



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

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

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Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Oral Answers

Freedom to Crawl Campaign

Patrick Harvie (Green): The United Kingdom Home Secretary has declared that immigration dawn raids in Glasgow are “what the British public ... voted for”.

I expect that the First Minister will agree that Scotland did not vote for that. The Conservatives were rejected at the ballot box in Glasgow and across Scotland, and this month we witnessed the people of Glasgow taking direct action to protect their neighbours from the actions of an institutionally racist Home Office.

Immigration and asylum are reserved to the UK Government, but there is no doubt more that we can be doing here in Scotland.

Is the First Minister aware of the Freedom to Crawl campaign that is being launched today by the roof coalition, including Shelter and other charities and grass-roots organisations,

to draw attention to the abysmal standard of accommodation that is provided by Mears on behalf of the Home Office for asylum seekers who are pregnant or who have babies and toddlers? Does she agree that the rights that are set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child are being breached? What will she do to challenge the UK Government on its failings towards some of the most vulnerable people in our communities?

Reply from the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon): I have not seen the detail of the campaign that Patrick Harvie refers to, but I will look at that.

I have profound and fundamental objections to the principles underpinning the UK Government's system of immigration and asylum but also to many of the practical aspects of that, not least the provision of inadequate accommodation for asylum seekers in the city of Glasgow. This Government has raised those concerns directly with the Home Office on many, many occasions and has often been met with indifference to them, but we will continue to raise them.

The provision of accommodation is an important right for anyone, but particularly where children are concerned. Just before the election, this Parliament took a unanimous decision to incorporate the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child into domestic law. That is being challenged in court by the UK Government, and the issue that we are discussing perhaps brings into sharp focus why the UK Government is seeking to challenge that, because it does not want the decisions that it is taking on things such as immigration to be subject to that kind of legal protection and scrutiny.

In my view, that is exactly why we need the UN convention to apply to everything that happens in Scotland, because the rights of a child matter whether that child was born here in Scotland or is the child of an asylum seeker. They are a child living in Scotland, and all children should have the same rights.

Patrick Harvie: The campaign was launched only today but, just so that the First Minister and everybody in Parliament is aware of the concerns that are being raised about the accommodation for mothers and babies in Glasgow, I note that the campaign says that the rooms are cramped and inadequately furnished; that there is virtually no floor space in the rooms for children to play or move around safely in; that there are multiple safety issues with the living, cooking and sleeping areas; that there is no respect for privacy; and that alleged infractions against the rules are posted publicly, humiliating the mothers. It says that all of that breaches the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, the health and care standards and the current Care Inspectorate space standards.

The Scottish Greens have long argued that responsibility for housing asylum seekers should lie with local authorities, which are much better placed and, frankly, more inclined than the institutionally racist Home Office to provide appropriate accommodation. In the Smith commission, the UK Government and every political party committed to discussions on powers on asylum housing and support services coming to Scotland. More than six years later, those discussions have still not taken place. Will the Scottish Government put that issue on the agenda for the next joint ministerial committee and work with Glasgow City Council and charities to develop a public sector bid for those services so that Scotland can provide them to a standard that we can be proud of, instead of allowing a shameful situation to continue?

Reply from the First Minister: Yes, we will seek to put that issue on the agenda for the next joint ministerial committee, but those meetings do not exactly take place frequently, so it is important that we continue to take it up in other ways as well.

Patrick Harvie is right about the Smith commission. Discussions to devolve more powers to the Scottish Parliament in the area of immigration have not progressed. We have a UK Tory Government that is more interested in taking powers away from the Scottish Parliament than bringing powers to it. *[Interruption.]* That is the reality. I know that it is an uncomfortable reality for Mr Ross, but it is the reality

nevertheless. I am sorry if it was not Mr Ross but one of his colleagues who shouted, "Rubbish." However, it is a fact that the UK Government seems more interested in taking powers away.

