



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

### Contents

[Immigration and Asylum](#)

[Equality](#)

[Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination](#)

[Other Scottish Parliament and Government](#)

[Other UK Parliament and Government](#)

[Other News](#)

[Bills in Progress](#)

[Consultations](#)

[Job Opportunities](#)

[Events, Conferences, and Training](#)

[Useful Links](#)

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

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## Immigration and Asylum

### Scottish Parliament Written Answers

#### Foreign Artists: Visas

**S5W-26843 Sandra White (SNP):** To ask the Scottish Government whether the organiser of the Celtic Connections festival has sought advice or support from it regarding any difficulties faced by foreign artists coming to Scotland since the EU membership referendum.

**Reply from Fiona Hyslop:** The Scottish Government supports cultural organisations facing difficulties around EU exit, and supports non-UK artists coming to Scotland to participate in our international festivals. The Scottish Government has longstanding concerns with the UK Government's immigration system – particularly around the operation of the rules that govern the entry of visitors – and has regularly raised concerns with the UK Government around the challenges for international artists and performers coming to participate in festivals.

The Scottish Government will be hosting an International Festivals Visa Summit in early 2020 to explore the problems faced by festivals and their participants in Scotland and the rest of the UK in relation to the UK visa and immigration system, and what impacts exiting the EU could have on this. It will bring together a wide range of festivals and other cultural stakeholders, as well as representatives from Governments across the UK, find practical solutions to these difficulties. The organisers of Celtic Connections have been invited to participate in the summit.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-26843>

### **International arts and cultural events**

**S5W-26844 Sandra White (SNP):** To ask the Scottish Government what challenges (a) the Celtic Connections festival and (b) other Scotland-based international arts and cultural events are expected to face post-Brexit.

**Reply from Fiona Hyslop:** Exiting the EU and the ending free movement of people poses a range of challenges to international arts and cultural events in Scotland. The organisers of Celtic Connections – as well as other international arts and cultural events – have raised concerns that introducing new visa requirements could create major financial and logistical problems for festivals, make it more difficult to attract performers from outside the UK, and could ultimately cause them to become less international.

The UK's current visa system already puts in place significant cost and administrative barriers for non-EU artists bringing their work to festivals in Scotland. The current process is often lengthy, complex and costly. These issues could be exacerbated if the same process is applied to performers from the EU/EEA.

Organisers of international arts and cultural events in Scotland have reported problems with the system, including:

- Home Office decision-makers refusing visas because they do not believe that the person seeking entry is a genuine visitor.
- Visitor visa evidence requirements being too onerous, acting as a deterrent to participants.
- Salary conditions for sponsored work visas are restrictive and can impair festivals' access to international participants invited to the UK by wider culture sector organisations.
- Duration of the Permitted Paid Engagement route is capped at one month, and the system does not allow festivals to invite young or emerging artists under this route.
- Passport retention is unfeasible for touring artists - few can manage their touring schedule while passports are being held for three weeks for visa processing and workarounds such as duplicate passports, passport retention or priority processing fees are unaffordable.
- UK festivals cannot sustain the costs of sponsorship responsibilities for temporary worker Tier 5 visas. Although this would mean lower evidence requirements for individuals applying, the overhead is not realistic for festivals with multiple participants entering the UK in a concentrated period for short-duration events.

International connectedness, and the reputation of Scotland as a welcoming, outward-looking country is essential to Scotland's festivals, and exiting the EU also jeopardises this.

In 2017, Celtic Connections stated that it had to reduce the number of American and European acts in its line-up by around 20% following the EU referendum due to the impact of the weak pound on the festival's buying power. Creative Producer

Donald Shaw has also indicated that Scottish Musicians will find it more difficult to perform in Europe following EU exit.

The Scottish Government shares the concerns expressed by the organisers of international arts and cultural events in Scotland, and has regularly raised concerns with the UK Government around the challenges for international artists and performers coming to participate in festivals.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-26844>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

### British Nationality: Children

**Afzal Khan (Labour)** [1924] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the implications for her policies of the High Court's recent ruling that the £1,000 fee to register a child as UK citizens is unlawful; and whether she has plans to reduce the fee.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** While this court case remains active it would not be right to speculate on next steps and potential courses of action. Although the judge ruled that there had not been proper consideration of the Government's section 55 duties, the fees regulations were not in themselves quashed.

We are, though, committed to considering this issue and the judgment carefully and plan to do so with the diligence that is deserved.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-10/1924/>

*The judgement referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/prcb-v-sshd.pdf>

### Immigrants: Health Services

**Afzal Khan (Labour)** [1925] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will reassess the potential merits of the £625 immigration health surcharge for NHS staff who are not UK citizens.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** As set out in the manifesto, the Government is committed to increasing the Immigration Health Surcharge to ensure that temporary migrants cover the costs of the NHS services provided to them. We will set out our detailed plans for implementing this shortly.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-10/1925/>

*The manifesto referred to above can be read at*

[https://assets-global.website-](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf)

[files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba\\_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf)

### Immigrants: Health Services

**Seema Malhotra (Labour (Co-op))** [1740] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her policy is on the charging of the immigration health surcharge to people that are victims of sex trafficking and that have successfully applied for leave to remain.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** There is a specific exemption from the requirement to pay the Immigration Health Surcharge for individuals making immigration applications which relate to the person's identification as a victim of slavery, including victims of sex trafficking.

This ensures that victims of this horrendous crime are not prevented from seeking leave to remain by the cost of making an application. Separately, NHS regulations make clear that those identified as a victim of human trafficking are not subject to overseas visitor charges.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-09/1740/>

*The following three questions all received the same answer*

### **Migrant Workers: Health Professions**

**Ruth Jones (Labour)** [240] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether the NHS Visa will be applicable to physiotherapists and other healthcare professionals who are employed by independent providers contracted to deliver NHS services.

**Ruth Jones (Labour)** [241] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether the NHS Visa will be applicable to physiotherapists and other healthcare professionals who are employed by social enterprises contracted to deliver NHS services.

**Ruth Jones (Labour)** [242] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether the NHS Visa will be applicable to civilian physiotherapists and other healthcare professionals who are employed by the Ministry of Defence.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** We will introduce an NHS visa scheme for qualified health professionals, offering fast-track entry, reduced visa fees and dedicated support to enter the UK with their families. Further details will be published in due course.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-12-19/240/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-12-19/241/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-12-19/242/>

### **Windrush Lessons Learned Review**

**Afzal Khan (Labour)** [1929] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when she plans to publish the report of the Windrush lessons learned review.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The Home Secretary has not yet received the final report from Wendy Williams. On receipt it will be published as soon as practicable.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-10/1929/>

### **Immigration: Windrush Generation**

**Afzal Khan (Labour)** [1928] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Windrush compensation scheme, (a) when she plans to make the first compensation payments and (b) how much money her Department has allocated to the scheme.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The compensation scheme opened in April 2019 and a number of claimants have received payments through the scheme.

We will publish information on the total number of claims paid and the overall amount paid out by the scheme shortly as noted in our report to the

[Home Affairs Select Committee https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/update-to-the-hasc-on-windrush-22-october-2019](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/update-to-the-hasc-on-windrush-22-october-2019).

