



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

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

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The Scottish Parliament is in recess until 26 October 2020.

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

British Nationality: Assessments

Bell Ribeiro-Addy (Labour) [102176] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment her Department has made of the effectiveness of the Life in the UK test for fostering the integration of migrants in UK society.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The Life in the UK test is based on the Life in the UK handbook, "Life in the UK: a guide for new residents". The handbook is intended to help those seeking to live permanently in the UK to gain a basic understanding of the democratic principles underlying British society, and of aspects of British culture and traditions, and to understand some of the cultural and historical references which occur in everyday conversations.

The Home Office works with the handbook publisher and test provider to monitor

test performance to ensure the test remains effective and to respond to feedback from candidates on their experience of studying for and taking the test.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-12/102176>

Immigration

John Hayes (Conservative) [101953] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of net migration to the UK from (a) EU member states and (b) the rest of the world in each of the first three years following the introduction of points based system for immigration.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The Home Office does not forecast future levels of net migration due to the considerable uncertainties involved. Quarterly historical net migration figures are published by the Office for National Statistics.

The department has published an Impact Assessment for the Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Bill which included an assessment of the potential number of skilled workers who may be eligible under the new points-based immigration system. This included illustrative scenarios for inflows of both EU and non-EU nationals over the next three years. Estimates were provided for all skilled workers and not split by new entrant and experienced workers.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/internationalmigration/bulletins/migrationstatisticsquarterlyreport/august2020#development-of-migration-statistics>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-bill-2020-overarching-documents>

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-12/101953>

Immigration

Stephen Timms (Labour) [100882] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people were granted an extension to their Leave to Remain in the last 12 months with No Recourse to Public Funds conditions.

Reply from Chris Philp: In the year ending June 2020, there were 357,273 extensions of stay in the UK granted, the majority of which would have the No Recourse to Public Funds condition imposed. See Exe_01:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/910110/extentions-summary-jun-2020-tables.xlsx

Across in-country extension routes (not including Settlement), only the 'family and human rights' categories have the No Recourse to Public Funds lifted at the initial decision point. All other grants of limited leave(as shown in published statistics) would have the NRPF condition applied. Should a person's financial circumstances change and they are on a 'family and human rights' category, then they may apply for the NRPF condition to be lift through a Destitution Change of Circumstances application. Data on Destitution Change of Circumstances can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-protection-data-august-2020>.

The table below shows further analysis of the initial decision for grants, in the year ending June 2020, made in those routes where the condition may not have been applied, giving an indication of how many grants do not have the No Recourse to Public Funds condition imposed at this initial point of extension.

		No Recourse to Public Funds	Recourse to Public Funds	% No Recourse to Public Funds
2019 Q3	In-country 'family' extensions	27,768	2,993	90%

2019 Q4	In-country 'family' extensions	25,314	3,222	89%
2020 Q1	In-country 'family' extensions	21,411	2,608	89%
2020 Q2	In-country 'family' extensions	6,720	1,080	86%

Across in-country extension routes (not including Settlement), only the 'family and human rights' categories have the No Recourse to Public Funds lifted at the initial decision point. All other grants of limited leave would have the NRPF condition applied. Should a person's financial circumstances change, then they may apply for the NRPF condition to be lifted through a Destitution Change of Circumstances. Data on Destitution

Change of Circumstances can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-protection-data-august-2020>.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-08/100882>

Immigrants: Coronavirus

Kate Osamor (Labour Co-op) [99680] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 2 October 2020 to Question 93654 on Immigrants: Coronavirus, what support is available for migrants with no recourse to public funds who are not entitled to contributory based benefits or local authority support and who are waiting for their change of conditions application to be processed.

Reply from Chris Philp: The Government has acted decisively to ensure that we support everyone through this crisis. We are committed to protecting vulnerable people and are confident that we have measures in place to support those who have no recourse to public funds.

Many of the wide-ranging coronavirus measures we have put in place are not considered public funds and therefore are available to migrants with no recourse to public funds. These range from protections for renters from evictions, a mortgage holiday for those who need it, as well as support for those who are vulnerable and need assistance with access to medication and shopping. Measures also include the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and the Self-Employed Income Support Scheme, along with statutory sick pay which is open to those with no recourse to public funds.

Those with leave under the Family and Human Rights routes can apply to have the no recourse to public funds (NRPF) restriction lifted by making a 'change of conditions' application. This application can be made if a migrant is destitute or at risk of destitution, if the welfare of their child is at risk due to their low income, or where there are other exceptional financial circumstances.

We recognise the important work being undertaken by the voluntary sector and have also allocated £750m funding for charities who are providing vital support to vulnerable people at this difficult time.

Local authorities, who have been allocated more than £4.3 billion to help them respond to Covid-19 pressures across all the services they deliver, may also provide basic safety net support, regardless of immigration status, if it is established that there is a genuine care need that does not arise solely from destitution.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-06/99680>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-09-22/93654>

Coronavirus Self-isolation Payment Scheme: Immigrants

Lloyd Russell-Moyle (Labour Co-op) [92861] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, whether people with no recourse to public funds will be eligible for the Government's recently announced covid-19 self-isolation payment.