These issues are important because they are about fundamental human rights and fundamental human dignity, and they bring into sharp focus why the powers should lie with the Scottish Parliament. Notwithstanding the many differences that we have across the chamber, I believe that the Scottish Parliament would take a much more humane approach to immigration and asylum and that we would respond more positively to the demographic challenges that we face and the need to attract more people to live and work in Scotland.

This is a good example of why we need to see those powers lie with the Scottish Parliament. As with many other things, the sooner we can get those powers out of the hands of a Tory Westminster Government, the better for everyone.

<https://archive2021.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=13230&i=119853#ScotParlOR>

UK Parliament Debates

Immigration Rules: Statements of Changes

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2021-05-27/debates/B0AF669A-04B5-481D-A525-C479C22ABC67/ImmigrationRulesStatementsOfChanges>

Asylum Dispersal Scheme: Stoke-on-Trent

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2021-05-25/debates/C332BC19-2FD8-48F0-B2E3-91D2B0BE2BBA/AsylumDispersalSchemeStoke-On-Trent>

UK Parliament, Ministerial Statement

New Plan for Immigration: Legal Migration and Border Control

The Secretary of State for the Home Department (Priti Patel) [HCWS46] On 31 December 2020, freedom of movement between the United Kingdom and the European Union ended. The UK's new points-based immigration system is now in place and receiving applications. This was a significant milestone which delivered on a key HM Government commitment to the British people to take back control of our borders and put in place an immigration system which works in the interests of our whole United Kingdom. However, this only marked the beginning of a wider programme of change to radically transform the operation of our border and immigration system.

In March I set out our plans to fix our broken asylum system and build a fair, but also firm, system for dealing with humanitarian protection claims and illegal migration through this Government's New Plan for Immigration.

Today I am laying before the House a command paper (CP 441) setting out our New Plan for Immigration for legal migration and border control. Together both papers provide a complete picture of the Government's plan to take back control of our borders and immigration system.

Building on the success of the EU settlement scheme and the points-based system, over the next four years we will implement further reforms to bring more radical changes and benefits to the way all individuals cross the border and come to the UK. This will support the plan for growth and two strands of the Government's build back better agenda: to build back safer by securing the UK border and ensuring compliance with a new system of controlled immigration, and to build back stronger by supporting the UK's domestic labour market and attracting the brightest and best global talent to the UK to live, work and study.

The strategy statement I have published today sets out our programme for 2021 and 2022. This includes: further reform to the points-based system, a new graduate visa, new routes to attract top talent to the UK, and a new international sportsperson route, alongside further simplification of our immigration rules to streamline our systems and reduce complexity. We will also be improving the user experience by implementing digital solutions, removing paper from the process and reducing the need to attend application centres. This will lay the groundwork for the full transformation of the border and immigration system in the coming years.

It also outlines our vision for the border and immigration system beyond 2022, with this next phase of our programme being truly transformational for everyone using our systems and crossing the UK border, implementing major elements of HM Government's published 2025 UK border strategy.

We are moving away from a complex system reliant on people proving their rights through physical documents, sometimes decades old, to a streamlined system which is digital by default. Our goal is to achieve this by the end of 2024. This will make the system quicker, easier and in some cases safer for people applying to come to the UK and proving their rights when in the UK.

Through upstream transformation to our border and immigration system we will also improve our ability to know more about people before they reach the UK border. We will introduce an electronic travel authorisation scheme as part of a wider universal permission to travel requirement for everyone wishing to travel to the UK—except British and Irish citizens. This will support us in our ambition to be global leaders in providing a streamlined and seamless customer experience.

This is an ambitious programme to deliver a world-leading border and immigration system. The plans set out in the strategy statement are essential if we are to have a border and immigration system which will attract highly skilled people, while also strengthening the security of our United Kingdom.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2021-05-24/debates/21052448000012/NewPlanForImmigrationLegalMigrationAndBorderControl>

The Strategy Statement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/new-plan-for-immigration-legal-migration-and-border-control/new-plan-for-immigration-legal-migration-and-border-control-strategy-statement-accessible-web-version>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Immigration

Anne McLaughlin (SNP) [3025] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she has taken to engage with devolved Administrations on the New Plan for Immigration; and whether the outcomes of that engagement will inform the public consultation which closed on 6 May 2021.