In relation to the amount of money allocated to the scheme, information relating to

estimated costs including compensation payments are referred to in the Home Office's Impact Assessment IA No: HO 0329 dated 9/1/19.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-10/1928/>

### **Immigration: Windrush Generation**

**Deidre Brock (SNP)** [410] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications there have been to the Windrush Scheme; what proportion of those applications resulted in documentation being supplied free of charge; and how many people have received British citizenship free of charge under the Windrush Scheme.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The Home Secretary provides the Home Affairs Select Committee with updates on the work of the department in connection with Windrush. This includes information on decisions made by the Taskforce under the Windrush Scheme. The correspondence can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/correspondence-on-the-work-of-the-home-office-windrush>

The published Windrush guidance confirms what documentation is provided to the applicant dependent on the individual's circumstances, and that there is no charge for an application under the Windrush Scheme. The guidance can be found at:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/807384/windrush-scheme-v3.0-ext.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/807384/windrush-scheme-v3.0-ext.pdf)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-06/410/>

### **Immigration: Windrush Generation**

**Helen Hayes (Labour)** [1914] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate her Department has made of the number of Windrush citizens who have (a) applied to the Windrush Compensation Scheme and (b) received compensation under that scheme; and what the total amount awarded under that scheme is to date.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** We will publish information on the total number of claims paid and the overall amount paid out by the scheme shortly as noted in our report to the Home Affairs Select Committee:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/update-to-the-hasc-on-windrush-22-october-2019>.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-10/1914/>

*Information about the Windrush Compensation Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/windrush-compensation-scheme>*

### **Immigration: Windrush Generation**

**Helen Hayes (Labour)** [1913] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate her Department has made of the (a) number of Windrush citizens who applied for emergency payments in urgent and exceptional circumstances before the Windrush Compensation Scheme was established; (b) number of Windrush citizens who have been found eligible for such payments and (c) total amount awarded via those emergency payments.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The specific information requested is not included in statistical data published by the Home Office.

The Home Secretary provides regular updates to the Home Affairs Select Committee on the work of the department in connection with Windrush. This includes information on the urgent and exceptional support provided to members of the Windrush cohort.

The updates can be found at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/correspondence-on-the-work-of-the-home-office-windrush>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-10/1913/>

*Information about the Windrush Compensation Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/windrush-compensation-scheme>*

### Immigration

**Stuart C McDonald (SNP)** [1760] To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, whether clause 11(3) of the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill provides for Ministers to limit the (a) scope and (b) availability of judicial review of Home Office decisions made under clause 11(2)(g) of that Bill.

**Reply from James Duddridge:** The power in clause 11(3) will be used to ensure that the Special Immigration Appeals Commission is able to hear a review of an exclusion direction made on national security grounds in relation to an individual within the scope of the EU Settlement Scheme.

There is no intention to use the power in clause 11 to limit the scope or availability of judicial review.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-09/1760/>

*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*

### Immigration: EU Nationals

**Afzal Khan (Labour)** [1930] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have applied to the EU Settlement Scheme to date.

**Afzal Khan (Labour)** [1931] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate her Department has made of the number of EU citizens who are eligible for settled status but have not applied.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The latest published information on EU Settlement Scheme applications received can be found in the Home Office's 'EU Settlement Scheme monthly statistics' available at:

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

The total number of applications received up to 30 November 2019 was nearly 2.6 million (2,592,800). Updated figures for the period to 31 December 2019 will be published on 16 January 2020.

The published figures refer specifically to applications made to the EU Settlement Scheme and cannot be directly compared with estimates of the resident population of EU/EEA nationals in the UK. The published figures include non-EEA family members, Irish nationals, and eligible EEA citizens not resident in the UK, none of whom are usually included in estimates of the resident EU population. Furthermore, the population estimates do not take account of people's migration intentions and will include people who have come to the UK for a range of purposes, including some who have no intention to settle in the UK.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-10/1930/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-10/1931/>

*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**

**Deidre Brock (SNP)** [409] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what plans she has to vary the EU Settlement Scheme to guarantee EU citizens' right to remain in the UK.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The EU Settlement Scheme already provides resident EU citizens with the UK immigration status they will need to continue living here after the end of the implementation period on 31 December 2020. The status granted under the scheme will guarantee them the same rights to work, study and access benefits and services as they have now.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-06/409/>

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

### **EU Nationals: Immigration**

**Catherine West (Labour)** [1420] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department plans to provide physical documentation for EU nationals with settled status to ensure they do not experience discrimination from prospective (a) employers and (b) landlords.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The Home Office's intention is that EU citizens granted status under the EU settlement scheme will evidence their status and entitlements through digital means via online services. This will provide a simpler and more secure means to establish a person's status and there are no plans to provide EU citizens with physical documents for this purpose.

The law is clear that employers and landlords should not discriminate when conducting statutory right to work and right to rent checks, and this is reinforced in statutory codes of practice issued by the Home Office.

EU citizens will be required to use the online service to evidence that they have status under the scheme when moving jobs or accommodation after the new immigration system is introduced. In the meantime, they can continue to rely on their national passports or identity documents. Anyone who believes that they have been discriminated against, either directly or indirectly, by an employer, or landlord, because of their race may bring a complaint before an Employment Tribunal, or an Industrial Tribunal in Northern Ireland.

"Race" is one of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 and the legal term incorporates colour, nationality or ethnic or national origins. When we consider the risk of discrimination by employers and landlords towards foreign nationals in the context of right to work and right to rent checks, race is the relevant protected characteristics we're focusing on. Moreover, the Home Office has issued two statutory codes of practice for employers and landlords under the Immigration Acts setting out how they should avoid committing acts of unlawful race discrimination when conducting right to work and right to rent checks. The term race is explicitly used in both statutory codes.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-08/1420/>

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

*The codes of practice referred to above can be read at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/311665/Code\\_of\\_practice\\_on\\_avoiding\\_unlawful\\_discrimination\\_while\\_preventing\\_illegal\\_working.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/311665/Code_of_practice_on_avoiding_unlawful_discrimination_while_preventing_illegal_working.pdf)

and

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/376789/Code\\_of\\_Practice\\_for\\_Landlords\\_web\\_.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/376789/Code_of_Practice_for_Landlords_web_.pdf)

### **Immigration: EU Nationals**

**Deidre Brock (SNP)** [900237] If he will hold discussions with the Home Secretary on defining the term Reasonable Excuse for missing the deadline for applications to the EU Settlement Scheme.

**Reply from Geoffrey Cox:** I regularly meet ministerial colleagues to discuss important issues of common interest, including of course on matters relating to the UK's exit from the EU. It would be inappropriate for me to comment on the detail of those discussions.

The question of the deadline for the EU Settlement Scheme is a matter for the Home Secretary, but I can assure the Member for Edinburgh North and Leith that the Home Office will publish guidance on what will constitute 'reasonable grounds' for missing the deadline for the EU Settlement Scheme.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-16/900237/>

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

*The following three questions all received the same answer*

### **Refugees: Children**

**Christine Jardine (Liberal Democrat)** [1426] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied child refugees have been resettled in the UK from elsewhere in Europe under Section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 in (a) total and (b) in (i) 2016, (ii) 2017, (iii) 2018, (iv) 2019 and (v) 2020 to date.

**Christine Jardine (Liberal Democrat)** [1427] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reasons the Government has not yet fulfilled its duty under Section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 to relocate 480 unaccompanied child refugees to the UK from elsewhere in Europe.

**Christine Jardine (Liberal Democrat)** [1428] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when her Department plans to fulfil the UK's duty under Section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 to relocate 480 unaccompanied child refugees to the UK from elsewhere in Europe.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** The Government remains fully committed to relocating the specified number of 480 unaccompanied children to the UK under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 (the Dubs Amendment) as soon as possible. Over 220 children were transferred to the UK under section 67 when the Calais camp was cleared in late 2016. Since then we have been making further progress with participating States, France, Greece and Italy, to refer more eligible children to move closer to achieving this commitment. We will publish further data on the transfers once we have fulfilled this commitment.

Meeting our obligations under section 67 is a complex task which has involved negotiating separate referral and transfer arrangements with each of the three participating States. These arrangements are crucial to the process and must operate within the confines of the participating States' domestic legislation and policy.

The transfer of children is also dependent on the availability of appropriate local

authority care placements. The Government is very grateful to local authorities who have offered placements for these children as well as those who continue to look after large numbers of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC). The availability of placements for children arriving under section 67 has been affected by two issues. Firstly, by the high numbers of UASC who have arrived in the UK spontaneously in recent years – for example, in 2018, the UK received 3,063 asylum claims from unaccompanied children. This follows previous years which have seen similarly high numbers of unaccompanied children arriving in the UK – 3,254 in 2015, 3,290 in 2016 and 2,401 in 2017. According to the latest Department for Education statistics, there are more than 5,000 UASC in English local authorities alone – the highest figure in at least 10 years. Secondly, during this period, there has been increasing numbers of resident looked-after children being taken into local authority care, which has placed further pressure on local authorities. Against this background, local authorities have continued to provide offers and the Government has made good progress towards meeting its obligations under section 67.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-08/1426/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-08/1427/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-08/1428/>

### **Guardianship**

**Damian Hinds (Conservative)** [71] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she has taken to provide independent legal guardianship for (a) separated, (b) unaccompanied and (c) trafficked children in the UK.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** This Government takes its responsibility for the welfare of unaccompanied, trafficked and asylum-seeking children very seriously and has stringent safeguards in place.