Reply from Helen Whately: The Test and Trace Support Payment scheme came into effect on 28 September and will run until 31 January 2021. To be eligible for the Support Payment an individual must be currently receiving Universal Credit, Working Tax Credit, income-based Employment and Support Allowance, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income Support, Housing Benefit and/or Pension Credit.

For individuals that do not qualify for the Test and Trace Support Payment but require corresponding financial support to self-isolate, there will be a discretionary fund in place. Further guidance on this will be shared with local authorities shortly.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-09-21/92861>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Visas: Applications

Lloyd Russell-Moyle (Labour Co-op) [102151] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applicants are waiting for an appointment with UK Visa and Citizenship Application Services as of 12 October 2020.

Lloyd Russell-Moyle (Labour Co-op) [102152] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many appointments UK Visa and Citizenship Application Services are making available each week.

Reply from Kevin Foster: We regularly review the number of customers who have made an application but are yet to book a UKVCAS appointment. The number is influenced by a range of factors and therefore is not a proxy for the number actually 'waiting' for an appointment. For example, our insight tells us some customers are unable to travel to a service point as they are shielding, others have chosen not to book/continue with their application due to a change in circumstances but have not yet withdrawn their application and some have deferred booking for other reasons. During the summer months, following the COVID-19 closure on 27 March and subsequent reopening of UKVCAS service points from 1 June, UKVI invited customers to book in a managed way, following date order. However, since 23 September, customers have been able to book appointments immediately after making their application, thus returning to the pre-COVID-19 process.

The number of appointments added into the system is not constant as it depends on a number of factors. As of 10am on 13 October, this morning there were 12,032 appointments offered for w/c 19 October 2020.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-12/102151>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-12/102152>

Visas

Neil Coyle (Labour) [99626] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many visa decisions were outstanding in the latest period for which figures are available; and what recent estimate she has made of the average waiting time for a decision on a visa.

Reply from Kevin Foster: Information on visas work in progress and processing times for visa applications are published as part of the Migration Transparency data, available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data>.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-06/99626>

Visas: Hong Kong

Sarah Champion (Labour) [100419] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the potential merits of expanding the T5 visa scheme for Hong Kong residents by making it renewable after 24 months until they are eligible for settled status after five years.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The Tier 5 Youth Mobility Scheme with Hong Kong is a reciprocal agreement currently capped at 24 months. In line with similar agreements with other territories it is primarily a cultural exchange programme rather than a route to settlement and it only applies to those aged under 30.

Other immigration routes are available to Hong Kong residents which lead to settlement in the UK, plus we have already announced our intention to create a route to settlement for British National (Overseas) resident in Hong Kong and their dependents.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-07/100419>

Immigration: Northern Ireland

Stephen Farry (Alliance) [101070] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the EU Settlement Scheme Family Permit, whether a relevant person from Northern Ireland who has not been residing in the UK for the six months prior to making an application for that permit intends to return to Northern Ireland with their non-EEA family members is eligible for that permit.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The relevant non-EEA national family members of a relevant person of Northern Ireland can apply for an EU Settlement Scheme Family Permit to accompany that person to, or join them in, the UK, where the relevant person of Northern Ireland holds status under the EU Settlement Scheme or (were they not a British citizen, where they are one) would be granted this status if they applied. The potential eligibility for status under the scheme of the relevant person of Northern Ireland will require they have the requisite continuity of residence in the UK, which generally means they will not have been absent from the UK for more than six months.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-08/101070>

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

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

Immigration: EU Nationals

Claire Hanna (SDLP) [102954] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the changes to the immigration rules of 24 August 2020, if she will make an assessment of the potential merits of allowing non-EU citizens to prove their identity using a valid passport rather than an in-date biometric residence permit as part of their application to the EU Settlement Scheme.

Reply from Kevin Foster: Non-EU citizens applying to the EU Settlement Scheme in the UK can prove their identity using a valid passport, biometric residence card or biometric residence permit.

Where they are applying to the scheme online from outside the UK, they need to use a valid biometric residence card for this purpose, as this is compatible with the identity verification app available as part of the online application process. A non-EU citizen who is unable to apply to the scheme from outside the UK because they do not have a valid biometric residence card can apply for an EU Settlement Scheme family permit to travel to the UK and then apply to the scheme in-country.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-13/102954>

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

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

The following two questions both received the same answer

Asylum: Employment

Tim Farron (Liberal Democrat) [100339] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 29 September 2020 to Question 92763 on Asylum: Employment, if she will publish the evidence that granting asylum seekers the right to work could act as an incentive for asylum seekers to come to the UK.

Tim Farron (Liberal Democrat) [100340] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to Answer of 29 September to Question 92763 on the right to work for asylum seekers, what is the evidential basis for the policy that granting asylum seekers the right to work would cause migrants to bypass work visa rules by lodging asylum claims.

