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

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## Immigration and Asylum

### UK Parliament Debate

#### Asylum Decisions (Support for Refugees)

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-03-04/debates/0DA97028-C6CA-4C3A-918D-C76B0A582FFC/AsylumDecisions\(SupportForRefugees\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-03-04/debates/0DA97028-C6CA-4C3A-918D-C76B0A582FFC/AsylumDecisions(SupportForRefugees))

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

#### British Nationality: Children

**Stuart C McDonald (SNP)** [23402] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to her Department's policy paper entitled Home Office immigration and nationality fees published on 20 February 2020, what recent assessment she has made of compliance of the fee for registering a child as a British citizen with the

ruling in *PRCBC and others v SSHD* [2019] EWHC 3536 (Admin).

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Although the judge ruled that there had not been proper consideration of the Government's section 55 duties, the Immigration and Nationality Fees Regulations 2018 were not found to be unlawful.

We therefore continue to charge Child Registration fees as set out in the Fees Regulations. The court case remains on-going; the Home Office notes the Court's judgment from the Admin Court and is considering its implications carefully, while awaiting the appeal hearing.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-02/23402/>

*The policy paper referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/visa-regulations-revised-table/2020>

*The judgement referred to above can be read at*

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

*The following three questions all received the same answer*

### **Immigration Controls: Gender**

**Caroline Lucas (Green)** [21958] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the policy statement, the UK's points-based immigration system, published on 19 February 2020, whether her Department has conducted a gender-based impact assessment of that policy proposal; and if she will publish that impact assessment.

### **Immigration Controls**

**Caroline Lucas (Green)** [21959] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the policy statement, the UK's points-based immigration system, published on 19 February 2020, whether her Department has made an assessment of the effect of a points-based system on (a) businesses and (b) the (i) transport and storage, (ii) construction, (iii) hospitality and tourism, (iv) agriculture, (v) food and food processing, (vi) wholesale and retail, (vii) manufacturing, (viii) education, (ix) and arts sectors; and if she will publish impact assessments on those sectors.

**Caroline Lucas (Green)** [21960] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to her 19 February 2020 policy statement entitled The UK's points-based immigration system, whether she plans to make (a) financial and (b) technical support available to employers to invest in technology and automation prior to the implementation of that policy on 1 January 2021; and if she will make a statement.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The Government published "The UK's Points-Based System: Policy Statement" on 19 February.

Following advice from the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) the Government will reduce the general salary and skills thresholds for those who wish to come to the UK to work. There will also be an element of "tradeable" points which will mean those who do not meet the general salary threshold may still be able to enter the UK if, for example, they have a job in a shortage occupation.

We recognise these proposals represent significant change for employers in the UK. We will deliver a comprehensive programme of communication and engagement in the coming months to ensure those affected understand the way our new system will work. In delivering on its manifesto commitments for a new points-based system, the Government has considered relevant views, evidence, and analysis. We will also keep labour market data under careful scrutiny.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-27/21958/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-27/21959/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-27/21960/>

*The policy statement referred to above can be read at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/866664/CCS207\\_CCS0120013106-001\\_The\\_UKs\\_Points-Based\\_Immigration\\_System\\_print.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/866664/CCS207_CCS0120013106-001_The_UKs_Points-Based_Immigration_System_print.pdf)

### **Immigration Controls**

**Caroline Lucas (Green)** [21964] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the policy statement, the UK's points-based immigration system, published on 19 February 2020, what the planned timescale is for refining that system post-implementation; and what plans she has to consult (a) applicants, (b) businesses and (c) other organisations in that process.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The new points-based system will be introduced from 1 January 2021. The operation of the system will be kept under review and, as the policy statement published on 19 February makes clear, further changes will be made following consultation with stakeholders across our United Kingdom.

A programme of engagement will begin this month to raise awareness of the new system, ensuring those affected by the changes are fully aware of what it means for them and understand how the system will operate.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-27/21964/>

*The policy statement referred to above can be read at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/866664/CCS207\\_CCS0120013106-001\\_The\\_UKs\\_Points-Based\\_Immigration\\_System\\_print.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/866664/CCS207_CCS0120013106-001_The_UKs_Points-Based_Immigration_System_print.pdf)

### **Immigration: Applications**

**Catherine West (Labour)** [21369] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of immigration applications are decided within (a) six and (b) 12 months.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Information on our immigration routes with service standards and whether they have been processed against these standards is available as part of our transparency data, at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data#uk-visas-and-immigration>.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-26/21369/>

### **Immigration: Married People**

**Stuart C McDonald (SNP)** [23548] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the number of (a) women and (b) men prevented from sponsoring a non-EEA partner to join them in the UK as a result of insufficient earnings to meet the Minimum Income Requirement in the Immigration Rules, in 2019.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The Home Office does not collate or publish the information requested.

However, the Home Office does publish data on the outcomes of entry clearance visa applications at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/managed-migration-datasets>.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-02/23548/>

### **Immigration: Married People**

**Stuart C McDonald (SNP)** [23560] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what equalities assessment her Department has undertaken on the effect of the minimum income threshold on rates of successful application for a spouse or partner visa.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** In February 2017, the Supreme Court upheld the lawfulness of the minimum income requirement, which prevents burdens on the taxpayer and promotes integration, declaring that the policy is neither a breach of the right to respect for private and family life under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights nor discriminatory. The Immigration Rules are kept under continuous review, including the minimum income requirement, and adjusted where necessary in light of feedback, impact and the findings of the courts.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-02/23560/>

*A summary of the judgement referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.supremecourt.uk/cases/docs/uksc-2015-0011-press-summary.pdf>

### **Immigrants: English Language**

**Liz Saville Roberts (Plaid Cymru)** [20620] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the level of English language competency is that migrants are expected to reach to be eligible to work in the UK; and what criteria her Department uses to measure that competency.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** We require individuals coming under existing immigration routes to demonstrate an appropriate level of English. Currently, for skilled workers, this is currently set at intermediate (B1) level. Applicants can meet this requirement if they:

- pass a Secure English Language Test at an approved test centre;
- are a medical professional who has passed an English Language assessment for their professional registration in the UK;
- hold a degree qualification which was taught in English;
- are a national of a majority English-speaking country; or
- have shown that they meet the requirement in a previous immigration application.

Having a suitable English language requirement is crucial to ensuring people coming to live, work and study in the UK are able to integrate into society. Future requirements will broadly reflect current arrangements.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-25/20620/>

### **Migrant Workers**

**Caroline Lucas (Green)** [21962] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the policy statement, the UK's points-based immigration system, published on 19 February 2020, what the timescale is for the production and publication of the Migration Advisory Committee's shortage occupation list; and whether that list will include health and social care workers.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** We will shortly be commissioning the independent Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to produce a shortage occupation list covering all jobs encompassed by the new skilled worker route, for introduction from January 2021, and to keep the list under regular review.