Local authorities are responsible for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children in their area, including separated, unaccompanied and child victims of modern slavery. Unaccompanied children looked after by local authorities are entitled to the same services as any other looked-after child. Under these arrangements, unaccompanied children are assessed with regard to their individual needs and provided with access to education, accommodation and health services. They will be assigned a social worker and an independent reviewing officer, who are responsible for overseeing their care arrangements.

In addition, unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in England are able to access independent advice and assistance on the asylum process and their interactions with other central and local government agencies, through the Refugee Council's Children's Advice Project. Scotland and Northern Ireland also provide separate guardianship services.

Local children's services will work in close co-operation with the police and other statutory agencies to offer potentially trafficked children the support they require. In addition to statutory support, the Government has successfully expanded Independent Child Trafficking Guardians (ICTGs) this year, so that ICTGs are operational in one third of all local authorities in England and Wales. ICTGs are an additional source of advice and support for all trafficked children, irrespective of nationality, and somebody who can advocate on their behalf.

These arrangements ensure unaccompanied children are provided with the support

and advice that they need.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-12-19/71/>

### **Asylum: Families**

**Angus Brendan MacNeil (SNP) [1702]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many travel documents were issued to beneficiaries of international protection by the UK in 2019.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** The Home Office publishes data on the number of travel documents issued to those people who are not British and cannot use or get a passport. Information correct to August 2019 can be accessed via:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/asylum-transparency-data-august-2019>

Table TD01. Information regarding eligibility for travel documents can be viewed at <https://www.gov.uk/apply-home-office-travel-document>.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-09/1702/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Asylum: Families**

**Angus Brendan MacNeil (SNP) [1700]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for family reunification with a beneficiary of international protection were received by the UK in 2019, by nationality.

**Angus Brendan MacNeil (SNP) [1701]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many decisions were made on applications for family reunification with a beneficiary of international protection in 2019; and how many of those applications were (a) accepted and (b) rejected.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The Home Office publishes data on Family Reunion in the 'Immigration Statistics Quarterly Release'.

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

Data on grants of Family Reunion visas by nationality are published in table Fam\_D01 of the asylum and resettlement detailed datasets. Data on applications and outcomes of Family Reunion visas by nationality are included in the 'Family: other' visa subgroup in tables Vis\_D01 and Vis\_D02 of the

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/managed-migration-datasets#entry-clearance-visas-granted-outside-the-uk>

Although 'family reunion' visas are not separately available, the vast majority of 'Family: other' visas are family reunion.

Information on how to use the dataset can be found in the 'Notes' page of the workbook. The latest data relates to year ending September 2019. Additionally, the Home Office publishes a high-level overview of the data in the asylum summary tables and entry clearance summary tables. The 'contents' sheet contains an overview of all available data on asylum and entry clearance visas.

Information on future Home Office statistical release dates can be found in the 'Research and statistics calendar'.

[https://www.gov.uk/search/research-and-statistics?keywords=immigration&content\\_store\\_document\\_type=upcoming\\_statistics&organisations%5B%5D=home-office&order=relevance](https://www.gov.uk/search/research-and-statistics?keywords=immigration&content_store_document_type=upcoming_statistics&organisations%5B%5D=home-office&order=relevance)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-09/1700/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-09/1701/>

### Asylum: Children

**Carol Monaghan (SNP)** [900234] What discussions he has had with Cabinet colleagues on the legal implications of Clause 37 of the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill.

**Reply from Geoffrey Cox:** I cannot comment on Cabinet discussions, or on whether or not I have given legal advice.

What I can say is that the Government remains fully committed to the principle of family reunion and supporting the most vulnerable children. Clause 37 of the Withdrawal Agreement Bill does not represent a change of government policy in that regard. It simply removes the statutory requirement to negotiate.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-16/900234/>

Clause 37, referred to above, can be read on p37 of

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-01/0001/20001.pdf>

### Asylum: Housing

**Catherine West (Labour)** [1775] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many residents were accommodated in each asylum reception centre in the UK at the end of 2019.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** Asylum seekers who would otherwise be destitute can apply for free accommodation and cash support to cover their essential living needs whilst their cases are considered. If they have an emergency need for accommodation they can ask to be put in initial accommodation whilst their support applications are being processed (asylum seekers receive section 98 support while in initial accommodation).

Quarterly data, correct as to September 2019, regarding the number of residents in initial accommodation is included in the published statistics at;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-year-ending-september-2019/how-many-people-do-we-grant-asylum-or-protection-to#support-provided-to-asylum-seekers>

The Home Office does not publish data for each separate initial accommodation.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-09/1775/>

### Deportation

**Stephen Doughty (Labour Co-op)** [1444] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people were wrongly (a) detained and (b) deported by her Department in each of the last six months.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The Home Office publishes data from 2012 onwards in its Annual Report and Accounts for the number of claimants who have been compensated following legal challenge of the lawfulness of their detention.

Whilst providing a clear sense of overall scale, the numbers are subject to caveats: (i) 'number of cases' is drawn from records of unique names of people, solicitors acting for them and Government Legal Department reference numbers; (ii) amounts paid are the amounts paid in each year (individual cases might see payments in more than one year, for example, if there are staged payments that fall across financial year boundaries).

Providing the information requested in relation to deportations or returns, would require a manual check of individual records and I am therefore not able to provide this to you. In a small number of cases each year individuals are brought back to the UK either by the Home Office or a Court for further consideration of their case.

When this occurs, we review all circumstances with the Courts as appropriate.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-08/1444/>

### Deportation: Compensation

**Stephen Doughty (Labour Co-op) [1437]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much compensation her Department paid to people wrongly (a) detained and (b) deported by her Department in each of the last six months.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Compensation data for people wrongly detained is published in the Home Office Annual Report and Accounts but is not published on a month by month basis.

Published information for financial year 2018-19, for wrongful detention, can be found in the Home Office's 2018-19 Annual Report and Accounts on page 105.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/807126/6.5571\\_HO\\_Annual\\_Report\\_201920\\_WEB.PDF](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/807126/6.5571_HO_Annual_Report_201920_WEB.PDF)

Compensation data is published in the Home Office Annual Report and Accounts but is not published separately for wrongful deportation

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-08/1437/>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

### Asylum Claims: Child Trafficking

**Baroness Doocey (Liberal Democrat):** To ask Her Majesty's Government what is the Home Office's policy on the processing of an asylum claim when an applicant says they have been the victim of child trafficking.

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

My Lords, just under half of all child trafficking victims identified in the UK are British citizens and are not subject to immigration control. If a child is thought to be a victim of trafficking, their safety and welfare will be addressed as a priority. Where an accompanied child is thought to be a victim of trafficking, their asylum claim will usually be processed after a conclusive grounds decision on whether they are a victim of trafficking.

**Baroness Doocey:** ... is [the Minister] aware that where an individual police force fails to investigate a complaint of child trafficking, the Home Office is using the fact that the police did not investigate to discredit the victim and as a reason not to grant asylum? The victim is therefore left without any support and is denied justice. Their only option is to battle it out through the courts. Could the Minister say whether this is Home Office policy?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** It is certainly not Home Office policy that a child who has been trafficked should not receive the support they so need through the various agencies that can support them. In fact, if that child is an unaccompanied child, they will be in the care of a local authority, from which they will have all the support they need.

**Lord Touhig (Labour):** My Lords, the United Nations reports that one migrant child goes missing or is reported dead every single day. At the end of this month, together with colleagues from both Houses, I will take a report through the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on protecting vulnerable migrant children. Does the Minister agree that we can show the best of being British: that, although we are leaving the European Union, we can take a moral lead if we can tell our European colleagues that this Government have accepted the Dubs amendment?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** My Lords, I agreed with the noble Lord almost until the end. We can show our European partners what our record looks like on taking children who need our refuge and support. Yesterday, I gave the history of what we have done and set out what we intend to do. Next year, we intend to take 5,000 people through resettlement schemes. I am proud of our record; we are an example to all the states in Europe.