Reply from Chris Philp: There is already published, independent evidence showing that good economic conditions and essential services can create an incentive for people to choose to go to a particular country illegally. This is because it is easier to work under such conditions – and we cannot ignore that access to the labour market is among the reasons that so many people choose to come to the UK illegally, rather than remain in any of the countries through which they transit. That is why it is important to distinguish between those who need protection and those seeking to work here, who can apply for a work visa under the Immigration Rules. Our wider policy could be undermined if migrants bypassed work visa Rules by lodging unfounded asylum claims here.

Asylum seeker right to work is a complex issue. This is under review; it is crucial we take the time to get this right and we are listening carefully to the arguments and considering the evidence put forward on the issue. The Home Office will be happy to discuss the content of the review once it has been completed.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-07/100339>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-07/100340>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-09-21/92763>

Asylum: Housing

Martyn Day (SNP) [101041] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 1 October 2020 to Question 94482 on Asylum: Housing, if her Department will make an assessment of the potential merits of bringing forward legislative proposals to ensure that asylum seekers are informed of the address of where they will be accommodated if their application is successful.

Reply from Chris Philp: There are no current plans to bring forward legislation to inform an individual of where they will be accommodated if their application is successful.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-08/101041>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-09-23/94482>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Refugees

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL8686] To ask Her Majesty's Government what discussions they have had with local authorities about whether they have capacity to welcome refugees to their area.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: We maintain regular dialogue with a variety of resettlement stakeholders, including local authorities, Strategic Migration

Partnerships and other support providers. To date, our resettlement schemes have been supported by over 300 local authorities across the UK, and we are extremely grateful for this support.

Additionally, the successful Community Sponsorship Scheme puts in place the Government's commitment to develop a scheme to allow community groups, charities and faith groups to support refugees directly.

Due to coronavirus (COVID-19) related restrictions and pressures, both overseas and in the UK, it is not currently possible to undertake any refugee resettlement activity. We continue to evaluate how to respond given these restrictions and pressures, but we expect to resume refugee resettlement activity when safe to do so.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-01/hl8686>

British Overseas Territories: Asylum

Lord Jones of Cheltenham (Liberal Democrat) [HL8636] To ask Her Majesty's Government what discussions they have had with local authorities on Ascension and St Helena over the islands' suitability as asylum processing centres.

Reply from Baroness Sugg: As the Foreign Secretary told the Foreign Affairs Select Committee on 6 October 2020, the Government is developing plans to reform policies and laws around illegal migration and asylum to ensure we are able to provide protection to those who need it, while preventing abuse of the system and the criminality associated with it. As part of that work the Government has looked at what other countries do to inform a plan for the UK.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-09-30/hl8636>

The transcript of the Foreign Affairs Select Committee session referred to above can be read at <https://committees.parliament.uk/oralevidence/1000/html/>

The following three questions all received the same answer
Asylum

Lord Jones of Cheltenham (Liberal Democrat) [HL8673] To ask Her Majesty's Government what discussions they have held with the governments of (1) Moldova, (2) Morocco, and (3) Papua New Guinea, about their suitability as UK asylum processing centres; whether each of these governments has indicated their willingness to agree to the establishment of a UK asylum processing centre; and what estimate they have made of the cost per asylum seeker of establishing and maintaining such a centre in each location.

Asylum: Ascension Island

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL8672] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they have abandoned any proposals to move applicants for asylum in the UK to Ascension Island; what other proposals for the movement of such applicants to other countries are still under consideration; and whether they will place a copy of any documentation relating to such proposals in the Library of the House.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL8685] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they carried out any analysis of the potential cost of moving and accommodating asylum seekers to Ascension Island; and if so, what those costs were.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The UK has a long and proud history of providing protection to those who need it, in accordance with our international obligations. Tens of thousands of people have rebuilt their lives in the UK and we will continue to provide safe and legal routes for the vulnerable to do so in the future. Meanwhile, we have seen unprecedented numbers of journeys to the UK by small boat in 2020, which are both dangerous and facilitated by criminals, and so we are determined to render these journeys unviable.

The Department has been developing plans to reform our illegal migration and

asylum policies to ensure we are able to provide protection to those who need it whilst preventing abuse of the system and the criminality associated with it. As part of this, we have explored likeminded states' responses to similar situations in order to consider the various options that exist for deterring people from undertaking these dangerous journeys, exploring a range of options, including those that have been employed by other countries in similar situations. No decisions have been made by Ministers and we continue to work to find the right approach for the UK.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-01/hl8673>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-01/hl8672>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-01/hl8685>

Asylum

Lord Jones of Cheltenham (Liberal Democrat) [HL8633] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of (1) Steepholme, (2) Flatholme, (3) Canvey Island, (4) the Isle of Dogs, and, (5) Sark, as potential locations for asylum processing centres.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Illegal migration has been a complex issue for successive governments. For years people have risked their lives to enter our country illegally, like those crossing the Channel in dangerous small boats. The Home Office will introduce a new system that is firm and fair, prosecuting criminals while protecting vulnerable individuals.