It is right the Government waits for the MAC's recommendations before commenting on whether specific occupations will be included and taking any final decisions.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-27/21962/>

The policy statement referred to above can be read at

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/866664/CCS207\\_CCS0120013106-001\\_The\\_UKs\\_Points-Based\\_Immigration\\_System\\_print.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/866664/CCS207_CCS0120013106-001_The_UKs_Points-Based_Immigration_System_print.pdf)

### **Visas: Fees and Charges**

**Liz Saville Roberts (Plaid Cymru)** [20632] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the cost will be of the visa application process for migrants seeking to enter the UK after January 2021.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The UK's Points-Based Immigration System Policy Statement published on 19 February sets out how we will fulfil our commitment to the British public and take back control of our borders.

People coming to the UK from any country in the world for the purpose of work or study, other than some short-term business visitors and short-term students, will need to obtain a visa for which they will pay a fee. A list of current fees can be found via the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/visa-fees-transparency-data>

The Borders, Immigration and Citizenship System (BICS) is predominately funded by its users. It is right those who use it contribute to its cost, thereby reducing the burden on the UK taxpayer.

We keep our fees for immigration and nationality applications under review and ensure they are within the parameters agreed with HM Treasury and Parliament, as set out in Section 68 (9) of the Immigration Act 2014.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-25/20632/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Visas: India**

**Gareth Thomas (Labour Co-op)** [21134] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she plans to take to encourage more (a) skilled workers, (b) tourists and (c) students from India to secure visas to (i) work, (ii) visit and (iii) study in the UK; and if she will make a statement.

### **Migrant Workers: India**

**Gareth Thomas (Labour Co-op)** [21135] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to ensure that (a) IT businesses and (b) restaurants attract skilled workers from India after the transition period; and if she will make a statement.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** On 19 February the Government published a policy statement outlining the principles of the UK's Points-Based Immigration System, for introduction from January 2021. The system will ensure we are able to attract the brightest and best people globally. It will be based on the skills and talents which people can bring rather than their nationality.

We welcome genuine visitors from all over the world and will continue our generous visitor provisions but with simplified rules and guidance.

The creation of the Graduate route clearly demonstrates the Government support for the education sector and adds further value to our world-beating offer for international students. This is reflected in the number of sponsored Tier 4 student applications from Indian nationals increasing by 93% in the year ending December 2019; the highest level since 2011.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-26/21134/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-26/21135/>

The policy statement referred to above can be read at

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/866664/CCS207\\_CCS0120013106-001\\_The\\_UKs\\_Points-Based\\_Immigration\\_System\\_print.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/866664/CCS207_CCS0120013106-001_The_UKs_Points-Based_Immigration_System_print.pdf)

### **Visas: Entertainers**

**John Spellar (Labour)** [19754] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether musicians and artistic performers from the EU will be subject to the Tier 5 (Creative and Sporting visa) temporary worker route from 1 January 2021.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Currently, visiting artists, entertainers and musicians can perform at events, take part in competitions and auditions, make personal appearances and take part in promotional activities for up to 6 months without the need for formal sponsorship or a work visa. They can also receive payment for appearance at permit free festivals for up to 6 months, or for up to one month for a specific engagement, under the Visitor route.

Artists wishing to come to the UK for longer-term work will need to do so under the points-based system. There will continue to be special arrangements for creative workers, which in future will encompass both EEA and non-EEA citizens.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-24/19754/>

### **Musicians: Visas**

**Jo Stevens (Labour)** [21304] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, whether his Department has made an assessment of the effect on the music industry of applying the Tier 5 Visa rules to members of the music industry who are EEA citizens in the event that immigration rules for EU citizens are retained.

**Reply from Caroline Dinenage:** We intend to discuss mobility arrangements in a defined number of areas as part of negotiations on our future relationship with the EU. A reciprocal agreement based on best precedent will mean that UK citizens will be able to undertake some business activities in the EU without a work permit, on a short-term basis. The same would apply for EU citizens making business visits to the UK. All provisions are subject to negotiation, and we recognise the significance of this to the UK's world renowned music industry.

These mobility arrangements will only represent what we agree reciprocally with the EU. The UK will set the rules in relation to immigration and mobility where no commitments are taken in negotiations.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-26/21304/>

### **Immigration: Windrush Generation**

**Alex Sobel (Labour Co-op)** [18971] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to protect the human rights of migrants from the Windrush generation.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The Home Office, in its policies and its practices, must be compliant with its obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights as enacted under the Human Rights Act.

We are committed to righting the wrongs suffered by the Windrush generation, under successive governments and have put in place a number of steps to do this. On 16 April 2018, the Home Office established a Taskforce to help members of the Windrush generation resolve their immigration status as quickly as possible and the

Windrush Scheme was launched on 30 May 2018.

On 3 April 2019, the Windrush Compensation Scheme was launched in order to ensure that the Windrush generation, are properly compensated for losses and impacts suffered as a result of not being able to demonstrate their lawful status.

We have introduced additional safeguards to ensure that those who are lawfully present in the UK are not disadvantaged by measures put in place to tackle illegal migration. These include additional support within the checking services provided to employers, landlords and public service providers and temporary restrictions on the parameters of proactive data-sharing, to ensure members of the Windrush generation are not wrongly impacted.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-21/18971/>

*Information about the Windrush Scheme, referred to above, can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/windrush-scheme>

*Information about the Windrush Compensation Scheme, referred to above, can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/windrush-compensation-scheme>

### **Immigration: EU Nationals**

**Andrew Percy (Conservative)** [20438] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much per year a family of four EU citizens will have to pay to reside the UK after the end of the transition period.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The UK's Points-Based Immigration System Policy Statement published on 19 February sets out how we will fulfil our commitment to the British public and take back control of our borders. People coming to the UK from any country in the world for the purpose of work or study, other than some short-term business visitors and short-term students, will need to obtain a visa for which they will pay a fee. A list of current fees can be found via the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/visa-fees-transparency-data>.

The Borders, Immigration and Citizenship System (BICS) is predominately funded by the user, and we think it is right that those who use it contribute to its cost, thereby reducing the burden on the UK taxpayer. We keep our fees for immigration and nationality applications under review and ensure they are within the parameters agreed with HM Treasury and Parliament, as set out in Section 68 (9) of the Immigration Act 2014.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-25/20438/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Immigration: EU Nationals**

**Vicky Foxcroft (Labour)** [20596] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment her Department has made of the comparative accessibility of the application process for the EU Settlement Scheme for vulnerable people (a) with and (b) without support provided by voluntary and civil society organisations.

**Vicky Foxcroft (Labour)** [20597] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when her Department plans to make a decision on the future of grant funding for the provision of support for vulnerable people applying to the EU Settlement Scheme from voluntary and civil society organisations.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** There have already been more than 2.5 million people given status through the settlement scheme. The Home Office is always looking at ways to make sure everyone secures the status they are eligible for.

As well as providing funding for charities which have supported hundreds of thousands of vulnerable people, there are more than 1,500 Home Office staff

working on the EU Settlement Scheme and 250 Settlement Resolution Centre staff providing assistance to applicants with any questions about the scheme or who need help applying.

Additional support is also available to those EU citizens in the UK who do not have the appropriate access, skills or confidence to apply. This includes over 300 assisted digital locations across the UK where people can be supported through their application.

It is one of several ways people can verify their identity, including by post. There are also over 80 locations where applicants can have their passport scanned and verified across the UK.