**The Lord Bishop of Worcester:** Will the Minister update the House on any progress that is being made on the provision of independent guardians and advocates for victims of modern slavery?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** As the right reverend Prelate may know, independent child trafficking guardians are currently operational in a third of all local authorities in England and Wales, and we currently remain committed to the rollout nationally.

**Lord Kennedy of Southwark (Labour Co-op):** My Lords, what would a victim of child trafficking have to demonstrate to satisfy the Home Office that they are a victim?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Usually, a victim of child trafficking is an extremely traumatised individual; that should be evident. I am sure there are assessments of vulnerability. In particular, the circumstances in which a child arrived in the UK might indicate that they are a victim of child trafficking. It may also, however, be established through the course of their seeking asylum here that they are a victim of trafficking. It does not always come out initially.

**Baroness Hamwee (Liberal Democrat):** My Lords, like the right reverend Prelate, I want to ask about the progress of the scheme for independent child trafficking guardians, following the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner saying that we should “ensure that all child victims of slavery are fully supported towards safety.”

The role of the guardians is of course to support. In October, I asked the Minister whether the piloting and valuation of the scheme was going so slowly as to jeopardise the full rollout which was recommended by the recent independent review. Can she reassure me in any way that the Government have not put this into the long grass and are not seeking, by piloting for such a long period, to avoid the full implementation of the scheme?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The noble Baroness is right to raise that point. Of course, most schemes are subject to a piloting process to enable us—as the noble Baroness says—to evaluate them and make sure they are working well before full rollout. I can confirm that that is the situation and that we anticipate full national rollout pending the full evaluation.

**Lord Alton of Liverpool (Crossbench):** My Lords, will the Minister return to the answer that she gave to the noble Lord, Lord Touhig, about the Dubs amendment? Although the Government say—I believe the Minister—that they do not intend to change the policy, many of us are therefore bewildered that the amendment incorporated by your Lordships’ House into the legislation will be removed. If there is a Division here next week, many will have to vote with the noble Lord, Lord Dubs, because they want to see that policy retained in law. Will the Minister go back to her colleagues, especially to the Home Secretary, explain the situation in which many here now find themselves and seek to find a way to prevent a Division being necessary?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The noble Lord is absolutely right that the policy has not changed. Our commitment to include Clause 37 in the Bill shows our commitment to unaccompanied child refugees seeking family reunion. We have already been in touch with the Commission about how that reciprocity would work going forward.

**Lord Laming (Crossbench):** My Lords, will the Minister do all she can to persuade police forces to restore the specialist child protection teams, many of which have been withdrawn and seen their work handed over to general policing at the expense of the well-being of children?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** I concur with the noble Lord that safeguarding has to be at the heart of what all public services provide, particularly for the police, because it may not be initially evident that a child is traumatised after being trafficked. I will certainly take that point back.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-16/debates/F04E42FB-E631-4682-9DA2-67EDCE688B99/AsylumClaimsChildTrafficking>

## Welsh Assembly Ministerial Statement

### Unaccompanied children seeking sanctuary in Wales

**Jane Hutt (Deputy Minister and Chief Whip) and Julie (Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services):** Last week, we wrote to the Home Secretary in support of the campaign to retain the duty to negotiate for the current refugee family reunion rights to remain in the EU Withdrawal Bill 2019. This week in plenary, the First Minister made his same position clear. Last week, the House of Commons voted to ignore the best interests of refugee children in Europe and deny them the right to a family life in the UK. It is of great regret to us all that the UK Government has taken a position contrary to the 'proud history' record it often invokes in respect of granting asylum to those that need it. ...

In Wales, we do what we safely can to welcome unaccompanied asylum seeking children who arrive here with no family to go to and we have taken a range of positive actions to support them. Wales is home to around 100 unaccompanied asylum seeking children without families to join. Most of these young people do not arrive in a planned way, via a government scheme ... This places unique pressures on our social care and other public services. This is why we have invested over half a million pounds in funding social work support, training, resources and research for social workers and foster carers to build their professional capacity, cultural competence and confidence in supporting these young people. We treat unaccompanied asylum seeking children as looked after children with the same rights and entitlements that the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 provides. The legal duties to provide for these young people rests with our public services. Therefore, we want them to be as equipped and skilled as they need to be to respond to the particular needs of these young people. ...

Alongside our public services, we want our Third sector and grassroots partners to continue their efforts, working alongside statutory organisations, supporting and supplementing their work. The Welsh Refugee Council and partners are funded by the Welsh Government to deliver the Asylum Rights Programme and within that, age dispute advocacy is provided for these young people in addition to the advocacy which is available via the Social Services Act. ...

Wales has provided placements for 18 young people in Wales via the Dubs Scheme. This number, when compared against the numbers accommodated in England and our respective nation's populations, shows a higher proportion with us here in Wales. For a small country, we are pulling our weight. Again, proportionally, more of Wales' local authorities provide homes to these young people than English councils. We would like to offer sanctuary to more young people and we believe that if the UK Government was serious about protecting child refugees, it would properly fund schemes such as Dubs and enable local authorities to increase their capacity to support. The Dubs Scheme has never been funded or actively supported ...

To quote Lord Dubs, a powerful advocate for refugee children, it would be a 'betrayal of Britain's humanitarian position' if the UK Government didn't do all it could to support some of the most vulnerable people in the world, who through no fault of their own have fled war, poverty, persecution, climate change and terrorism. This support should include the proper funding of local authorities by the UK Government to deliver for these young people.

**To read the full statement see**

<https://gov.wales/written-statement-unaccompanied-children-seeking-sanctuary-wales>

## Press Release

**Ex-charity worker convicted of giving unlawful immigration advice**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ex-charity-worker-convicted-of-giving-unlawful-immigration-advice>

## New Publications

### **EU Settlement Scheme Statistics, December 2019**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/857589/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics-december-2019.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/857589/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics-december-2019.pdf)

### **Guidance: Secure your vehicle to help stop illegal immigration**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/secure-your-vehicle-to-help-stop-illegal-immigration>

### **Law Commission Report: Simplification of the Immigration Rules**

[https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/lawcom-prod-storage-11jsxou24uy7q/uploads/2020/01/6.6136\\_LC\\_Immigration-Rules-Report\\_FINAL\\_311219\\_WEB.pdf](https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/lawcom-prod-storage-11jsxou24uy7q/uploads/2020/01/6.6136_LC_Immigration-Rules-Report_FINAL_311219_WEB.pdf)

### **Protecting our EU citizens: short films of EU citizens who live in Scotland talking about settled status**

<https://www.civilsocietybrexit.scot/watch-protecting-our-eu-citizens/>

### **London's children and young people who are not British citizens: A profile**

[https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/final\\_londons\\_children\\_and\\_young\\_people\\_who\\_are\\_not\\_british\\_citizens.pdf](https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/final_londons_children_and_young_people_who_are_not_british_citizens.pdf)

### **Without My Family: The impact of family separation on child refugees in the UK**

<https://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Without-my-family-report-AW-Jan2020-LoRes.pdf>

### **Release arrangements for immigration detainees are medically unsafe**

<https://www.bmj.com/content/368/bmj.m15>

## News

### **900,000 EU citizens in UK yet to apply for settled status**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2020/jan/16/nearly-1-million-eu-citizens-in-uk-yet-to-apply-for-settled-status>

### **Brexit: There will be no automatic deportation for EU citizens - No 10**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-51146992>

### **Brexit: UK has ruled out automatic deportation of EU citizens, says Verhofstadt**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2020/jan/17/uk-rules-out-automatic-deportation-of-eu-citizens-verhofstadt-brexit>

### **Brexit: UK scheme for EU nationals risks creating 'this generation's Windrush', charity warns**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/brexit-eu-nationals-living-uk-leave-windrush-a9285456.html>

### **Government urged to reunite child refugees with families**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jan/10/government-urged-to-reunite-child-refugees-with-families>