Officials have been looking at a whole host of measures other countries deploy to inform a plan for the UK and bring innovation into our system. As part of this they are consulting with stakeholders and ensuring those plans adhere to our Policy Assurance Framework, but no final proposals have been made and it would not be appropriate to comment on speculation.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-09-30/hl8633>

Asylum: Housing

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL8684] To ask Her Majesty's Government what the estimated cost per week is for each asylum seeker staying in an accommodation centre.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Accommodation costs are considered to be commercially confidential, so we do not provide this information.

However total asylum spends are published as part of transparency data

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data>

Data is published on a quarterly basis with the latest information covering until 30 June 2020. The next quarterly figures are due to be released in November 2020.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-01/hl8684>

UK Parliament, Delegated Legislation Committee

Draft Immigration Skills Charge (Amendment) Regulations 2020

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-10-13/debates/be308fcf-dedb-4ebf-93fd-8e22edf02bfb/DraftImmigrationSkillsCharge\(Amendment\)Regulations2020](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-10-13/debates/be308fcf-dedb-4ebf-93fd-8e22edf02bfb/DraftImmigrationSkillsCharge(Amendment)Regulations2020)

Press Releases

Combating trafficking in human beings: UK statement

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/combating-trafficking-in-human-beings-uk-statement>

Asylum applications remain 31% lower than in 2019

<https://www.easo.europa.eu/news-events/asylum-applications-remain-31-lower-2019>

New Publications

Updated guidance: Coronavirus (COVID-19): advice for UK visa applicants and temporary UK residents

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-for-uk-visa-applicants-and-temporary-uk-residents>

The new regime – Yarl's Wood as a short term holding facility for cross channel refugees

<https://movementforjustice.co.uk/2020/10/12/report-treatment-of-cross-channel-refugees-yarls-wood-lack-of-access-legal-advice-failure-to-identify-victims-of-trafficking-torture/>

Delays & Destitution: An Audit of Doctors of the World's Hospital Access Project (July 2018-20)

<https://www.doctorsoftheworld.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Delays-and-destitution-An-audit-of-Doctors-of-the-Worlds-Hospital-Access-Project-July-2018-20.pdf>

News

Patel's asylum plans lack sense and compassion

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/oct/12/patels-asylum-plans-lack-sense-and-compassion>

NHS migrant healthcare charges are hampering the fight against Covid-19

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/oct/14/nhs-migrant-healthcare-charges-are-hampering-the-fight-against-covid-19>

Migrants in England denied NHS care for average of 37 weeks, research finds

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/oct/14/migrants-denied-nhs-care-for-average-of-37-weeks-research-finds>

Windrush report author attacks Home Office's response

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/oct/14/windrush-report-author-attacks-home-office-response>

Home Office hasn't learned from Windrush

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/oct/14/home-office-hasnt-learned-from-windrush>

'Call out the lies': UK charities hit back over bids to blame refugees for housing crisis

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2020/oct/16/call-out-the-lies-uk-charities-hit-back-over-bids-to-blame-refugees-for-housing-crisis>

Dozens of migrants cross English Channel in 12 boats

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-kent-54589736>

Channel asylum seekers not given access to legal advice until days before deportation, research finds

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/channel-asylum-seekers-uk-priti-patel-migrants-deportation-home-office-b988542.html>

Live army shooting exercise halted after migrants crossing Channel run on to firing range

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/10/14/ministry-defence-shooting-range-forced-halt-live-exercise-migrants/>

Army forced to stop live fire exercises on Kent coast after migrants land in 'danger area'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/army-kent-migrants-lydd-ranges-shooting-drill-b1045131.html>

Home Office's focus on immigration control playing into hands of traffickers, lawyers and NGOs warn

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/modern-slavery-trafficking-immigration-focus-priti-patel-home-office-b1076524.html>

Thousands of victims of child trafficking denied right to stay in the UK

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2020/oct/17/thousands-of-victims-of-child-trafficking-denied-right-to-stay-in-the-uk>

Refugee supporters hold 'welcome event' for asylum seekers in Kent

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/oct/17/refugee-supporters-clash-with-far-right-activists-in-kent-protests>

Kent locals to welcome 'new neighbours' at military barracks housing migrants

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/kent-migrants-military-barracks-home-office-channel-crossing-b1101292.html>

Asylum seeker held at former Kent barracks tests positive for Covid-19

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/oct/16/fears-grow-of-covid-outbreak-at-former-kent-barracks-which-houses-asylum-seekers>

Judges reined in on using human rights laws to block deportations

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/10/17/judges-reined-using-human-rights-laws-block-deportations/>

Man who was on boat with Sudanese refugee who drowned makes it to UK

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/oct/12/man-who-was-on-boat-with-sudanese-refugee-who-drowned-makes-it-to-uk>

Outrage at island detention plans is easy - fight hotel detention of refugees in Glasgow

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18798877.outrage-island-detention-plans-easy---fight-hotel-detention-refugees-glasgow/>

Family of NHS consultant stricken by Covid face removal from UK

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/oct/15/family-of-nhs-consultant-stricken-by-covid-face-removal-from-uk>

Asylum case review call after engineering graduate's 4-year decision wait

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18795045.asylum-case-review-call-engineering-graduates-4-year-decision-wait/>

TOP

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Homelessness: Ethnic Groups

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL8836] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to address homelessness amongst BAME groups who are at greater risk from COVID-19.