Reply from Kit Malthouse: The NPI consultation was open to people and organisations across the UK to share their views

The Home Office will consider responses to the consultation carefully, including the method for reporting on its findings, in line with our duties as the policy develops in this area

In relation to the devolved Administrations, efforts were made to meet with officials to discuss the plan however the invitations were declined as the devolved authorities did not feel able to meet with the Home Office. Further attempts to engage the devolved Administrations will continue.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-18/3025>

British Nationality: Ceremonies

Navendu Mishra (4056) To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will make an assessment of the potential merits of suspending the requirement to attend a citizenship ceremony during the outbreak of covid-19.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The citizenship ceremony is an important part of becoming a British citizen. Citizenship ceremonies have now resumed with reduced capacity due to social distancing measures in line with government guidelines. Local Authorities are also conducting virtual ceremonies where possible.

The usual deadline for a person to attend a ceremony within three months of their application being approved has been extended to six months. Advice regarding COVID-19 impacts on Citizenship ceremonies is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/citizenship-ceremonies>

There is discretion to waive the requirements to make the oath and pledge and attend a ceremony in the special circumstances of an individual case.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-19/4056>

British Nationality: Ceremonies

Navendu Mishra (Labour) [4058] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the effect of increases in the waiting time for citizenship ceremonies on applicants.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The usual deadline for a person to attend a ceremony within three months of their application being approved has been extended to six months. The majority of those applying for British citizenship (naturalisation applicants) will be settled in the UK, and so already able to access public services on this basis.

In addition, there is discretion to waive the requirements to make the oath, pledge and to attend a ceremony in the special circumstances where a person needs to acquire citizenship quickly for a compelling reason.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-19/4058>

Immigration

Caroline Lucas (Green) [2946] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the current timescale is for processing leave to remain renewals; what proportion of such renewals cases have been waiting (a) the former service standard time of two months, (b) over four months and (c) longer than six months; what steps she is taking to (i) make the system efficient and (ii) reduce waiting periods; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Kevin Foster: Information on performance against service standards is routinely published as part of the UKVI Transparency data.

The current data is available for Quarter 4 of 2020 and can be found in the attached link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/visas-and-citizenship-data-february-2021>

Data for Quarter 1 of 2021 will be published in the next Transparency data release. Due to the pandemic, there have been some delays to the application process, but we continue to process all applications as quickly as possible.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-18/2946>

Migrants: Coronavirus

Stephen Timms (Labour) [2172] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to prepare for potential changes to the number of No Recourse to Public Funds change of conditions applications as a result of the end of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Chris Philp: The Government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme is currently extended until 30 September 2021. UK Visas and Immigration constantly monitor intake volumes and adjust resources accordingly. Whilst it is not necessarily an automatic consequence that change of conditions applications will increase at the end of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, UK Visas and Immigration will respond as appropriate if this is the case. Published transparency data on Change of Conditions applications can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-protection-data-february-2021>

At the end of the last calendar year the average turnaround for Change of Conditions applications was 18 days.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-17/2172#>

Visas: Married People

Marsha De Cordova (Labour) [2441] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what assessment he has made of the potential merits of giving people on a spousal dependent visa access to student finance.

Reply from Michelle Donelan: Generally, to be eligible for student support, a student must be resident in England and have 'settled' status or a recognised connection with the UK on the first day of the first academic year of the course and must have been a resident of the UK and Islands (Channel Islands and the Isle of Man) for the 3 years prior to that date.

It is important that the limited public funds available for student support are targeted on those categories of persons with a lawful and substantial residential connection to the UK and who are likely to remain indefinitely. The only exceptions to the requirement to be settled are where an individual has been granted international protection (such as refugee status) or where they fall within certain exceptions within the relevant regulations.