**100,000 children in London 'without secure immigration status'**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jan/09/100000-children-in-london-without-secure-immigration-status>

**Keeping young refugees from their loved ones is inhumane**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18155928.keeping-young-refugees-loved-ones-inhumane/>

**UK's attempt to repatriate British children from Syria to be rejected**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jan/15/uks-attempt-to-resettle-refugee-children-from-syria-to-be-rejected>

**Child refugees: peer refuses to drop fight to keep protections**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jan/14/child-refugees-peer-refuses-to-drop-fight-to-keep-protections>

**Brexit: Boris Johnson could face Lords defeat over decision to scrap protections for child refugees**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/boris-johnson-brexit-child-refugee-protections-lords-a9289936.html>

**What will the UK's new immigration system mean for Wales?**

<https://seneddresearch.blog/2020/01/17/what-will-the-uks-new-immigration-system-mean-for-wales/>

**Swansea charity worker who fled DR Congo wins asylum fight**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-51089598>

**Woman 'feared for life' after guards restrained her in immigration centre**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jan/13/woman-feared-for-life-after-guards-restrained-her-in-immigration-centre>

**UK immigration rules are unworkable, says Law Commission**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jan/14/uk-immigration-rules-unworkable-law-commission>

**Immigration and Article 8: what did we learn in 2019?**

<https://ukhumanrightsblog.com/2020/01/17/immigration-and-article-8-what-did-we-learn-in-2019/>

[TOP](#)

## Equality

### Scottish Parliament Debate

**Improving the Lives of Gypsy Travellers**

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12454&i=112588#ScotParlOR>

## Scottish Parliament Motion

**S5M-20404 Christina McKelvie (SNP): Improving the Lives of Gypsy/Travellers** – That the Parliament welcomes the publication of the joint Scottish Government and COSLA action plan, Improving the Lives of Scotland’s Gypsy/Travellers, which aims to deliver better outcomes in the key areas of accommodation, health and education, and incomes; recognises the vital role of local government to transform the life chances of Gypsy/Travellers across the country; commends the Gypsy/Traveller community for the role that it has played in developing the plan, and supports its continued involvement to shape and deliver the actions at the national and local level; welcomes the contribution that Gypsy/Traveller communities have made to Scottish history and continue to make to its culture and heritage, and agrees to actively challenge any form of prejudice or discrimination towards Gypsy/Travellers and work together within a human rights framework to accelerate improvements for this community.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-20404>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

### Equal Pay: Ethnic Groups

**Rachael Maskell (Labour Co-op) [1084]** To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office, what the pay gap has been for each ethnic minority community recorded in each of the last 20 years.

**Reply from Chloe Smith:** The information requested falls under the remit of the UK Statistics Authority. I have therefore asked the Authority to respond.

Estimates of pay gaps by ethnic group and disability status are calculated from data gathered in the Annual Population Survey (APS), a survey of people resident in households. It should be noted that earnings questions in the APS are asked only of employees, meaning that the information which follows excludes the self-employed.

Table 1 presents disability pay gaps for employees in the United Kingdom. To define disability, we use the Government Statistical Service (GSS) harmonised “core” definition<sup>1</sup>. This identifies someone as “disabled” if they have a physical or mental health condition or illness that has lasted or is expected to last 12 months or more that reduces their ability to carry-out day-to-day activities. A positive percentage indicates that non-disabled employees earn more on average than disabled employees. Estimates are presented between 2014 and 2018. We are unable to provide comparable estimates prior to 2014 due to changes made to disability questions in the APS in 2013.

Table 2 presents ethnicity pay gaps for employees in Great Britain, comparing average earnings for different ethnic groups with average earnings of White British employees. A positive percentage indicates that White British employees earn more on average than the given ethnic group. Estimates are presented between 2012 and 2018. We are unable to produce estimates prior to 2012 as appropriate survey weights are not available.

<sup>1</sup> <https://gss.civilservice.gov.uk/policy-store/measuring-disability-for-the-equality-act-2010/>

**Table 1: Pay Gaps by disability, UK 2014-2018**

	<i>Pay gap (%)</i>				
Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Pay gap (%)	11.9	12.9	12.7	12.7	12.2

Source: Office for National Statistics - Annual Population Survey

**Table 2: Percentage difference between gross hourly earnings for certain ethnic groups (10 categories) and White British employees, GB 2012-2018**

	<i>Pay gap (%)</i>						
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
White Other	5.0	7.1	6.7	8.9	9.5	8.4	5.8
Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups	2.2	-6.2	1.7	0.3	-2.2	5.5	-2.5
Indian	-10.3	-7.3	-10.5	-5.3	-10.7	-11.0	-12.0
Pakistani	18.9	22.7	25.7	16.7	14.7	16.6	16.9
Bangladeshi	21.6	25.7	29.9	19.4	20.3	21.1	20.2
Chinese	-9.1	-21.8	-14.4	-15.5	-24.8	-27.1	-30.9
Any other Asian	9.1	14.3	20.1	18.5	10.5	9.8	4.0
Black/African/Caribbean/ Black British	5.8	3.3	7.6	10.0	8.8	5.5	9.2
Other ethnic group	7.2	10.5	10.4	9.7	8.1	7.5	9.2

*Source: Office for National Statistics - Annual Population Survey*

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-07/1084/>

### **Religion: National Lottery**

**Tracy Brabin (Labour Co-op) [1443]** To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, what estimate she has made of the proportion of (a) all lottery funding support bids and (b) successful bids for lottery funding support, from religious organisations.

**Reply from Helen Whately:** Good cause income raised by the National Lottery funds arts, heritage, sport and communities (covering health, education, environment and charitable causes). It is distributed at arms length of Government by twelve Lottery Distributing Bodies.

Religious and faith based organisations are eligible to apply for National Lottery funding and are typically required to demonstrate that projects will benefit the wider community and will not have any religious content.

Information about the religious status of organisations that apply for grants is not consistently collected, so it has not been possible to analyse the data on this basis.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-08/1443/>

## **UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer**

### **Education: Travellers**

**Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth (Conservative) [HL108]** To ask Her Majesty's Government what progress they have made in improving education outcomes for Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller communities.

**Reply from Lord Agnew of Oulton:** The latest published data, including breakdowns for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) pupils, relates to 2019 at key stage 2 and 2018 at key stage 4. At both stages, the data showed a small improvement in headline attainment measures for this group compared to the previous year. At key stage 2, the percentage of GRT pupils attaining the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics rose from 19% in 2018 to 20% in 2019. At key stage 4, the percentage achieving grades 9-4 in English and mathematics rose from 11.8% in 2017 to 13.1% in 2018.

The government is taking significant steps forward to support attainment and

progression for all pupils, including GRT pupils. Our education reforms, including those aimed at improving teaching; encouraging good attendance and behaviour; and strengthening the curriculum and examination system, are designed to improve opportunity and standards for all pupils. These reforms are underpinned by school accountability measures, which are intended to encourage schools to focus more closely on the attainment of all their pupils.

Through the pupil premium; we are addressing low economic circumstances. This is a key factor that predicts future educational outcomes, and affects a high proportion of GRT children. Since 2011, we have provided over £15 billion of this additional funding, with a further £2.4 billion being distributed in this financial year.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-01-07/HL108/>

## Press Release

**Scottish Human Rights Commission calls on MSPs to embed human rights in efforts to achieve Sustainable Development Goals**

<http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/news/commission-calls-on-msps-to-embed-human-rights-in-efforts-to-achieve-sustainable-development-goals/>

TOP

## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

#### **Hate Crimes: Prosecution Rate**

3. **Bob Blackman (Conservative):** What steps the CPS is taking to improve the prosecution rate for hate crimes. [900228]

8. **Sally-Ann Hart (Conservative):** What steps the CPS is taking to improve the prosecution rate for hate crimes. [900235]

**Reply from the Solicitor General (Michael Ellis):** The CPS is committed to tackling hate crime, working closely with partners across government under the hate crime action plan. The CPS has trained its prosecutors, drawing on expertise and insight from key community groups, and has established national and local scrutiny panels to inform decision making. As a result, last year the number of convictions for hate crimes with a recorded sentence uplift increased to 73.6%, the highest rate yet.