Reply from Lord Greenhalgh: Our rapid response to the pandemic through 'Everyone In' has ensured that thousands of people experiencing or at risk of rough sleeping have been housed in emergency accommodation since the start of the pandemic, to protect those at greater risk from COVID-19. The Next Steps Accommodation Programme is supporting local authorities and their partners to prevent people from returning to the streets. This is backed by over half a billion pounds to tackle homelessness and rough sleeping this year.

Local authorities have a statutory duty to provide accommodation for households that are homeless and defined as being in priority need, unintentionally homeless and eligible for assistance. They are obliged to secure temporary accommodation for the household in the first instance until suitable long-term accommodation can be secured.

The priority need category includes those who are vulnerable as a result of special reasons and local authorities should consider the impact COVID-19 is having on those with protected characteristics when carrying out their homelessness assessment and determining priority need.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-06/hl8836>

Suicide: Travellers

Baroness Whitaker (Labour) [HL8568] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the answer by Lord Bethell on 8 September (HL Deb, cols 662–5), what assessment they have made of the findings of the report by Friends, Families and Travellers, published on 21 August, that the suicide rate of people from the Gypsy and Traveller community is six to seven times higher than the rest of the population; why Gypsies and Travellers are not included on the list of high risk groups in their National Suicide Prevention Plan; and what plans they have to discuss measures to tackle the prevalence of suicide among Gypsy and Traveller communities with Baroness Whitaker and representatives of Friends, Families and Travellers.

Reply from Lord Bethell: We have not made a formal assessment. We continue to explore ways of improving the quality and timeliness of suicide data to allow both national and local partners to continue to monitor rates, identify trends and develop effective prevention plans.

We know that there are certain groups that may be exposed to more risk factors for suicide, and we expect local agencies to work together to ensure that their plans are tailored to meet the needs of these groups. These groups include people from minority ethnic groups, such as Romany Gypsies or Irish Travellers.

We will consider any request from the noble Baroness for such a discussion.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-09-28/hl8568>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-09-08/debates/03023B9E-932F-44AC-AF45-D3F80063429D/Suicide>

Press Releases

Minister for Women and Equalities selects new EHRC Chair

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/minister-for-women-and-equalities-selects-new-ehrc-chair>

New 'Diversity Built Britain' coin unveiled

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-diversity-built-britain-coin-unveiled>

New Publications

Public Appointments Race Equality Action Plan 2019 – 2022

<https://tinyurl.com/y63eoa5a>

R (on the application of Z and another) (AP) (Appellants) v Hackney London Borough Council and another (Respondents): Whether the Second Respondent can lawfully restrict the provision of its social housing to members of the Orthodox Jewish community

<https://www.supremecourt.uk/cases/docs/uksc-2019-0162-press-summary.pdf>

News

Young white Britons out-earned by BAME counterparts, pay gap data reveals

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/10/12/young-white-britons-outearned-bame-counterparts-pay-gap-data/>

Talk of 'white privilege' is divisive drive

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/talk-of-white-privilege-is-divisive-drive-t7vmc0pnd>

Museums to recognise Scotland's colonial and slavery history

<https://tfn.scot/news/museums-to-recognise-scotlands-colonial-and-slavery-history>

Orthodox housing group wins Supreme Court case

<https://www.thejc.com/news/uk/orthodox-housing-group-wins-supreme-court-case-1.507667>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament Debate

Chinese and East Asian Communities: Racism during Covid-19

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-10-13/debates/858E78B5-1049-4480-A1A7-5362FC12F47E/ChineseAndEastAsianCommunitiesRacismDuringCovid-19>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Hate Crime

Baroness Ritchie of Downpatrick (Non-affiliated) [HL8604] To ask Her Majesty's Government what discussions they have had, and with whom, about tackling hate crime.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The government continues to routinely engage with a wide range of national partners and other stakeholders about tackling all aspects of hate crime.

The Home Office and MHCLG are also working closely with the National Police Chief's Council to ensure that all police forces are providing reassurance to affected communities and encouraging hate crime reporting during the Covid 19 pandemic. This includes working with civil society partners and social media platforms to encourage victim reporting of hate crime.

The Government is also engaging with a range of Departments and civil society partners to explore possible approaches to tackling hate crime beyond the Hate Crime Action Plan 2016-2020.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-09-29/hl8604>

The action plan referred to above can be read at

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

Schools: Racial Harassment

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL8611] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the survey conducted by The Diana Award, published in September, which found that 32 per cent of the children surveyed had overheard racist comments at school.