The current grant funding scheme continues until the end of March 2020, and the Home Office is currently exploring options

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-25/20596/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-25/20597/>

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

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

### Refugees

**Tim Farron (Liberal Democrat)** [12231] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she plans to continue beyond 2020-21 her Department's plan to resettle 5,000–6,000 refugees in that year.

**Reply from Chris Philp:** On 17 June 2019, the former Home Secretary reaffirmed the UK's commitment to refugee resettlement by announcing a new, global scheme, which will begin in 2020 and aims to resettle in the region of 5,000 refugees in its first year of operation. It is right that we continue to offer safe and legal routes to the UK for the most vulnerable refugees, for whom resettlement is the only durable solution. Detailed plans for resettlement in future years have not yet been confirmed.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-04/12231/>

*The announcement referred to above can be read at*

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

### Refugees: Families

**Helen Hayes (Labour)** [12397] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to expand refugee family reunion routes.

**Reply from Chris Philp:** The Government already provides a safe and legal route to bring refugee families together through its family reunion policy. This allows a partner and children under 18 of those granted protection in the UK to join them here, if they formed part of the family unit before the sponsor fled their country.

Refugees can also sponsor adult dependent relatives living overseas to join them where, due to age, illness or disability, that person requires long-term personal care that can only be provided by relatives in the UK. There are separate provisions in the Rules to allow extended family to sponsor children to come here where there are serious and compelling circumstances.

Further, there is discretion to grant visas outside the Immigration Rules, which caters for extended family members in exceptional circumstances – including young adult sons or daughters who are dependent on family here and living in

dangerous situations.

Amending the policy without careful thought could significantly increase the numbers who could qualify to come here, not just from conflict regions but any country from which someone is granted protection. This would mean extended family being able to come here who themselves do not need protection – which risks reducing our capacity to assist the most vulnerable refugees.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-04/12397/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Refugees: Children**

**Dan Carden (Labour)** [23489] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to facilitate the resettlement of vulnerable child refugees from Greek islands.

**Dan Carden (Labour)** [23494] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied refugee children the UK has resettled from Greece in (a) each year since 2016 and (b) 2020.

**Reply from Chris Philp:** Under Article 8 of the Dublin Regulation which concerns unaccompanied minors the UK accepted for transfer 196 requests from the Greek authorities between 2016 and 2019. By year this is broken down as follows; 2016 – 10, 2017 – 17, 2018 – 69, and 2019 – 100. The data for 2020 will be published as part of the annual data release on the Dublin regulation and is scheduled for release at the end of 2020.

Under Article 17.2, the discretionary article of the Dublin Regulation allowing Member States to agree responsibility for an asylum claim, the UK accepted a further 81 requests from the Greek Authorities between 2016 and 2019. A proportion of these transfers were unaccompanied children; however, an exact breakdown is not available.

The UK will continue to be bound by the Dublin Regulation provisions during the Transition Period, allowing us to continue to transfer family reunion cases to the UK throughout 2020, and we will continue to process all family reunion requests that have been submitted but not completed under Dublin before the end of the Transition Period.

We will cease to participate in EU instruments at the end of the Transition Period, including the Dublin Regulation. This means that the ability of unaccompanied children to use Dublin to reunite with family will end, unless a replacement agreement is negotiated. The Government has been clear that it is committed to seeking such an agreement with the EU, thereby ensuring these children can continue to reunite with family at the end of the Transition Period. We made this commitment clear in the UK's approach to negotiations on our future relationship, published on 27 February.

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 Greece and the other participating states, to transfer more eligible children to move closer to achieving this commitment. We will publish a full data set on the transfers once we have fulfilled this commitment.

Section 67 is just one way in which the Government supports children in need of protection. The Government's long-standing policy is to provide support to and resettle the most vulnerable refugees directly from conflict regions. In total, the UK provided protection to over 7,700 children in the year ending December 2019, and

42,500 since the start of 2010. In 2019 the UK received 3,651 unaccompanied asylum-seeking children up 19% from 2018.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-02/23489/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-02/23494/>

*The following three questions all received the same answer*

### **Housing: Refugees**

**Rupa Huq (Labour)** [20037] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what support her Department provides to ensure refugees are able to access secure housing following a positive asylum decision.

### **Asylum**

**Rupa Huq (Labour)** [20038] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions she has had with Cabinet colleagues on steps to support refugees that are leaving asylum accommodation following a positive asylum decision.

**Rupa Huq (Labour)** [20039] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will extend the move-on period for newly recognised refugees to 56 days.

**Reply from Chris Philp:** Asylum seekers who are recognised as refugees are eligible to the same level of assistance from local authorities to obtain suitable housing as British Citizens and other permanent residents, and are treated as having a priority need if they have children or are considered vulnerable. They are also eligible to apply for mainstream benefits from the Department of Work and Pensions.

The Government is working on a number of important initiatives to ensure that newly recognised refugees are able to access benefits and housing promptly once their Home Office support ends, after 28 days.

We have established a working group to consider what more we can do, which includes the key voluntary sector groups such as the British Red Cross and Refugee Council, as well as representatives of the Department of Work and Pensions and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-24/20037/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-24/20038/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-24/20039/>

### **Asylum: Disclosure of Information**

**Alex Norris (Labour co-op)** [7254] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her policy is on sharing information on people seeking asylum in the UK with Government officials of their home countries.

**Reply from Chris Philp:** In line with our legal and international obligations, we do not share information on people seeking asylum in the UK with the Government officials of their home country or seek information in a way that could expose them, or any family who remain in that country, to serious risk.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-23/7254/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Asylum: Applications**

**Thangam Debbonaire (Labour)** [9719] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many fresh asylum applications were submitted in 2019 by individuals who had previously been refused asylum in the UK.

**Thangam Debbonaire (Labour)** [9720] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the five most common nationalities of asylum applicants making fresh claims to the UK were in 2019; and how many fresh asylum applications those nationalities submitted.

**Reply from Chris Philp:** Home Office records indicate that a total of 6,273 further submissions were lodged on protection grounds between 01/01/2019 and 30/09/2019, by individuals who had previously been refused asylum in the UK.

Home Office records indicate that the five most common nationalities of asylum applicants lodging further submissions on protection grounds between 01/01/2019 and 30/09/2019, and the volume of applications submitted by these nationalities, are:

<b>Nationality</b>	<b>Number of applications</b>
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	985
Pakistan	704
Iraq	680
Bangladesh	510
Afghanistan	433
Total	3,312

When people who have previously been refused asylum in the UK wish to make representations in support of a fresh asylum applications these are recorded as Further Submissions. Only where those submissions have been considered and it has been decided not to grant any leave is it considered whether the Further Submissions amount to a fresh asylum application.

The above data relates to main applicants who lodged Further Submissions between 01/01/2019 and 30/09/2019 which is the latest reportable period in line with immigration statistics. The data is a count of the number of Further Submissions lodged. Some people may have lodged more than one submission during the period.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-29/9719/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-29/9720/>

### **Asylum: Interviews**

**Tim Farron (Liberal Democrat)** [12230] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many substantive asylum interviews were conducted (a) in total and (b) by video conference in 2019.