**Bob Blackman:** I thank my right hon. and learned Friend for that answer. Antisemitism and hate crimes are on the rise right across this country. What further action can he take to make sure that the perpetrators are brought to justice and we eliminate hate crime forever?

**Reply from the Solicitor General:** I thank my hon. Friend for that question. He is right to be concerned about this issue. The rise in antisemitism is significant. One thing that has been happening is that mandatory hate crime training for the CPS has been developed, with community involvement, including that of the Community Security Trust. That has been delivered, and the CPS has refreshed a guide for lawyers on antisemitism, with the assistance of that trust. The guide includes key aspects of the law and victim support. We must do everything we can to stamp out this scourge of antisemitism.

**Sally-Ann Hart:** I thank my right hon. and learned Friend for his response. The internet

has hugely positive values, but it can allow the spread of hate crime behind a veil of anonymity. What steps is his Department taking to ensure that crime online attracts and is subject to the same penalties in law as offline crime?

**Reply from the Solicitor General:** The proportion of hate crime convictions with an announced and recorded sentence uplift has increased from just 12.1% in 2014 to 73.6% now. My hon. Friend is right about online instances of hate crime, and the hate crime conviction rate has also increased in the past decade significantly. It now stands at 84%, but we are continuing to work on dealing with the issue of hate crime online.

**Peter Kyle (Labour):** Overall prosecutions have fallen from a quarter to only one in 10. Why is the CPS prosecuting so few people for hate crime? Why is the number of prosecutions falling, not rising? Is that not deterring people from reporting hate crime in the first place?

**Reply from the Solicitor General:** There is considerable evidence that people are particularly concerned about hate crime, and I do not think they are being put off making complaints to the police about that. We are constantly liaising at the Crown Prosecution Service with local police forces about their conduct, and we focus very much on getting results in instances of hate crime. As I have said, the number of convictions for hate crime has increased to its highest ever level.

**Jim McMahon (Labour Co-op):** There is no doubt that the rise of Islamophobia is causing real concern and fear in the community, and particularly in the community that I represent in Oldham. The online platforms have been allowed to self-regulate for far too long. It would be easy for them to have a simple “report it once” button that automatically feeds through to the police. Will the Government do far more to make sure that victims are protected and that we raise the tone of the debate in our politics?

**Reply from the Solicitor General:** The hon. Gentleman is right to focus on this issue. The issue of Islamophobia is of particular concern, as are all forms of hate crime. We see examples of cases in this area being robustly prosecuted throughout the country, and likewise we see examples of courts recognising the seriousness of these offences with exemplary sentences. The sentencing tribunal has noted that such sentences have been increased because of the Islamophobic or antisemitic element, or because of elements relating to other areas of hate crime. That is right and should be a warning to all.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-16/debates/5F2C8AAE-5F7F-4595-A20B-5617B1C471FE/HateCrimesProsecutionRate>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

### Hate Crime

**Matthew Offord (Conservative) [1441]** To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, what assessment her Department has made of the equity of the protections afforded under the Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006 to those on grounds of race and those afforded to religious groups.

**Luke Hall:** The Government takes all forms of hate crime very seriously. We have one of the strongest legislative frameworks in the world to protect communities from hostility, violence and bigotry, and to deal with the perpetrators of hate crime. We have asked the Law Commission to undertake a full review of the coverage and approach of current hate crime legislative provisions. The Commission is due to open a public consultation in early 2020.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-08/1441/>

Information about the review referred to above can be read at <https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/law-commission-review-into-hate-crime-announced/>

### Religiously Aggravated Offences

**Matthew Offord (Conservative)** [1723] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what information his Department holds on the religion of victims of religiously aggravated hated crime.

**Kit Malthouse:** The Home Office has collected data on the number of religious hate crimes recorded by the police in England and Wales by perceived religion of the victim on a mandatory basis since 2017/18.

The latest available data, for 2018/19, can be found in 'Hate Crime, England and Wales, 2018/19' which can be accessed here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/hate-crime-england-and-wales-2018-to-2019>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-09/1723/>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

### Football: Racism

**Lord Addington (Liberal Democrat):** To ask Her Majesty's Government what support they have identified that the Football Association requires to address levels of racism in football.

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (Baroness Barran):** My Lords, racism and all forms of discrimination have no place in football or society. We must confront this vile behaviour. Last February, the Government brought together football stakeholders, including the FA, for an anti-discrimination summit, and in July the football authorities set out their list of actions to tackle discrimination, including increasing the minimum sanction for discriminatory behaviour, introducing stronger education measures and improving reporting systems. I met with the FA yesterday and discussed their actions on discrimination. While progress is definitely being made, obviously there is more to do. We will be calling on the footballing authorities for a further update shortly.

**Lord Addington:** I thank the Minister for that response. However, can the Government give us an undertaking that they will undertake some of the activities which the Football Association has brought forward in its snappily titled "mandatory education programme offer," ensuring in particular that every fan knows what constitutes racism and the effect that it has not only on players but on fellow fans?

**Reply from Baroness Barran:** I understand the urgency in the noble Lord's question and encourage him to look at the FA's website—I am sure he knows it better than I do—which has excellent links to education resources. The Government cannot ensure that every person has seen it, but we are working closely with and keeping very close tabs on the FA to ensure that it takes this responsibility very seriously.

**Lord Woolley of Woodford (Crossbench):** My Lords, does the Minister agree that the tackling of racial abuse in the Premiership and the persistent racial disparities within the Premier League is moving painfully slowly? One third of Premiership footballers are non-white—in old money, black—yet we have only one black manager, Nuno Espírito Santo of Wolverhampton Wanderers. I am not sure if there are any Wolverhampton fans here. If so, sorry about last night. I am not sure if there are any assistant coaches, chief executives or board members of colour. Can the Minister pledge to convene a meeting with the

necessary actors, including the police, to encourage, and where possible demand, a comprehensive programme to tackle the scourge of racism and close the racial disparities? The beautiful game must confront and deal with this ugly racism.

**Reply from Baroness Barran:** I thank the noble Lord for his question. He raises important points about diversity across all levels and all roles within the game. For the benefit of Chelsea fans, yesterday I met Paul Elliott, who I gather was a former captain of Chelsea, who now chairs the Inclusion Advisory Board for the FA. He felt more confident about the progress that is being made, particularly in relation to coaches. I thank the noble Baroness, Lady Bull, who is not in her place, for sending me research on the importance of this point. Sport England is investing £2 million a year into the FA to support its work in ensuring that the coaching workforce is more diverse. The board of the FA contains four women and two people of colour, so it is trying to lead from the front.

**Lord Hayward (Conservative):** My Lords, I welcome the opening comments of my noble friend in identifying that this is an issue not only of racism in football but of diversity in sport and society in general and that we have to tackle it in all forms. My own sport of rugby union faced its difficulty in relation to homophobia, and I pay credit to the RFU and other organisations last year who worked so well with my club and others to tackle such issues. However, is it not inherent in our society that if we are to give advice to others, the language used by some Members in this House should be temperate, sensible and appropriate and not what I, as a gay man, would deem to be abusive?

**Reply from Baroness Barran:** I will comment on my noble friend's final remark first. I can only agree with him. Each of us individually has to take responsibility for the language we use and put ourselves in the shoes of those who might find it offensive in any way. Work continues in relation to homophobia, in football specifically, and we very much welcome the Rainbow Laces campaign which the FA led last year.

**Lord Bassam of Brighton (Labour):** My Lords, it is now 20 years since the Football (Disorder) Act was enacted to tackle racist thugs. Does the Minister agree that, given the shocking 123% rise in racist incidents since 2016, now might be the time to consider increasing penalties and strengthening powers to tackle this appalling problem in our football grounds?

**Reply from Baroness Barran:** The noble Lord is very patient. He raised this point only 19 years ago, but we are now further on. The question of the efficacy of the legislation can be divided into two parts: whether the legislation is fit for purpose and is being implemented properly, and if it is not fit for purpose whether we need to amend it. My honourable friend the Minister for Sport is seeking a meeting with the Home Secretary to discuss this.