Reply from Baroness Berridge: We are clear that there is no place for racism in schools and our wider education system. All children and young people deserve the opportunity to progress and fulfil their potential in an environment free from fear, prejudice or hate.

Departmental officials are aware of the findings you refer to from The Diana Award's recent survey, and these are being considered as part of our ongoing work to tackle racism in schools. We are providing an additional £750,000 funding in the 2020-21 financial year to three anti-bullying organisations, including The Diana Award, to help schools continue to tackle bullying, such as through programmes that tackle prejudice and discrimination.

More broadly, schools play an important role in preparing pupils for life in modern Britain. This involves supporting pupils to understand the society in which they grow up and teaching about respect for other people and for difference. Schools and further education providers are also required to actively promote fundamental British values, including individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs. The department has published advice for schools on promoting these values and has made resources available through the Educate Against Hate website. This website provides teachers, school leaders and parents with the information, guidance and support they need to challenge radical views, including racist and discriminatory beliefs. The website is available here: <https://educateagainsthate.com/>.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-09-29/hl8611>

The findings referred to above can be read at

<https://diana-award.org.uk/news/anti-bullying/new-research-carried-out-by-the-diana-award-for-anti-bullying-week/>

News

Crimes linked to race and religion rise in England and Wales

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/oct/13/crimes-linked-to-race-and-religion-rise-in-england-and-wales>

Hate crime in England and Wales hits new record as racially motivated offences rocket by 4,000

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/hate-crime-police-england-wales-record-b1010765.html>

I'm an ex-officer. The Met police today looks and feels as racist as it was before Macpherson

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/oct/13/office-met-police-racist-macpherson-stephen-lawrence-inquiry-black-people>

Grammar school pupil became convicted neo-Nazi terrorist

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/10/16/grammar-school-pupil-became-neo-nazi-terrorist-shows-anyone/>

Neo-Nazi teenager admits encouraging terror attacks with propaganda poster campaign

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/neo-nazi-terrorists-uk-teenagers-harry-vaughan-kingston-london-attacks-b1073965.html>

Disney updates content warning for racism in classic films

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-54566087>

'I was mistaken for a security guard at my first banking job'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-54438596>

'Change is coming' - Tommie Smith backs sports stars making anti-racism stand

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/53168530>

British countryside is racist, says Countryfile presenter

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/10/15/british-countryside-racist-says-countryfile-presenter>

Rural Britain is racist, says Countryfile presenter Ellie Harrison

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/rural-britain-is-racist-says-countryfile-presenter-ellie-harrison-wpk0lc7gn>

I've always loved fried chicken. But the racism surrounding it shamed me

<https://www.theguardian.com/food/2020/oct/13/ive-always-loved-fried-chicken-but-the-racism-surrounding-it-shamed-me>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

New Publication

Coronavirus (Scotland) (No.2) Act 2020: Report on the steps taken to ensure that the solemnisation of marriages and the registration of civil partnerships continues to be available, and on the number of marriages and civil partnerships that have taken place during the reporting period

<https://tinyurl.com/y5z5a4ak>

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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

Elections: Travellers

Cat Smith (Labour) [100441] To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office, pursuant to the Answer of 1 October 2020 to Question 94462, if he will make an assessment of the potential effect of introducing mandatory voter ID on the ability of the Roma and Traveller community to vote.

Elections: Ethnic Groups

Cat Smith (Labour) [100442] To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office, what assessment he has made of the effect of the Government not holding data on ethnic groups' possession of photographic ID on BAME voters in the event that the Government introduces voter ID.

Reply from Chloe Smith: Further to my detailed answer of 1 October 2020, showing ID is something people of all backgrounds already do every day, for example to take out a library book, claim benefits or pick up a parcel from the post office. Proving who you are before you make a decision of huge importance at the ballot box should be no different. As I noted, ID is required already in many different areas of life, including by many constituency Labour parties.

The list of approved photographic ID will not be limited to passports and driving licences. For any voter who does not have one of the required forms of photographic ID, a local elector ID will be available, free of charge. Everyone who is eligible to vote will have the opportunity to do so.

The Government has taken due regard to the public sector equality duty throughout the process to date. We will continue to work with the Electoral Commission and other stakeholders including charities and civil society organisations to make sure that such reforms are inclusive for all voters.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-07/100441>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-07/100442>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-09-23/94531>

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Health Information: Coronavirus (COVID-19)

NHS

NHS Inform (Scotland)

Latest guidance about COVID-19 from NHS Scotland and the Scottish Government, including social distancing and stay at home advice.

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

Protect-Scot contact tracing app

<https://protect.scot/how-it-works>

Healthcare for overseas visitors

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/care-support-and-rights/health-rights/access/healthcare-for-overseas-visitors>

Healthcare for refugees and asylum seekers

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/care-support-and-rights/health-rights/access/healthcare-for-refugees-and-asylum-seekers>

NHS Near Me (Scotland)

Near Me is a video consulting service that enables people to have health and social care appointments from home or wherever is convenient. All you need is a device for making video calls like a smartphone and an internet connection. Near Me is a secure form of video consulting approved for use by the Scottish Government and NHS Scotland.

