial Redress for Historical Child Abuse in Care** (closing date 25 November 2019)

<https://consult.gov.scot/redress-survivor-relations/financial-redress-historical-child-abuse-in-care/>

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>

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Job Opportunities

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

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

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Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

Scotland's Winter Festivals and St Andrew's Fair Saturday 2019/2020

Closing date 16 September 2019

This Bemis small grant fund, supported by the Scottish Government, will be available to Scotland's diverse ethnic and cultural minority community organisations holding public multicultural celebratory that will enable everyone to experience the dynamic and invigorating nature of Scotland's cultural and ethnic diversity.

Participating organisations must embrace the message of arts and culture as a way of bringing communities together in common international human bond, and ensure our events are open to all. They must also nominate a charity to benefit from their event. This could be from a raffle or any other way of fundraising. If the organisation is a charity it could raise money for an existing or new project. There is no minimum or maximum amount they must raise. For information and to apply see <https://bemis.org.uk/project/swf-2019/>

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>

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Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Introduction to Fundraising

11 September 2019 in Lerwick (9.30)
12 September 2019 in Kirkwall (9.30)
17 September 2019 in Aberdeen (9.30)
18 September 2019 in Elgin (9.30)
8 October 2019 in Benbecula (9.30)
15 October 2019 in Kirkintilloch (9.30)
23 October 2019 in Tranent (9.30)

Institute of Fundraising introduction to the rules governing fundraising and how it has to be carried out legally and ethically. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y3ebmqeb>

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

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>

**** Islamophobia Definition Workshop**

18 September 2019 in Glasgow (10.00-12.30)
23 September 2019 in Glasgow (10.00-12.30) WOMEN ONLY
30 September 2019 in Edinburgh (10.00-12.30)

Scottish Government consultation meetings to hear the views of faith and belief stakeholders and communities in Scotland on the All-Party Parliamentary Group on British Muslims' definition of Islamophobia, including whether this definition is appropriate within the Scottish context. This will inform the Scottish Government's consideration of a working definition for Islamophobia. For information about the first Glasgow session see <https://tinyurl.com/y3ecxogw>, for the women-only Glasgow session see <https://tinyurl.com/y3ex2rl2>, and for the Edinburgh session see <https://tinyurl.com/y5t3h5gq>

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

Supporting Refugees

19 September 2019 in Gordon (7.00-9.30)
6 October 2019 in East Calder

Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees events to explore the situation of refugees in Scotland, consider what refugee integration looks like, and find out how to get involved in supporting refugees. For information about the Gordon event see <http://www.sfar.org.uk/supporting-refugees-in-gordon/> and for East Calder see <http://www.sfar.org.uk/6-october-supporting-refugees-in-east-calder/>

**** The Situation of Separated Children in Europe**

24 September 2019 in Glasgow (6.00-7.30)

Scottish Refugee Council event in association with the Aberlour Childcare Trust to discuss what life is like for separated children in different European countries, how they are supported, and what more national governments and the EU should do to better support this group of resilient but highly vulnerable group of children and young people. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yy5tqgny>

**** Voice and Visibility – The New Scots**

25 September 2019 in Glasgow (10.30-2.00)

Refugee Health Policy and Strategy Action Group launch of resources relating to refugees and asylum seekers. For information see https://www.scojec.org/memo/files/19ix_voice_and_visibility.pdf

Meet the Charity Regulator

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 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

**** Brexit & EU Citizens: briefing sessions for third sector workers and volunteers**

27 September 2019 in Glasgow (10.00-12.15)

28 September 2019 in Edinburgh (10-12.15)

EU Citizens Rights Project briefing about the EU settlement scheme and the right of EEA citizens and their families to reside in the UK after Brexit, as well as other questions about UK citizenship and matters such access to housing, benefits and services. For information about the Glasgow event see <https://tinyurl.com/y6lbha8s> and for the Edinburgh event see <https://tinyurl.com/yxqkznht>

**** Black History Month**

1 to 31 October 2019

Black History Month illuminates Scotland's 'hidden history', and brings into sharp relief the various strands of suffering, humiliation, exploitation and denigration of African, Caribbean and Asian people, as well as being about solidarity and the building of allies in relation to experiences of racism in Scotland. To read the full programme of events see https://docs.wixstatic.com/uqd/7ec2e5_bee1dd34a1e849af9dba0c7afc3112d5.pdf

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

**** Home Office Fees Scandal**

2 October 2019 in Glasgow (6.00)

Gairth, Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees, and the Scottish Refugee Council open meeting to discuss starting a Scottish campaign against Home Office fee levels. For information contact David Bradwell dbradwell@churchofscotland.org.uk / 07341 478 174

**** Festival of Politics**

10-12 October 2019 at the Scottish Parliament

Scottish Parliament festival that includes debates on the political and social issues that matter most to you, and a programme of free entertainment. For information see <https://www.festivalofpolitics.scot/>

**** The Macpherson Report at 20**

11 October 2019 at the Scottish Parliament (1.15-2.45)

Festival of Politics debate about whether Britain and its public bodies have changed in acknowledging and tackling racism since the publication of the Macpherson Report into the police's handling of the death of Stephen Lawrence. For information see <https://www.festivalofpolitics.scot/events/the-macpherson-report-at-20>

**** Islamophobia – does it exist?**

11 October 2019 at the Scottish Parliament (3.30-5.00)

Festival of Politics discussion on the blurred lines on religion, race and freedom of speech and the issue of Islamophobia in the UK today. For information see <https://www.festivalofpolitics.scot/events/islamophobia>

Tackling Prejudice and Building Connected Communities 2019

15 October 2019 in Glasgow (9.30-4.00)

BEMIS and Police Scotland follow up to last year's Tackling Prejudice and Building Connected Communities conference. The 2019 conference will return to last year's key outcomes and will include presentations and practical discussion opportunities with key stakeholders on these critical approaches to helping to shape a Scotland that is responsive, just, and cognisant of our ethnic minority communities. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y33z6h2k>

Interpreting Culture – Improving Cross-Cultural Communication

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>

**** Challenging the Hostile Environment**

25 October 2019 in Glasgow (11.00)

Positive Action in Housing AGM Conference and workshops to discuss the challenges for refugee, migrant and EU citizens rights, the impact of poverty and discrimination, and ways to further develop crisis services for destitute and homeless people from BME, refugee and migrant communities. For information see <https://paih.typeform.com/to/O2yYFH>

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/y9pvpl5r> 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

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Useful Links

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Refugee Survival Trust <https://www.rst.org.uk/>

Freedom from Torture <https://www.freedomfromtorture.org/>

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Volunteer Scotland Disclosure Services

<https://www.volunteerscotland.net/for-organisations/disclosure-services/>

BBC News <https://www.bbc.com/news>

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



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



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

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