There are no plans to enable persons with limited leave to remain on a family visa, including for spouses, to access student finance prior to achieving settlement.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-17/2441>

Au Pairs: EU Nationals

Hilary Benn (Labour) [3797] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether au pairs from the EU can enter the UK to help look after a friend or a relative's children unpaid, without a work permit.

Reply from Kevin Foster: EU nationals can enter the UK as visitors without needing to apply for a visa or a work permit in advance. They can do a range of activities but should not be intending to work in the UK or fill a UK-based role without status.

As set out in the Visit guidance, a family member may come to look after a child in the UK, provided it is for a short visit and does not amount to the relative being employed as a child-minder or au pair.

Decision makers need to be satisfied the visit is of a short duration, the relative is a genuine visitor and will not live in the UK for extended periods through frequent or successive visits.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-19/3797>

Visas: Voluntary Work

Sarah Olney (Liberal Democrat) [2393] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reason people who enter the UK on a visitor visa are unable to volunteer.

Reply from Kevin Foster: Visitors to the UK can undertake a wide range of

activities, including volunteering. The volunteering should last no more than 30 days in total and be for a charity registered with either the Charity Commission for England and Wales; the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland; or the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator.

Undertaking voluntary work for longer periods of time is provided for in the Temporary Worker - Charity Worker route of the points-based system.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-17/2393>

Windrush Lessons Learned Review

Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi (Labour) [4684] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department has fully implemented all recommendations from the Independent Windrush Lessons Learned Review; and what assessment she has made of her Department's recent actions of writing to UK nationals incorrectly asking them to apply for settled status on complying with those recommendations.

Reply from Priti Patel: I am committed to deliver lasting and meaningful change across the entire Home Office so that it represents all the communities it serves. Work continues at pace to implement all the recommendations in the Windrush Lessons Learned Review as well as wider cultural change in the department to fully address the findings of the report. We are putting people at the heart of the reforms we are making in the Department and Wendy Williams will return to the department to review progress in September when I am confident she will see significant progress in delivering her recommendations.

In line with the lessons learnt from Windrush, we have designed the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) to ensure it is accessible to all those who are eligible and is focussed on providing an easy and user-friendly way for individuals to make an application.

This includes using every possible channel to encourage everyone who is eligible for the EUSS to apply. The Home Office is currently working with HMRC and DWP to send letters to EU, EEA and Swiss citizens who receive benefits, but it appears are yet to apply to the EUSS. These letters seek to encourage recipients to apply to the EUSS to protect their existing rights in the UK before the deadline of 30 June 2021.

In trying to reach as many people as possible, there may be a small number of instances where these letters are sent to recipients who are naturalised as a British citizen. The letter may also be received by a small number of individuals who have already applied to the EUSS, for example because they applied after the initial exercise with DWP or HMRC was completed, but before the letter was sent out. The letter makes clear that anyone who is a British citizen or already has EUSS status does not need to take any action.

As of 30 April 2021, 4.9m grants of status had been made. The Home Office urges anyone eligible for the EUSS to apply before the 30 June deadline to ensure their rights are protected following the end of the grace period.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-20/4684>

The Windrush Lessons Learned Review, referred to above, can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/874022/6.5577_HO_Windrush_Lessons_Learned_Review_WEB_v2.pdf

Windrush Generation: Compensation

Vicky Foxcroft (Labour) [2376] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Answer of 19 April 2021 to Question 179274 on Windrush Generation: Compensation, how many claims to the Windrush Compensation Scheme were fully settled in (a) 2019 and (b) 2020.

Reply from Priti Patel: Cumulative data on the number of claims received and the

number of payments made is published as part of the regular transparency data release which can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/windrush-compensation-scheme-data-april-2021>

The specific information requested is not held centrally.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-17/2376>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-12/179274>

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

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

The following two questions both received the same answer

Windrush Generation: Compensation

Vicky Foxcroft (Labour) [3066] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Answer of 19 April 2021 to Question 179276 on Windrush Generation: Compensation, how many of the impacts listed in Annex H2 of the Compensation Scheme Rules: December 2020 must claimants to the Windrush Compensation Scheme demonstrate to qualify for a preliminary payment.