<https://www.nearme.scot/>

NHS (England and Wales)

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

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Ethnic Groups: Coronavirus

Shabana Mahmood (Labour) [97524] To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities, what recent progress the Government has made on reducing the increased risk to Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities from covid-19.

Reply from Kemi Badenoch: The Government is implementing significant measures to reduce the spread of the virus in all communities, especially for people who may be at higher risk. This includes ensuring that those in high-contact professions get targeted testing, issuing updated guidance on workplace safety and translating key public health messages into multiple different languages.

I am also leading work on the findings of the Public Health England Report “Disparities in the risk and outcomes of COVID-19”. Following work undertaken by the scientific community, the Office for National Statistics and the Race Disparity Unit, we have made good progress in recent weeks in identifying the key drivers of these disparities and the relationships between the different risk factors for ethnic minority communities. I have also been reviewing the effectiveness and impact of current actions being undertaken by government departments and their agencies to directly lessen the disparities. I will shortly be sending the first quarterly progress report on my work to the Prime Minister.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-09-30/97524>

The report referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/908434/Disparities_in_the_risk_and_outcomes_of_COVID_August_2020_update.pdf

Scottish Government Press Release

Coronavirus (COVID-19): getting tested in Scotland

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

Scottish Government Publications

Coronavirus (COVID-19): daily data for Scotland

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-daily-data-for-scotland/>

Coronavirus (COVID-19): trends in daily data

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-trends-in-daily-data/>

Coronavirus (COVID-19) update: First Minister's speech 16 October 2020

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-update-first-ministers-speech-16-october-2020/>

UK Government Publication

Prime Minister's statement on coronavirus (COVID-19): 16 October 2020

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/prime-ministers-statement-on-coronavirus-covid-19-16-october-2020>

News

Coronavirus: Higher ethnic death risk 'not linked to health'

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-54567866>

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Bills in Progress ** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

Children (Scotland) Bill

<https://beta.parliament.scot/bills/children-scotland-bill>

Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Bill

<https://beta.parliament.scot/bills/hate-crime-and-public-order-scotland-bill>

Post-mortem Examinations (Defence Time Limit) (Scotland) Bill

<https://beta.parliament.scot/bills/post-mortem-examinations-defence-time-limit-scotland-bill>

UK Parliament

Asylum Seekers (Accommodation Eviction Procedures) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2699>

Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2638>

Asylum Support (Prescribed Period) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2535>

European Citizens' Rights Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2704>

Illegal Immigration (Offences) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2660>

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

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2714>

Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2574>

Immigration (Health and Social Care Staff)

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2770>

Marriage (Approved Organisations) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2537>

Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2538>

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (Legal Advice and Appeals) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2611>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

Hate crime laws [in England and Wales] (closing date 24 December 2020)

<https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/project/hate-crime/>

Future Arrangements for Early Medical Abortion at Home (closing date 5 January 2021)

<https://consult.gov.scot/population-health/early-medical-abortion-at-home/>

** **Tackling modern slavery [in Northern Ireland]** (closing date 7 January 2021)

<https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-tackling-modern-slavery>

Your Police 2020-2021 (closing date 31 March 2021)

Police Scotland recognise the importance of understanding the views and priorities of Scotland's diverse communities. This is especially important during the ongoing Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. This survey is an opportunity for you to give your views and opinions during these challenging times, and beyond.

<https://consult.scotland.police.uk/surveys/your-police-2020-2021/>

Equality and human rights impact of Covid-19 (closing date not stated)

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/114975.aspx>

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>

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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

Grants online: Coronavirus

A number of Community Foundations and other organisations have launched funding programmes to assist local organisations in responding to the challenges of the Coronavirus Pandemic. To read a list of organisations and the types of funding they have made available, see <https://www.grantsonline.org.uk/coronavirus.html>

Resilient & Inclusive Communities Fund

Running until March 2021

BEMIS grants of up to £3,000, in partnership with Foundation Scotland, for eligible local community groups and organisations supporting disadvantaged and excluded communities (suffering with domestic abuse; mental health; access to food, shelter and amenities; poverty, access to services/care). For information see

<https://bemis.org.uk/ricfund/>

Covid-19 Transition Fund

Closing date not stated

Ethnic Minority National Resilience Network funding for organisations to respond to the changing needs of their members in a sustainable way. Funding priorities will be to ensure that community organisations can:

- set up sustainable networks that support access to food and sustenance needs initially up until August 2020

- support their communities to be connected to services, information and communication
- provide services to tackle isolation, such as online events and befriending

For information and to apply see

<https://bemis.org.uk/emnrrn/transition-fund/>

Places of Worship Fund

Running until mid January 2021

Interfaith Scotland grants of up to £500 for places of worship that are struggling to meet the safety requirements of re-opening their buildings and safely holding services within Government Guidelines. With discretion the funds can also be used to assist in keeping open places that have managed their initial outlay with regard to safely reopening their place of worship but are now struggling to keep up the measures required to stay open.