**Reply from Chris Philp:** The Home Office are unable to provide the number of substantive asylum interviews that were conducted in total and by video conference in 2019, as this information is not held in a reportable format and could only be obtained at disproportionate costs.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-04/12230/>

### **Asylum: Children in Care**

**Steve McCabe (Labour)** [23586] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how many

unaccompanied asylum-seeking children were looked after by (a) care placement and (b) legal status as at 31 March 2019.

**Reply from Vicky Ford:** Figures on the number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children by care placement and legal status at 31 March 2019 are shown in the attached table.

[23586 Table](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-02/23586/>

*The following four questions all received the same answer*

#### **Asylum: Children in Care**

**Steve McCabe (Labour)** [23587] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, who has parental responsibility for unaccompanied and asylum-seeking children who are in care on a voluntary agreement under section 20 of the Children's Act 1989.

**Steve McCabe (Labour)** [23588] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how his Department (a) monitors and (b) quality assesses local authority pathway planning for unaccompanied and asylum-seeking children in care.

**Steve McCabe (Labour)** [23589] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what guidance his Department has published for children's social care on how to support unaccompanied and asylum-seeking children through the asylum and immigration system.

**Steve McCabe (Labour)** [23590] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what specialist mental health support is available for unaccompanied and asylum-seeking children in care.

**Reply from Vicky Ford:** Under s20 of the Children Act 1989 the local authority has a statutory responsibility to accommodate unaccompanied, asylum seeking children (UASC). Where the child is accommodated for more than 24 hours they become a 'looked after' child and the local authority where the child presents has a statutory duty to safeguard and promote the child's welfare in the same way as any other looked after child.

Ofsted, as part of its children's services inspection framework, monitor and quality assess local authority processes in relation to all looked after children and care leavers. This will include an assessment of pathway planning.

The statutory guidance 'Care of unaccompanied migrant children and child victims of modern slavery' and 'Children Act 1989: planning transition to adulthood for care leavers' set out how local authorities should appropriately pathway plan in a way that meets the needs of unaccompanied care leavers. This guidance is available at the following links:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/656429/UASC\\_Statutory\\_Guidance\\_2017.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/656429/UASC_Statutory_Guidance_2017.pdf)

and

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/397649/CA1989\\_Transitions\\_guidance.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/397649/CA1989_Transitions_guidance.pdf).

The statutory guidance 'Care of unaccompanied migrant children and child victims of modern slavery' also sets out how local authorities should appropriately care plan for UASC in accordance with the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (England) Regulations 2010. The regulations apply to all looked after children, regardless of their immigration status, nationality or documentation.

The statutory guidance makes clear that social workers' knowledge of the asylum process should include an understanding of the child's asylum process, the purpose of the asylum case review and the different possible outcomes of a child's asylum claim and how that impacts on pathway planning. Social workers should also have a broad understanding of the immigration system. In addition, the department is developing bespoke materials for social workers to support their understanding of

the asylum process. These materials are currently being tested by a sample of local authorities prior to wider dissemination across England. We have also commissioned the No Recourse to Public Fund Network to produce guidance on pathway planning for unaccompanied adolescents who are care leavers. As part of the care planning process, local authorities must carry out a health assessment of all their looked after children. The Regulations and Statutory Guidance 'Promoting the Health and Wellbeing of Looked-After Children' makes clear that an assessment should include the child's emotional and mental health needs and this must be reviewed regularly. Statutory guidance also makes clear that for unaccompanied children, the health assessment should ascertain any physical, psychological or emotional impact of experiences as an unaccompanied child or child victim of modern slavery. Any past trauma or experiences should be noted, along with any consequential need for psychological or mental health support to help the child deal with them. Mental health provision is provided at a local level.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-02/23587/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-02/23588/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-02/23589/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-02/23590/>

*"Promoting the Health and Wellbeing of Looked-After Children", referred to above, can be read at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/413368/Promoting\\_the\\_health\\_and\\_well-being\\_of\\_looked-after\\_children.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/413368/Promoting_the_health_and_well-being_of_looked-after_children.pdf)

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

#### **Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre: Females**

**Jess Phillips (Labour) [21297]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her policy is on the use of restraints when transporting women from Yarl's Wood immigration removal centre to be deported.

**Jess Phillips (Labour) [21303]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her Department's policy is on the use of fines for contractors that do not meet the timescale for getting detainees to report for deportation; and what assessment her Department has made of the effect of such fines on the deportation of women from Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre.

**Reply from Chris Philp:** It may be necessary to restrain an individual in detention in order to reduce the risk of escape, prevent harm to the public, detainees or staff, or to prevent damage to property. In addition, an individual may be restrained to prevent them from self-harming or obstructing their removal.

Published guidance, and the training received by detainee custody officers makes it clear that physical force, and the use of waist restraint belts or handcuffs, should only be used after a thorough assessment of risk, and in consideration of each individual's personal circumstances. Restraints should be removed at the earliest opportunity.

The Home Office reviews all reports resulting from a use of force to ensure that techniques are used proportionately, that they are justified, and are used for the

minimum period required.

There are contractual obligations for IRC suppliers to ensure detainees report on time to the escorting contractor to ensure compliance with scheduled removal directions. Although the Home Office can impose financial and operational remedies if obligations as part of the contract are not met, this would be based on a thorough investigation and consideration of any mitigating factors. In these circumstances, detainee welfare would take precedence over imposing any such penalties.

Robust statutory oversight is provided by HM Chief Inspector of Prisons and Independent Monitoring Boards, ensuring that detainees are treated with proper standards of care and decency in detention and during the removal process. Reports by HMIP and IMBs are published on their respective websites.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-26/21297/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-26/21303/>

### **Deportation**

**Zarah Sultana (Labour)** [18870] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department has chartered flights scheduled for deportations in the next six months.

**Reply from Chris Philp:** Most enforced immigration returns are undertaken using scheduled flights, alongside fare-paying passengers. However, charter flight operations are an important means to return foreign national offenders and immigration offenders where there are limited scheduled routes or where the returnees may be disruptive. We utilise both approaches flexibly to best meet operational needs and maximise value for money.

For operational reasons, it is not possible to disclose full details of the returns charter flight programme over the next six months.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-21/18870/>

### **Deportation: Charter Flights**

**Fleur Anderson (Labour)** [22435] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department has chartered flights scheduled for deportations in 2020.

**Reply from Chris Philp:** Most enforced immigration returns are undertaken using scheduled flights, alongside fare-paying passengers. However, charter flight operations are an important means to return foreign national offenders and immigration offenders where there are limited scheduled routes or where the returnees may be disruptive. We utilise both approaches flexibly to best meet operational needs, maximise value for money for the taxpayer and keep our street safe. For operational reasons, it is not possible to disclose full details of the future returns charter flight programme.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-28/22435/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Deportation: Jamaica**

**Stuart C McDonald (SNP)** [9708] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will suspend charter flights to Jamaica pending the publication of the Windrush lessons learned review.

**Stuart C McDonald (SNP)** [9711] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she plans to resume charter flights for the involuntary repatriation of people to Jamaica.

**Reply from Chris Philp:** The planned Home Office charter flight to Jamaica is specifically for removing foreign national offenders with deportation orders in place. The Government, as obliged by law, has continued to remove foreign national offenders to Jamaica, some on charters and some on scheduled flights. It is incorrect to make a connection between these cases and Windrush.