Vicky Foxcroft (Labour) [3066] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Answer of 19 April 2021 to Question 179276 on Windrush Generation: Compensation and paragraph H2 of the Compensation Scheme Rules: December 2020, how many claimants to the Windrush Compensation Scheme her Department has determined demonstrated no impact on life to date.

Reply from Priti Patel: A preliminary payment of £10,000 will be made to a primary claimant, or someone claiming on behalf of the estate of someone who has sadly passed away, as soon as they can show any impact on their life under the terms of the Windrush Compensation Scheme.

With regards to the number of claimants to the Windrush Compensation Scheme that have demonstrated no impact on life to date; the specific information requested is not held centrally and can only be obtained at a disproportionate cost.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-18/3065>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-18/3066>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-12/179276>

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

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

Immigration: EU Nationals

Chi Onwurah (Labour) [6289] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking with (a) local authorities, (b) charities and (c) community groups to ensure European citizens in hard to reach communities are aware of the June 2021 deadline for applying for settled status for every member of their family.

Reply from Kevin Foster: Since the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) opened in March 2019, the Home Office has undertaken a broad range of communications and stakeholder engagement activity to encourage EU, EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members to apply for and obtain status. This has included targeted stakeholder engagement to reach hard to reach and vulnerable communities.

We are committed to making sure everybody eligible for the EUSS can apply, including those who are vulnerable or need extra support. We have awarded £22 million of funding to a network of now 72 charities and community organisations across the UK, to ensure important information and assistance gets through to

those who are hardest to reach, and no one is left behind by the June 2021 deadline. These organisations have helped more than 250,000 vulnerable people to apply to the EUSS already.

Guidance on how to apply and details of the support available to applicants is available through the EU Settlement Resolution Centre (SRC), which is open seven days a week to provide assistance over the telephone and by email, and the SRC also provides a direct line for organisations, charities, social workers, and local authorities working with vulnerable groups.

The Home Office has been working very closely with organisations in local government to help deliver regular EUSS communications to vulnerable and hard to reach EU citizens.

Other government departments such as the Department for Health and Social Care, Department for Work and Pensions and the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office are utilising their own networks engaging vulnerable EU citizens and helping to provide support for other organisations to promote EUSS.

The Home Office has also specifically engaged with gatekeeper organisations who work closely with vulnerable, harder to reach audiences including older people, children, and those in care to ensure as many citizens as possible apply to EUSS by the deadline. It has developed a suite of assets and resources for EU citizens including translated leaflets about the Settlement Scheme in all 26 EU languages, and Welsh, which are freely available on GOV.UK.

A comprehensive, multi-million-pound EUSS advertising campaign has increased awareness of the need to apply to EUSS for over two years, targeting EU, EEA and Swiss citizens and their families.

As of 30 April 2021, 4.9m grants of status had been made. The Home Office urges anyone eligible for the EUSS to apply before the 30 June deadline to ensure their rights are protected following the end of the grace period.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-24/6289>

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

Stephen Farry (Alliance) [1413] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether funding for front-line charities to support vulnerable EU citizens and non-EU family members to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme will continue beyond September 2021.

Reply from Kevin Foster: We are committed to making sure everybody eligible for the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) can apply, including those who are vulnerable or need extra support.

Since April 2019 we have awarded £17 million in grant funding to a network of 72 organisations, who provide a wide range of invaluable support across the UK, ensuring those most at-risk continue to get the help they need.

We have committed a further £4.5 million of grant funding for the period 1 April to 30 September this year to fund the current network of 72 organisations to continue to provide a range of support across the UK well beyond the 30 June deadline.

We are working closely with the Grant-funded Network (GFN), collating feedback and data, to help establish the needs for and scale of support beyond September 2021

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-14/1413>

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

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

Immigration: EU Nationals

Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi (Labour) [4683] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many UK nationals resident in (a) the UK, (b) Berkshire and (c) Slough received the recent letter from her Department advising them to apply for settled status or risk losing rights to work and access healthcare; and what steps her Department is taking to apologise and reassure UK nationals of their rights.