This fund will help places of worship to:

- **Re-open** safely, including deep clean premises, provide appropriate signage and ensure that all volunteers and staff have appropriate training and PPE.
- **Keep open** places of worship that are struggling with the on-going health and safety costs during the pandemic
- **Remain connected** with those still too vulnerable to come to a place of worship – this may be through regular mail outs, telephone calls or the provision of mobile devices to allow those without digital access to keep in touch
- **Advancing Equality and Tackling Loneliness** Supporting faith communities to open the doors of their places of worship in a safe and inclusive manner will enable thousands of lonely and isolated people across Scotland to re-connect with their wider community.

The funding will be available for faith communities and community groups that utilise places of worship only, and will be offered to faith communities that are members and associate members of Interfaith Scotland in the first instance. For full details and an application form contact Frances Hume frances@interfaithscotland.org

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Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Vulnerable Citizens and The EU Settlement Scheme - Part 2

20 October 2020 (online, 4.00)

Citizens' Rights Project webinar to learn how you can support vulnerable EU citizens to continue living in the United Kingdom and safeguarding their rights after Brexit. For information and to register see <https://tinyurl.com/y2ycz49g>

**** this week!**

Developing Management and Leadership Skills Programme for Black and Minority Ethnic Communities

21 October 2020 to 20 May 2021 (online)

PATH training programme to address imbalances in the representation from black and minority ethnic communities in all aspects and levels of public life. For information see <https://www.dropbox.com/s/qztq5btqsfhvukh/dmls%202020-21%20course%20outline.docx?dl=0>

Strengthening Migrants' Human Rights in Scotland: The Plans & the Priorities

28 October 2020 (online, 9.30–12.00)

Human Rights Consortium event on how migrants' rights can be strengthened, as Scotland moves to incorporate more international human rights. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yxu2ppyl>

Rights and Entitlements of EEA Nationals

4 November 2020 (online, 10.00–12.00)

13 January 2021 (online, 10.00–12.00)

3 March 2021 (online, 10.00–12.00)

Positive Action in Housing course to provide information about fundamental issues of housing, homelessness and welfare entitlements of EEA nationals and look at how service users might prepare themselves to avoid the threats of Brexit. For information contact training@positiveactionh.org or see <https://www.paih.org/our-services/training/>

Scottish Interfaith Week

8-15 November 2020

SIFW brings people together whilst promoting dialogue, understanding and co-operation between Scotland's diverse religious communities and cultures. The full programme of events is available at <http://scottishinterfaithweek.org/programme-2020>

**** Hate Crime and COVID-19**

11 November 2020 (online, 9.30–10.45)

Manchester Metropolitan University seminar to discuss reports in the UK and Australia that attest to increases in hate crimes against Chinese and people who look 'Chinese', attributed to racist assumptions that they are to blame for the COVID-19 pandemic. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yy8s6q7s>

Rights of Refugees and Asylum Seekers

11 November 2020 (online, 10.00–12.00)

20 January 2021 (online, 10.00–12.00)

10 March 2021 (online, 10.00–12.00)

Positive Action in Housing course to explore how the asylum system works from the perspective of a claimant and the process involved in making a claim for asylum. The course will also explore the barriers faced by both refugees and asylum seekers building a new life in Scotland and their respective entitlement to services. For information contact training@positiveactionh.org or see <https://www.paih.org/our-services/training/>

No Recourse to Public Funds

18 November 2020 (online, 10.00–12.00)

3 February 2021 (online, 10.00–12.00)

17 March 2021 (online, 10.00–12.00)

Positive Action in Housing course to help frontline workers identify a tenant's current status, clarify what this means in terms of access to public funds and plan effective support where difficulties arise. For information contact training@positiveactionh.org or see <https://www.paih.org/our-services/training/>

Equality and Diversity in Workplace

18 and 19 November 2020 (two day course) (online, 10.30–12.30)

Positive Action in Housing course outlining the fundamentals of how to create a respectful, supportive and inclusive working environment for a diverse staff and volunteer group, discuss the type of language that can be offensive and excluding, and debate how to challenge such behaviour in a constructive manner. For information contact training@positiveactionh.org or see <https://www.paih.org/our-services/training/>

Interpreting Culture

19 and 20 January 2021 (two day course) (online, 10.30–12.30)

Positive Action in Housing course to examine where culture comes from and look at examples of its extraordinary diversity, and focus on interactions with people from other cultures to improve understanding, confidence and trust. For information contact training@positiveactionh.org or see <https://www.paih.org/our-services/training/>

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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/>

SCoJeC
Scottish Council of
Jewish Communities

Representing, connecting, and supporting Jewish people in Scotland



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

BEMIS
Empowering Scotland's Ethnic and
Cultural Minority Communities

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



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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