Many of those have been convicted of very serious crimes – rape, attempted murder, sexual activity with a child and GBH.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-29/9708/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-29/9711/>

### Human Trafficking

**Steve McCabe (Labour)** [12203] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the service standard is for the National Referral Mechanism to make a conclusive grounds decision following a reasonable grounds decisions for victims of human trafficking.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** Following a positive reasonable grounds decision, and the minimum recovery and reflection period, the Single Competent Authority makes the conclusive grounds decision as soon as possible and only once there is sufficient information to do so.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-04/12203/>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

### Immigration Controls

**Lord Greaves (Liberal Democrat)** [HL1738] To ask Her Majesty's Government what level of English will be required of a person applying for a visa under the points-based immigration system; what existing qualifications will be accepted, if any; and what procedures they will use to assess proficiency in the English language.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** We require individuals coming under existing immigration routes to demonstrate an appropriate level of English. Currently, for skilled workers, this is currently set at intermediate (B1) level. Applicants can meet this requirement if they:

- pass a Secure English Language Test at an approved test centre;
- are a medical professional who has passed an English Language assessment for their professional registration in the UK;
- hold a degree qualification which was taught in English;
- are a national of a majority English-speaking country; or
- have shown that they meet the requirement in a previous immigration application.

Having a suitable English language requirement is crucial to ensuring people coming to live, work and study in the UK are able to integrate into society. Future requirements will broadly reflect current arrangements.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-02-24/HL1738/>

## Immigration Controls

**Lord Greaves (Liberal Democrat) [HL1739]** To ask Her Majesty's Government whether proficiency in (1) Welsh, (2) Scottish Gaelic, and (3) Irish, will qualify for points under the new points-based immigration system.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Government has no plans to award points for these languages under the new points-based immigration system.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-02-24/HL1739/>

## UK Parliament Early Day Motion

**Gavin Newlands (SNP) (236) Home Office ruling and the adverse impact on non-EU players** – That this House is concerned by reports that changes by the Home Office to Tier 4 visa regulations have adversely impacted many teams in the Scottish Women's Premier League and potentially those in other sports; notes the changes have resulted in non-EU international students already studying in the UK now being unable to play sports on a completely amateur basis if even one player in that competition is playing in a professional or semi-professional basis; feels that this is a very blunt measure entirely lacking in common sense which places unnecessary restrictions on women's football at a time when every support should be in place to encourage the sport to grow; and calls on the Home Office to urgently review the regulations to ensure that no one on a Tier 4 visa be restricted should they want to play sport without any financial remuneration.

<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/55699/home-office-ruling-and-the-adverse-impact-on-noneu-players>

## UK Parliament, Delegated Legislation Committee

**Immigration (Citizens' Rights Appeals) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020**

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-03-03/debates/dcbbb991-b9df-41a6-8169-ccfc73cc05ae/Immigration\(CitizensRightsAppeals\)\(EUExit\)Regulations2020](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-03-03/debates/dcbbb991-b9df-41a6-8169-ccfc73cc05ae/Immigration(CitizensRightsAppeals)(EUExit)Regulations2020)

## Press Releases

**Landmark Immigration Bill to end free movement introduced to Parliament**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/landmark-immigration-bill-to-end-free-movement-introduced-to-parliament>

**Windrush Day 2020 launches with £500,000 for communities**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/windrush-day-2020-launches-with-500-000-for-communities>

**Thousands to benefit from new English language classes**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/thousands-to-benefit-from-new-english-language-classes>

## New Publications

**Briefing: Migration Statistics**

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

and

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN06077/CBP06077-data.xlsx>

### **Briefing: Support for Refugees after Receiving Asylum Decision**

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CDP-2020-0042/CDP-2020-0042.pdf>

### **Briefing: Refugee Resettlement in the UK**

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-8750/CBP-8750.pdf>

### **Updated Guidance: Windrush Compensation Scheme**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/870433/Windrush\\_Compensation\\_Scheme\\_casework\\_guidance\\_gov05032020.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/870433/Windrush_Compensation_Scheme_casework_guidance_gov05032020.pdf)

### **Letter from Baroness Williams of Trafford to Lord Hannay of Chiswick regarding the new points-based immigration system and the impact on the higher education sector**

[http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2020-0112/Letter\\_to\\_Lord\\_Hannay\\_of\\_Chiswick.pdf](http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2020-0112/Letter_to_Lord_Hannay_of_Chiswick.pdf)

### **Letter from Baroness Williams of Trafford to Baroness Hamwee and the Earl of Clancarty regarding the creative industries**

[http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2020-0115/Letter\\_to\\_Baroness\\_Hamwee\\_and\\_Earl\\_of\\_Clancarty.pdf](http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2020-0115/Letter_to_Baroness_Hamwee_and_Earl_of_Clancarty.pdf)

### **Refugee and Migrant Welcome Packs**

#### **Going to School in Scotland: Primary 1 – 4**

<https://www.eis.org.uk/Content/images/Equality/WelcomeToScotland/p1-4%20%20Going%20to%20school%20WEB.pdf>

#### **Going to School in Scotland: Primary 5 – S3**

<https://www.eis.org.uk/Content/images/Equality/WelcomeToScotland/p5-s3%20Going%20to%20school%20WEB.pdf>

#### **Welcome to School in Scotland: S4 – S6**

<https://www.eis.org.uk/Content/images/Equality/WelcomeToScotland/S4-S6%20Welcome%20to%20Scotland%20WEB.pdf>

### **Parents/Carers Guide**

English

<https://www.eis.org.uk/Content/images/Equality/WelcomeToScotland/Parents%20book%20WEB.pdf>

Polish

<https://www.eis.org.uk/Content/images/welcome%20to%20scotland/Polish%20Parents%20book.pdf>

Arabic

<https://www.eis.org.uk/Content/images/welcome%20to%20scotland/Arabic%20Parents%20book.pdf>

## **News**

### **New immigration rules could cause 'black hole' of almost 500,000 care home workers, trade union warns**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/uk-new-immigration-rules-patel-points-care-home-workers-a9384736.html>

**Alister Jack admits there are 'difficulties' on immigration**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18285289.alister-jack-admits-difficulties-immigration/>

**New immigration plans 'could see workers exploited'**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18275832.new-immigration-plans-could-see-workers-exploited/>

**Asylum seekers 'targeted by bogus law firms'**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/asylum-seekers-targeted-by-bogus-law-firms-ttqscwcf2>

**Assessing whether an immigrant's family life can be lived abroad**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/assessing-whether-an-immigrants-family-life-can-be-lived-abroad-dg0qtgp8v>

**Number of child refugees brought to UK through resettlement scheme plummets by 30%, figures show**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/child-refugees-resettlement-scheme-home-office-a9373226.html>

**Glasgow Presbytery Conference highlights work with asylum seekers and refugees**

<http://www.sfar.org.uk/glasgow-presbytery-conference-highlights-work-with-asylum-seekers-and-refugees/>

**Man charged with immigration offence over Essex lorry deaths**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-essex-51735935>

**Four arrested including driver from Glasgow after migrants are rescued from truck**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/crime/four-arrested-including-driver-glasgow-after-migrants-are-rescued-truck-2214324>

**Channel migrants: Two boats intercepted off Kent coast**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-51745542>

**Everything you thought you knew about UK immigration is wrong**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/immigration-bill-home-office-priti-patel-asylum-trafficking-a9358296.html>

TOP

## Equality

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

#### STEM Subjects: Ethnic Groups

**Chi Onwurah (Labour)** [20484] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps he is taking to encourage BAME participation in (a) the study of STEM subjects and (b) STEM careers.