Reply from Kevin Foster; The Government is using every possible channel to encourage everyone who may be eligible for the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) to apply.

The Home Office is currently working with HMRC and DWP to send letters to EU, EEA and Swiss citizens who receive benefits, but it appears are yet to apply to the EUSS. These letters, sent by HMRC and DWP, seek to encourage recipients to apply to the EUSS to protect their existing rights in the UK before the deadline of 30 June 2021.

In trying to reach as many people as possible, there may be a small number of instances where these letters are sent to recipients across the UK who are naturalised as a British citizen. The letter may also be received by a small number of individuals who have already applied to the EUSS, for example because they applied after the initial exercise with DWP or HMRC was completed, but before the letter was sent out.

The letters make clear anyone who is a British citizen or already has EUSS status does not need to take any action. Further reassurance, providing the same messaging, has also been posted on the Home Office's, DWP's and HMRC's Twitter channels.

As of 30 April 2021, 4.9m grants of EUSS status have been made.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-20/4683>

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

Julian Sturdy (Conservative) [3849] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department has investigated the cause of the error whereby British citizens have incorrectly received letters urging them to apply for the EU Settlement Scheme; and whether the relevant databases have been updated to prevent that error from occurring again.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The Government is using every possible channel to encourage everyone who is eligible for the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) to apply. The Home Office is currently working with HMRC and DWP to encourage EU, EEA and Swiss citizens who receive benefits to apply to the EUSS if they have yet to do so. Letters are being sent out to encourage recipients to apply to the EUSS to protect their existing rights in the UK before the deadline of 30 June 2021.

In trying to reach as many people as possible, there may be a small number of instances where these letters are sent to recipients who are naturalised as a British citizen. The letter may also be received by a small number of individuals who have already applied to the EUSS, for example because they applied after the initial exercise with DWP or HMRC was completed, but before the letter was sent out. The letter makes clear anyone who is a British citizen or already has EUSS status does not need to take any action.

As of 30 April 2021, 4.9m grants of EUSS status have been made. The Home Office urges anyone eligible for the EUSS to apply before the 30 June deadline to ensure their rights are protected following the end of the grace period.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-19/3849>

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

Undocumented Workers: EU Nationals

Hilary Benn (Labour) [994] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many EU citizens have been (a) detained and (b) deported since 1 January 2021 for being in the UK without a work visa.

Reply from Chris Philp: Home Office publish transparency data figures, which can be accessed via published data in the link below.

[Immigration Enforcement data: February 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/data-and-data-sets/immigration-enforcement-data-february-2021)

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-13/994>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Undocumented Migrants: English Channel

Andrew Rosindell (Conservative) [7108] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department has made an estimate of the proportion of people illegally crossing the Channel in the last 12 months who were male.

Andrew Rosindell (Conservative) [7109] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what information her Department holds on people who have crossed the Channel illegally in the last year, broken down by age.

Reply from Chris Philp: As part of the processing of arriving migrants who have travelled by small boat, the Home Office collects personal data including age, sex and nationality. Information on numbers of arrivals in 2020 has previously been provided to the House via the Chair of the Home Affairs Select Committee, and can be found at

<https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/5385/documents/54027/default>

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-25/7108>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-25/7109>

Refugees: Children

Zarah Sultana (Labour) [4715] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she plans to establish a safe passage for child refugees arriving in the UK.

Reply from Chris Philp: The Government committed to review safe and legal routes to the UK, and has a statutory duty to conduct a public consultation on family reunion for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in the EU. We are meeting our statutory duty by completing a comprehensive consultation and engagement process as part of the wider consultation on the New Plan for Immigration, which closed on 6 May 2021. We will consider the consultation responses carefully.