**Baroness Grey-Thompson (Crossbench):** My Lords, many acts of racism occur in grounds during matches. However, social media has become a breeding ground and some providers allow the worst abuse to remain posted. Have Her Majesty's Government considered how the online harms consultation White Paper could be used to look at this form of abuse?

**Reply from Baroness Barran:** ... The noble Baroness is absolutely right. Again, from talking yesterday with the FA, it is clear that players feel racism when they turn on their phones as well as on the field. That is very much part of what we will be considering in the online harms Bill.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-16/debates/9C21E148-0F6C-4395-827F-C20EE520E76C/FootballRacism>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

### Equal Pay: Ethnic Groups

**Lord Shinkwin (Conservative) [HL168]** To ask Her Majesty's Government when they intend to publish their response to the Ethnicity Pay Gap Reporting Consultation, first published on 18 October 2018.

**Reply from Lord Duncan of Springbank:** The Government ran a consultation from October 2018 to January 2019 on Ethnicity Pay Reporting. The Government met with businesses and representative organisations to understand the barriers towards reporting. A response will be published in due course.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-01-07/HL168/>

*The consultation referred to above, which is now closed, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/ethnicity-pay-reporting>*

## Press Release

**New guidance calls for employers to step up and protect staff from harassment**

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/news/new-guidance-calls-employers-step-and-protect-staff-harassment>

## New Publications

**Racism in Football: Tackling Abusive Behaviour**

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/LLN-2020-0012/LLN-2020-0012.pdf>

**Preventing sexual harassment at work: a guide for employers**

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/preventing-sexual-harassment-at-work-guide-for-employers.pdf>

**Sexual harassment and harassment at work: technical guidance**

[https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/sexual\\_harassment\\_and\\_harassment\\_at\\_work.pdf](https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/sexual_harassment_and_harassment_at_work.pdf)

## News

**Three frontbench Labour leadership candidates accused of hypocrisy over anti-Semitism**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2020/01/18/labour-leadership-election-hustings-latest-news-candidates-rebecca/>

**Fresh anti-semitism concerns after Jeremy Corbyn nominates Karie Murphy for peerage**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/fresh-anti-semitism-concerns-after-jeremy-corbyn-nominates-karie-murphy-for-peerage-x5b0980lx>

**Anger as 'vile' neo-Nazi stickers appear around Edinburgh city centre**

<https://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/crime/anger-vile-neo-nazi-stickers-appear-around-edinburgh-city-centre-1363950>

**Sheffield students paid to tackle racist language on campus**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/education-51098539>

**BAME offenders 'far more likely than others' to be jailed for drug offences**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jan/15/bame-offenders-most-likely-to-be-jailed-for-drug-offences-research-reveals>

**Black parents, private school will not save your child from racism. I should know, I suffered at one**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/private-school-racism-black-students-state-exclusions-a9286021.html>

**White supremacist sticker removed from Sunderland bus stop**

<https://tellmamauk.org/white-supremacist-sticker-removed-from-sunderland-bus-stop/>

**Twitter apologises for letting ads target neo-Nazis and bigots**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-51112238>

**The 'playing the race card' accusation is just a way to silence us**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/jan/16/playing-the-race-card-racism-black-experience>

**As antisemitism renews, so must the fight against it – which is what 34 governments are doing today**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/ihra-antisemitism-holocaust-remembrance-a9289656.html>

**Tackling antisemitism is now a challenge for all parties**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/tackling-antisemitism-is-now-a-challenge-for-all-parties-08g8d5jt3>

**Racism in football: Government must work with us on problem, says FA's Paul Elliott**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/football/51097348>

TOP

## Other Scottish Parliament and Government

### Scottish Parliament Written Answer

#### Promotion of secular education

**S5W-26871 John Finnie (Green):** To ask the Scottish Government when it last met groups that promote secular education and what was discussed.

**Reply from John Swinney:** Scottish Government officials and Ministers meet with a wide range of organisations with a role or interest in education issues. This can make it difficult to be completely sure as to the most recent meeting with any single organisation. Following a search of the Scottish Government's records, Scottish Government officials identified a meeting between the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government and the Humanist Society Scotland (HSS) on 19 September 2018. This introductory meeting included discussion of the HSS's key priorities and concerns across a range of policy areas, including their campaign to repeal blasphemy legislation.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-26871>

## Press Releases

### Committee welcomes electoral changes

<https://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/114166.aspx>

### MSPs seek views on defamation reform proposals

<https://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/114240.aspx>

TOP

## Other UK Parliament and Government

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

#### Religious Buildings: Security

**Gareth Thomas (Labour Co-op)** [1266] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much financial assistance she has made available to improve security for people attending (a) Hindu Temples, (b) Synagogues, (c) Churches, (d) Mosques, (e) Gurdwaras and (f) other places of worship in the 2019-20 financial year; and if she will make a statement.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** The Home Office are finalising decisions on funding for the 2019-2020 Places of Worship Protective Security Funding Scheme and will notify successful applicants shortly.

Over the first three years, we have awarded 134 grants (45 in Round 3 of the scheme) worth approximately £1.5m to places of worship across England and Wales - with 63 to churches, 49 to mosques, 5 to Hindu temples and 17 to Gurdwaras. We use an Independent Advisory Panel made up of representatives of faith communities to recommend which bids should be funded.

Synagogues are covered by the Jewish Community Protective Security Grant. In 2019-2020 a grant of £14 million was provided, mainly to fund security guarding at all Jewish schools, nurseries and some synagogues.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-08/1266/>

*Information about the Places of Worship Protective Security Funding Scheme, referred to above, can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/places-of-worship-protective-security-funding-scheme-open-for-applications>

*Information about the Jewish Community Protective Security Grant, referred to above, can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/funding-for-tighter-security-to-protect-jewish-schools-from-anti-semitism>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-19/181646/>

#### Prisoners: Religion

**Matthew Offord (Conservative)** [1445] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, if his Department will collate statistics on the religious affiliations of the prison population.

**Reply from Lucy Frazer:** Statistics on the religious affiliations of the prison population are published as part of the department's *Offender Management Statistics Quarterly* release.

The most recent data (based on the prison population as at 30 September 2019) can be found in Table 1.5 at the following link:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/842604/Population\\_Q2\\_2019.xlsx](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/842604/Population_Q2_2019.xlsx)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-08/1445/>

## New Publication

**Letter from Prime Minister Boris Johnson to Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/857586/Nicola\\_Sturgeon\\_20200114.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/857586/Nicola_Sturgeon_20200114.pdf)

TOP

## Other News

**Charities who have missed their reporting deadlines need to submit information quickly to avoid reputational damage**

<https://www.oscr.org.uk/news/charities-who-have-missed-their-reporting-deadlines-should-submit-quickly/>

TOP

## Bills in Progress

\*\* new or updated this week

### Scottish Parliament

**Children (Scotland) Bill**

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

**Civil Partnership (Scotland) Bill**

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/112997.aspx>

**\*\* Disclosure (Scotland) Bill**

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

Stage 1 Debate

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12459&i=112663#ScotParlOR>

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

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

### UK Parliament

**Asylum Support (Prescribed Period) Bill**

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/asylum-support-prescribed-period.html>

## **\*\* European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill**

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/europeanunionwithdrawalagreement.html>

Second Reading, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-13/debates/8EE15EAD-6927-4613-AC95-DA6B64711D28/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-13/debates/8EE15EAD-6927-4613-AC95-DA6B64711D28/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

Committee Stage, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/Lords/2020-01-14/debates/71234BAC-F4F0-4F9E-8F68-9A4F47CC7472/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/Lords/2020-01-14/debates/71234BAC-F4F0-4F9E-8F68-9A4F47CC7472/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

and

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/Lords/2020-01-14/debates/009CC3F1-FD31-4655-90EF-455FDA91B644/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/Lords/2020-01-14/debates/009CC3F1-FD31-4655-90EF-455FDA91B644/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

and

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-15/debates/4D00993A-2CE7-4DDF-AE44-AE73456A7B96/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-15/debates/4D00993A-2CE7-4DDF-AE44-AE73456A7B96/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

and

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-15/debates/DEE80FF8-97FE-4961-97E1-7EC69CFE4DEC/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-15/debates/DEE80FF8-97FE-4961-97E1-7EC69CFE4DEC/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

and

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-16/debates/E966FD8D-C2B9-4BBE-88FF-739E13BE367C/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-16/debates/E966FD8D-C2B9-4BBE-88FF-739E13BE367C/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

and

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-16/debates/3B88FEAD-25EC-4DA0-8344-EAFC0EA3FFAE/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-16/debates/3B88FEAD-25EC-4DA0-8344-EAFC0EA3FFAE/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