**Reply from Nick Gibb:** The Government continues to invest in a number of initiatives to improve the quality of teaching of STEM subjects in schools and encourage more students from all backgrounds into STEM education and training, at all stages from primary school to higher education.

The Department has created a national network of 37 school-led Maths Hubs to

help schools improve the quality of their mathematics teaching for all pupils based on best practice. We have also introduced the £76 million Teaching for Mastery programme, which is bringing mastery teaching to 11,000 schools across England between 2016 and 2023.

The Department has introduced the Advanced Maths Premium (AMP) to support the education sector to increase the number of students studying high-quality maths qualifications to Level 3. The AMP provides £600 additional funding per year for each additional student taking a Level 3 mathematics qualification in comparison to a baseline.

The Department is prioritising and investing in digital education, building a diverse pipeline of talent which is critical to supporting the UK's long-term economic ambitions. In November 2018, we launched the National Centre for Computing Education, supported by £84 million of new funding, to improve computing education, through high-quality training and resources.

The Department continues to fund the network of 41 Science Learning Partnerships, which offers bespoke advice and continuous professional development to support schools in overcoming barriers to offering GCSE triple science. While triple science provides a good foundation to study all three sciences at A-Level, we recognise that those students who study triple science are more likely to study science at A-Level. The Department funds the Stimulating Physics Network to provide support to schools to improve progression to physics A-Level, as well as Isaac Physics, an online education platform, which aims to increase and prepare the numbers of students who choose to study physics at university.

The Department is also improving STEM careers advice in schools and colleges. The Careers & Enterprise Company is working with Local Enterprise Partnerships to make sure that experience with STEM employers for all young people is built into careers and enterprise plans. We are also working with businesses, educators and learned societies to understand what the gaps and barriers are for people entering the STEM industry.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-25/20484/>

### **Police: Ethnic Groups**

**Carla Lockhart (DUP) [20575]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of police officers in England and Wales are from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) backgrounds.

**Reply from Kit Malthouse:** The Home Office collects and publishes information on the ethnicity of police officers, in the 'Police Workforce, England and Wales' statistical bulletin. As at 31 March 2019, 7% of police officers in England and Wales were from Black and Minority Ethnic backgrounds. Up from 4% a decade earlier.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-25/20575/>

*The statistical bulletin referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/police-workforce-england-and-wales>

### **Honours: Equality**

**Seema Malhotra (Labour Co-op) [23471]** To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what steps his Department is taking to increase diversity in the (a) nomination for and (b) award of UK honours.

**Reply from Chloe Smith:** Significant progress has been made in recent years to improve diversity in the honours system. For example, we now consistently see around half of awards overall going to women, and in the New Year 2020 Honours

List, 51% of honours went to women. Around 10% of awards go to recipients from a BAME background. The Cabinet Office will consider whether further steps to improve diversity and representation are required. We welcome more nominations from under-represented regions and we are running a programme of regional events to promote the system in those areas most under-represented.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-02/23471/>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

### Ethnic Groups: Equality

**Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth (Conservative)** [HL1720] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Earl Howe on 13 February (HL1307), what action they propose to take in relation to the data collated for, and published by, the Race Disparity Unit.

**Reply from Lord True:** The Race Disparity Unit publishes data and analysis on the Ethnicity Facts and Figures website

<https://www.ethnicity-facts-figures.service.gov.uk/>

This is consistent with our commitment to improve the quality of evidence and data on the barriers faced by different groups.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-02-24/HL1720/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-02-04/HL1307/>

## Press Release

**Public Sector Equality Duty: enhancing equality in education in Scotland**

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/news/public-sector-equality-duty-enhancing-equality-education-scotland>

## New Publication

**Race Inequality in the Workforce**

[https://d1ssu070pg2v9i.cloudfront.net/pex/carnegie\\_uk\\_trust/2020/03/27160925/Race-Inequality-in-the-Workforce-Final.pdf](https://d1ssu070pg2v9i.cloudfront.net/pex/carnegie_uk_trust/2020/03/27160925/Race-Inequality-in-the-Workforce-Final.pdf)

## News

**Anger after Edinburgh Council Officials recommend massive cuts to BME Services for children and families**

<https://www.paih.org/eleventh-hour-appeal-from-bme-sector-after-edinburgh-council-officials-recommend-disproportionate-cuts-to-bme-services-and-reject-3-out-of-4-bme-organisations/>

**Black, asian and minority ethnic millennials at greater risk of unstable employment, finds study**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/bame-millennials-work-ucl-carnegie-trust-a9367931.html>

TOP

# Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Hate Crime**

**Matthew Offord (Conservative)** [19846] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will publish the guidance on the investigation of non-crime hate incidents.

**Matthew Offord (Conservative)** [19847] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate her Department has made of the number of non-crime hate incidents in each of the last five years; and how much police time was recorded in the investigation of those incidents; and if she will make a statement.

**Reply from Kit Malthouse:** The College of Policing has recently consulted on draft revised operational guidance on hate crime, which included clarity on responding to non-crime hate incidents. The College plans to publish this in due course to support forces dealing with hate crimes and hate incidents.

The College of Policing is independent from Government and its role is clear: setting high professional standards; sharing what works best; acting as the national voice of policing; and ensuring police training and ethics is of the highest possible quality. The Home Office collects and publishes information on the number of hate crime offences recorded by the police in England and Wales. Information is not collected on non-crime hate incidents or the investigative resource allocated to them.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-24/19846/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-24/19847/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Hate Crime**

**Christopher Chope (Conservative)** [20378] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the adequacy of the definition of a hate incident set out on the College of Policing's website; and if she will make a statement.

**Christopher Chope (Conservative)** [20379] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the annual cost to the public purse of the police responding to non-crime hate incidents in England.

**Reply from Kit Malthouse:** The College of Policing is independent from Government and its role is clear: setting high professional standards; sharing what works best; acting as the national voice of policing; and ensuring police training and ethics is of the highest possible quality. The College of Policing has revised its operational guidance on hate crime to help provide clarity on responding to non-crime hate incidents, among other things. The College has consulted on this draft revised operational guidance and plans to publish this in due course to support forces dealing with hate crimes and hate incidents.

The Home Office collects and publishes information on the number of hate crime offences recorded by the police in England and Wales. Information is not collected on non-crime hate incidents or the investigative resource allocated to them.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-25/20378/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-25/20379/>

## Hate Crime

**Tom Hunt (Conservative)** [20582] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if her Department will take steps to ensure that the College of Policing's Hate Crime Operational Guidance is amended to remove the requirement that police forces record non-crime hate incidents.

**Kit Malthouse:** The College of Policing has revised its operational guidance on hate crime to help provide clarity on responding to non-crime hate incidents, among other things. The College has consulted on this draft revised operational guidance and plans to publish this in due course to support forces dealing with hate crimes and hate incidents.

The College of Policing is independent from Government and its role is clear: setting high professional standards; sharing what works best; acting as the national voice of policing; and ensuring police training and ethics is of the highest possible quality.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-25/20582/>

## Religious Hatred: Islam

**Naz Shah (Labour)** [20509] To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, with reference to his Department's press release of 23 July 2019, when the additional independent adviser on Islamophobia will be appointed; and whether terms of reference will be provided for those advisers.

**Reply from Luke Hall:** This Government remains committed to stamping out anti-Muslim hatred and all forms of hate crime. It is unacceptable for anyone to feel unsafe while practising their religion and we continue to take a zero-tolerance approach to Islamophobia.

The definition of Islamophobia proposed by the APPG is not in line with the Equality Act 2010 and could have consequences for freedom of speech. We recognise the importance of this matter and will interrogate it in further detail.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-25/20509/>

*The press release referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/independent-expert-appointed-to-tackle-islamophobia>

*Information about the APPG definition referred to above can be read at*

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/599c3d2febbd1a90cffdd8a9/t/5bfd1ea3352f531a6170ceee/1543315109493/Islamophobia+Defined.pdf>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

### Football: Racial Discrimination

**Lord Rosser (Labour)** [HL1891] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the statement by Lord Ashton of Hyde on 11 April 2019 (HL Deb, col 585), what "clear, tangible actions" have been delivered to address racist abuse in football, in relation to each of the six areas they identified as needing to be examined further.

**Reply from Baroness Barran:** Racism or any form of discrimination has no place in football or society, and we must confront this vile behaviour.

In July last year, the football authorities wrote to the government setting out their actions to further tackle discrimination:

- A review of how professional clubs sanction and educate offenders to provide more clarity and consistency.
- A review of FA sanctions for discrimination in the professional and grassroots game.

- Improved steward training, including new modules on recognising and responding to discriminatory behaviour.
- Improved reporting methods to enable fans to quickly and simply make clubs and the authorities aware of concerns or incidents of discrimination.
- Enhance and grow programmes to provide more opportunities for BAME people in coaching, refereeing, management and administrative positions in the sport.
- Further developing schools and community programmes, particularly in promoting inclusion through projects delivered by Premier League and EFL clubs.

There is still more to do: the previous Minister for Sport recently met with the FA and EFL to discuss their progress, and the current Minister for Sport will be calling in all the footballing authorities for a further update about their work on this important issue.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-02-25/HL1891/>

*The statement referred to above can be read at*

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/Lords/2019-04-11/debates/236555C6-619C-444D-A9B0-757058F6C738/DiscriminationInFootball>

## Press Release

### **Everton football fan convicted of hate crime**

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/london-south/news/everton-football-fan-convicted-hate-crime>

## News

### **Mass MP walkouts 'could combat hate speech' in Parliament**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-51725597>

### **Muslim Council of Britain submits new dossier of Conservative Islamophobia to EHRC, with evidence of over 300 individuals**

<https://mcb.org.uk/press-releases/mcb-submits-new-dossier-of-conservative-islamophobia-to-ehrc-with-evidence-of-over-300-individuals/>

### **Islamophobia: Muslim council urges investigation into Conservative Party**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-51756463>

### **300 allegations of Tory Islamophobia sent to equality watchdog**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2020/mar/05/300-allegations-of-tory-islamophobia-sent-to-equality-watchdog>

### **Watchdog under pressure to investigate Tory 'Islamophobia crisis' with new dossier**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/tory-islamophobia-muslim-boris-johnson-government-investigation-dossier-a9378406.html>

### **Conservative Party members suspended over Islamophobia claims**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-51709197>

**SNP to readmit MP Neale Hanvey after anti-Semitism probe**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-51723096>

**SNP suspend anti-Semitism row MP Neale Hanvey for six months**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18278188.snp-suspend-anti-semitism-row-mp-neale-hanvey-six-months/>

**SNP to readmit MP Neale Hanvey after investigation into anti-Semitism**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/snp-readmit-mp-neale-hanvey-after-investigation-anti-semitism-2052224>

**Anti-Semitism row MP Neale Hanvey says he feels 'tortured' by SNP suspension**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18280518.anti-semitism-row-mp-neale-hanvey-says-feels-tortured-snp-suspension/>

**As Dawn Butler discovered, you can't call out racism – it's just too rude**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/boris-johnson-racist-dawn-butler-laura-trott-bbc-politics-live-a9383786.html>

**It's a rap as music to fight sectarianism in £860,000 arts funding**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18273024.rap-music-fight-sectarianism-860-000-arts-funding/>

**Man who shouted 'dirty Jews' and shoved baby's pram convicted of racist assault**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/baby-pram-st-albans-antisemitism-assault-michael-mendelsohn-adam-cassidy-a9369401.html>

**'I don't want your coronavirus in my country': Young Singaporean man beaten up in racist attack in London**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/racist-attack-coronavirus-news-london-facebook-a9371326.html>

**Vietnamese curator banned from UK event after being told 'Asians are seen as coronavirus carriers'**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/art/news/coronavirus-affordable-arts-fair-an-nguyen-asian-vietnamese-battersea-a9378481.html>

**White supremacist stickers posted outside York school**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-york-north-yorkshire-51735215>

**Nottingham boy, 2, 'being spat at was hate crime'**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leicestershire-51615997>

**Manchester United condemn apparent racist abuse of Jesse Lingard at Derby**

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2020/mar/06/manchester-united-condemn-apparent-racist-abuse-of-jesse-lingard-at-derby>

**Manchester United and Derby County launch investigation into racial abuse of Jesse Lingard after FA Cup tie**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2020/03/06/manchester-united-derby-county-launch-investigation-jesse-lingard/>

**Leeds goalkeeper Kiko Casilla was banned for using N-word, confirms FA**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2020/mar/03/leeds-uniteds-kiko-casilla-was-banned-for-using-n-word>

**Jonathan Leko accuses PFA and 'leading anti-racism bodies' of failing to support him over racist abuse**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/football-league/jonathan-leko-kiko-casilla-west-brom-club-statement-a9376106.html>

**Racism target Jonathan Leko – they made me feel I was in the wrong**  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/racism-target-jonathan-leko-they-made-me-feel-i-was-in-the-wrong-38skh9jns>

**Kick It Out insist it tried to offer Jonathan Leko support over racist abuse**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/news/jonathan-leko-kick-it-out-pfa-racist-abuse-kiko-casilla-a9378716.html>

**PFA apologises to Jonathan Leko over handling of Kiko Casilla racism case**  
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2020/03/04/jonathan-leko-hits-kick-pfa-handling-kiko-casilla-racism-case/>

**Jonathan Leko's story is sadly no surprise – football is failing black players**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/jonathan-leko-kiko-casilla-kick-it-out-west-brom-charlton-a9381041.html>

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## Other UK Parliament and Government

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

#### **Religious Buildings: Security**

**Theresa Villiers (Conservative)** [19782] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much funding has been (a) allocated and (b) disbursed from the Places of Worship Protective Security Funding Scheme.