Select Committee on the Constitution Report

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld5801/ldselect/ldconst/5/5.pdf>

Letter from the Chief Executive of the Scottish Parliament on legislative consent

[https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-01/0001/LCM\\_20200114.pdf](https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-01/0001/LCM_20200114.pdf)

## **Marriage (Approved Organisations) Bill**

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/marriageapprovedorganisations.html>

## **Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill**

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/refugeesfamilyreunion.html>

## **Windrush Compensation Scheme (Expenditure) Bill**

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/windrushcompensationschemeexpenditure.html>

TOP

## **Consultations**

\*\* new or updated this week

**Community Wellbeing** (closing date 22 January 2020)

<https://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/113583.aspx>

**Civil Partnership (Scotland) Bill** (closing date 31 January 2020)

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/113449.aspx>

**\*\* Defamation and Malicious Publications (Scotland) Bill** (closing date 13 March 2020)  
<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/114208.aspx>

**Gender Recognition Reform (Scotland) Bill** (closing date 17 March 2020)  
<https://tinyurl.com/sxarzv4>

**\*\* Harassment and sexual misconduct in higher education** (closing date 27 March 2020)  
<https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/media/76f6bdd3-bb14-4956-b089-cd1598323d55/consultation-on-harassment-and-sexual-misconduct-in-higher-education.pdf>

**Use of interpreters in the asylum process** (closing date not stated)  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/call-for-evidence-use-of-interpreters-in-the-asylum-process>

**Experiences of Islamophobia** (closing date not stated)  
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/amina-islamophobia>

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

**Police Scotland: Your view counts** (open all year)  
<http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/decision-making/public-consultation/local-policing-consultation>

TOP

## **Job Opportunities**

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

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

TOP

## **Events, Conferences, and Training**

\*\* new or updated this week

**\*\* this week!**

### **EU Settlement Scheme Information Session**

20 January 2020 in Stirling (6.00–9.00)

EU Citizens Rights' Project information session to find out more about the EU Settlement Scheme, when and how to apply, rights of EU citizens in Scotland, and what services and resources are available to provide support. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/qqqkf8l>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Forced Marriage Training**

22 January 2020 in Edinburgh (9.30–4.00)

3 February 2020 in Glasgow (9.30–4.00)

Shakti Womens' Aid training for professionals to provide information about the gendered cultural context of forced marriage and its links to honour-based violence and domestic abuse, learn how the forced marriage and other legislation, can be used to protect children

and adults at risk, and find out about appropriate responses to identified risk and disclosure of forced marriage. For information about the Edinburgh event see <https://tinyurl.com/yg6qy66g> and about the Glasgow event see <https://tinyurl.com/t9twmd8>

### **\*\* Tackling Hate Together**

29 January 2020 in Glasgow (6.00-8.00)

Interfaith Scotland & the Scottish Jewish Archives Centre interfaith dialogue in collaboration with Remembering Srebrenica Scotland. For information contact Maureen Sier [maureen@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:maureen@interfaithscotland.org)

### **Discrimination Law in 2020**

3 February 2020 in Edinburgh (9.00–4.00)

Equality and Human Rights Commission conference to review major discrimination cases from the last year, and provide with authoritative guidance on recent and proposed changes to discrimination legislation. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/vg5gdu7>

### **BME Women's Experiences of Gender Based Violence**

12 February 2020 in Edinburgh (10.00–4.00)

Scottish Women's Aid/Shakti training to raise awareness of the varied issues for black and minority ethnic women and their children experiencing domestic abuse, forced marriage and other types of gender based violence, and explore the social, cultural, and religious factors which impact upon BME women's experiences of gender based violence. For information see <https://womensaid.scot/training-event/bme-womens-experiences-of-gender-based-violence-2/>

### **\*\* Evidencing and Mainstreaming Equality Data**

12 February 2020 in Kirkcaldy (9.30–4.00)

Fife Centre for Equalities training for service providers wishing to improve the quality and usage of their data as a resource to actively promote equality. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/smzko4q>

### **Three mottos to guide our approach to equality, diversity & inclusion**

13 February 2020 in Glasgow (1.00–4.30)

2 June 2020 in Glasgow (1.00–4.30)

Interfaith Scotland course considering diversity in its widest sense including 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 see <https://interfaithscotland.org/get-involved/training> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

### **\*\* The Gathering**

19 and 20 February in Edinburgh

Scotland's largest free voluntary sector event in the UK, a place for everyone working in the sector to network, showcase what they do and learn from each other. For information see <https://scvo.org/the-gathering-2020>

### **\*\* Strengthening Scotland's charity sector**

19 February 2020 at the Gathering in Edinburgh (10.00–11.00)

Discussion with the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government, Maureen Mallon OSCR and Anna Fowlie SCVO about how, together, we can strengthen the brand of charity, it's role and potential in an ever changing world. For information see <https://scvo.org/the-gathering-2020/event-programme/strengthening-scotlands-charity-sector/>

## **\*\* Counting Scotland: the census, the population and the future**

19 February 2020 at the Gathering in Edinburgh (2.00–3.00)

National Records of Scotland presentation to highlight how Scotland's population is changing; how we think it will change further and the implications this has for the third sector and others. We will be highlighting the various statistical information we publish, free of charge, which is available to the third sector. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/va39h35>

## **\*\* Brexit & the voluntary sector**

20 February 2020 at the Gathering in Edinburgh (9.30–10.30)

Civil Society Brexit Project session to provide insight into the main changes, challenges & concerns around Brexit for organisations in Scotland. For information see <https://scvo.org/the-gathering-2020/event-programme/brexit-the-voluntary-sector/>

## **\*\* Telling your charity's story with impact**

20 February 2020 at the Gathering in Edinburgh (11.15–12.15)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator event to explore the benefits of a good trustee annual report and how charity trustees can plan for and prepare an excellent report that helps the charity in many ways. For information see <https://scvo.org/the-gathering-2020/event-programme/telling-your-charitys-story-with-impact/>

## **Interpreting culture – improving cross-cultural communication**

10 March 2020 in Glasgow (1.00–4.30)

Interfaith Scotland course on cultural diversity to explore how cultural background influences behaviour, values, and beliefs, and how to improve our inter-cultural communication. For information see <https://interfaithscotland.org/get-involved/training> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

## **Working with people from diverse religion & belief identities**

22 April 2020 in Glasgow (1.00–4.30)

Interfaith Scotland course on improving confidence in discussing and responding to the religion and belief of those we work with. Includes the core beliefs and cultural practices of the main faiths, and individual needs that may arise from a person's faith or belief identity. For information see <https://interfaithscotland.org/get-involved/training> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

## **Organising interfaith events and enabling dialogue**

7 May 2020 in Glasgow (1.00–4.30)

Interfaith Scotland course on how to arrange events that bring together people of many faiths and philosophies for meaningful and respectful dialogue, including practical considerations for their success, and creating an environment that respects difference while seeking mutual understanding. For information see <https://interfaithscotland.org/get-involved/training> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

## **3rd International Conference on Migration and Mobilities**

8–10 July 2020 in St Andrews

The conference is orientated around the four themes that reflect key contemporary conceptual and policy concerns: internal migration and urban change, forced migration and bordering, visualising mobilities, and European migration in turbulent politic. For information see <http://www.imigmob2020.org/home>

**TOP**

## Useful Links

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**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>

TOP

**SCoJeC**  
Scottish Council of  
Jewish Communities

Representing, connecting, and supporting Jewish people in Scotland



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

**BEMIS**

Empowering Scotland's Ethnic and  
Cultural Minority Communities

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



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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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