**Theresa Villiers (Conservative)** [19783] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, which places of worship have received funding from the Places of Worship Protective Security Funding Scheme.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** The Home Office does not disclose details or confirm individual grants for individual places of worship that have received funding through the Places of Worship Security Funding Scheme, as disclosing the identities of the places of worship may put their security at risk.

For the first three years of the Places of Worship Protective Security Funding Scheme, £800,000 was allocated each year. Over those three years, the Home Office awarded 134 grants worth approximately £1.5 million – with 63 to churches, 49 to mosques, 5 to Hindu temples, and 17 to gurdwaras.

For the fourth year of the scheme, the then Home Secretary announced last year an uplift of funding to £1.6 million for 2019-20. The Home Office is currently finalising applications with a view to informing applicants in the near future.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-24/19782/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-24/19783/>

### **Female Genital Mutilation**

**Jim Shannon (DUP)** [12263] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent steps her Department has taken to tackle female genital mutilation.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a crime and it is child abuse. We will not tolerate a practice that can cause extreme and lifelong physical and psychological suffering to women and girls. The Government significantly strengthened the law in 2015 to improve protection for victims and those at risk, and to break down the barriers to prosecution.

The Home Office's FGM unit delivers nationwide outreach on FGM, speaking at awareness-raising events across the UK. We continue to provide free resources for frontline professionals, including: a resource pack, e-learning, statutory multi-agency guidance and a range of communication materials.

Between October 2018 and February 2019, the Home Office ran a communications campaign to tackle FGM, called 'Let's Protect Our Girls'. The campaign sought to prevent FGM by changing attitudes among affected communities and by raising awareness of the negative long-term health consequences of FGM. The campaign also made clear that FGM is a crime and encouraged communities to report via the NSPCC's FGM helpline.

Last year, the Home Office trained around 1,300 professionals across the country on how to apply for FGM and Forced Marriage Protection Orders. The events raised awareness of the scope and effectiveness of the orders, with the aim of encouraging professionals to always consider them in any safeguarding plans.

Operation Limelight, a joint operation between Border Force and the police, continues to raise awareness of FGM and forced marriage at the border in order to safeguard potential victims.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-04/12263/>

## **News**

**Parliament's petition website re-opened**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-51722286>

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## **Health Information: Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

### **NHS**

**Information and advice about Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus>

**Information and advice about Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

## Scottish Government

### Coronavirus in Scotland

<https://www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/>

## UK Government

### Coronavirus (COVID-19): UK government response

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

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## Other News

### British Muslims are concerned about Islamist extremism and do trust the police, survey finds

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/muslims-uk-views-extremism-police-prevent-survey-crest-a9370081.html>

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## 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 2 consideration of amendments, Education and Skills Committee

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12558&i=113514#ScotParlOR>

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

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

### UK Parliament

#### Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) Bill

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

#### Asylum Support (Prescribed Period) Bill

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

## **\*\* Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Bill**

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-21/immigrationandsocialsecuritycoordinationeuwithdrawal.html>

Bill as introduced

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-01/0104/20104.pdf>

Explanatory Notes

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-01/0104/en/20104en.pdf>

Memorandum from the Home Office to the Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform Committee

[https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-01/0104/2020-03-04%20DPmemo%20-%20ImmSSCBill%20Final%20\(003\).pdf](https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-01/0104/2020-03-04%20DPmemo%20-%20ImmSSCBill%20Final%20(003).pdf)

European Convention on Human Rights Memorandum by the Home Office

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-01/0104/2020-03-04%20ECHR%20Memo%20ImmSSCBill%20Final2.pdf>

Policy Equality Impact Assessment

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/870581/Policy-equality-impact-assessment-immigration.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/870581/Policy-equality-impact-assessment-immigration.pdf)

Policy Equality Impact Assessment Social Security Co-ordination

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/870582/Policy-equality-impact-assessment-social-security-co-ordination.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/870582/Policy-equality-impact-assessment-social-security-co-ordination.pdf)

Policy paper – Factsheet 1: overview

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-bill-2020-factsheets/factsheet-1-overview>

Policy paper – Factsheet 2: status of Irish citizens

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-bill-2020-factsheets/factsheet-2-status-of-irish-citizen>

Policy paper – Factsheet 3: consequential power (relating to ending free movement)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-bill-2020-factsheets/factsheet-3-consequential-power-relating-to-ending-free-movement>

Policy paper – Factsheet 4: social security co-ordination

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-bill-2020-factsheets/factsheet-4-social-security-co-ordination>

## **Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill**

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

## **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>

## **Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (Legal Advice and Appeals) Bill**

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

## Windrush Compensation Scheme (Expenditure) Bill

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

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## Consultations

\*\* new or updated this week

**\*\* closes this week!**

**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>

**Race equality, employment and skills inquiry** (closing date 17 April 2020)

<https://yourviews.parliament.scot/ehrc/race-equality-employment-and-skills-inquiry/>

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

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

**Experiences of Islamophobia** (closing date not stated)

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

**Raising skills and standards of supporters of refugees and asylum seekers**

(closing date not stated)

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

**Police Scotland: Your view counts** (open all year)

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

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## Job Opportunities

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

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

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## Funding Opportunities

\*\* new or updated this week

### **\*\* Fife Centre for Equalities Diversity Week Activity Fund 2020**

*Closing date not stated*

Grants of up to £100 for charities, community and voluntary groups, sporting groups, and informal groups to host a one-off activity celebrating the diverse population of Fife during Fife Centre for Equalities Diversity Week 7-13 September 2020. For information and to apply see <https://tinyurl.com/stbmu24>

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## Events, Conferences, and Training

\*\* new or updated this week

### **\*\* *this week!***

#### **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)

### **\*\* *this week!***

#### **Sanctuary in Scotland**

14 March 2020 in Edinburgh (10.00-3.30)

Church of Scotland, ACTS and CTBI conference to develop and support a shared commitment between the Churches on issues relating to migration, especially with those who are asylum seekers. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/umh6ljb>

#### **Researching migrant and ethnic minority communities in Scotland**

18 March 2020 in Aberdeen (12.00–3.30)

School of Nursing and Midwifery at Robert Gordon University Symposium to discuss the influence of policy on research with migrant and ethnic minority communities. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/stry5vl>

#### **Talking Prejudice**

23 March 2020 in Glasgow (9.30–4.00)

5 May 2020 in Inverness (9.30–4.00)

2 June 2020 in Stirling (9.30–4.00)

YouthLink event for youth workers and others working in diverse communities to hear from other professionals about the tools and services available to address hate crime and prejudice. For information about the Glasgow event see <https://tinyurl.com/uq4antk> for the Inverness event see <https://tinyurl.com/t5g6xnv> and for the Stirling event see <https://tinyurl.com/v29nlow>

#### **Advancing Human Rights & Inspiring Equal Citizens for Torture Survivors**

24 March 2020 in Glasgow (9.30–3.30)

Freedom from Torture event to share learning and experiences from the Healing Neighbourhood Project, in relation to promoting human rights, equality, and the empowerment of torture survivors through community learning and development, and enhancing democratic participation in all aspects of Scottish life. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/wdpzwn>

### **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>

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## **Useful Links**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Volunteer Scotland Disclosure Services**

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

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

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



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



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

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