The UK already provides a number of routes for children to reunite with family members in the UK under our Immigration Rules. We have also published guidance that signposts these existing routes at the link below:

[Overview of family reunion options in the Immigration Rules](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/overview-of-family-reunion-options-in-the-immigration-rules)

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-20/4715>

Asylum

Anne McLaughlin (SNP) [3027] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people (a) in 2019, (b) in 2020 and (c) since 1 January 2021 to date have been issued with a Notice of Intent under the Government's guidance on inadmissibility: safe third country cases.

Reply from Chris Philp: Figures on the number of asylum application decisions made in the first quarter of 2021 are due to be published on 27 May 2021. We are working to bring inadmissibility data in line with current reporting and hope to

publish that information in the same timeframe.

Information on future Home Office statistical release dates can be found in the '[Research and statistics calendar](#)'.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-18/3027>

Asylum: Iraq

Bill Esterson (Labour) [2953] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the number of Iraqi translators who worked for the British Army in Iraq that are seeking asylum in the UK; and what steps she is taking to support their asylum claims.

Reply from Kevin Foster: We successfully resettled interpreters and their families from Iraq in recognition of the huge debt of gratitude we owed them for risking their lives alongside UK armed forces. This scheme included relocation to the UK or a financial payment for eligible members of staff.

Although this scheme has now closed, we still have a proud record of supporting those in danger of persecution and all asylum claims lodged in the UK are carefully considered on their individual merits including those claims made by Iraqi translators who worked for the British Army.

Additionally, Migrant Help provide independent advice and guidance to assist those considering seeking asylum and those who have claimed asylum to move through and understand the asylum process.

The Home Office is unable to state how many asylum applications have been made by Iraqi translators who worked for the British Army in Iraq as such data can only be obtained at disproportionate cost.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-18/2953>

Asylum: Finance

Chi Onwurah (Labour) [5193] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 21 May 2021 to Question 725 on asylum: housing, how the budget for weekly support payment for an asylum seeker is calculated; and how much is expected to be allocated to (a) food, (b) transport, (c) clothing and (d) cleaning products.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The level of the cash allowance provided to asylum seekers who would otherwise be destitute in order to meet their essential living needs (the legal test) is reviewed annually, using a methodology in place since 2014 and which has been judged by the Court of Appeal to be rational and lawful. The basic approach is to determine all essential needs and assess the amount of money the average asylum seeker needs to meet each of them. Those with needs over and above the level of the average person can apply for additional funds exceptionally.

Further detail about the methodology can be found in the reports published at:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-on-review-of-cash-allowance-paid-to-asylum-seekers

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-21/5193>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-12/725>

Asylum: Medical Records

Mike Kane (Labour) [4614] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the adequacy of the patient consent process for people seeking asylum when sharing medical information with the her Department at registration.

Reply from Kevin Foster: There is not a specific patient consent process at registration which seeks to access a claimant's medical records at this stage in the asylum process.

Individuals seeking asylum can be asked to complete a medical consent form at any stage in the asylum process where a specific issue or a concern is raised. This can be for a number of reasons which are usually related to safeguarding a vulnerable individual.

In terms of sharing information, all asylum claimants are made aware we may share information with other UK government departments or agencies, including the National Health Service, local authorities, asylum authorities of other countries, international organisations or other bodies. This is to enable us and other organisations to carry out their functions, including the prevention and detection of crime.

Claimants are also informed we do not disclose, to their own country, the fact they have claimed asylum in the UK, but we may share some information, for example, to help obtain travel documentation if their claim is refused.

We have recently updated our guidance on disclosure of information in asylum claims and it is available on gov.uk at:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/disclosure-of-information-relating-to-asylum-applications

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-20/4614>

Asylum: Accommodation Centres

Anne McLaughlin (SNP) [3024] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she plans to commence the remainder of Part 2 Nationality Immigration and Asylum Act 2002, to give effect to the reception centres proposed in the UK government's New Plan for Immigration, published on 24 March 2021.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The UK Government is considering options for how this proposal could be given effect.

One option for implementing the plans is to commence some or all of the provisions in the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 which relate to Accommodation Centres.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-18/3024>

The New Plan for Immigration, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/new-plan-for-immigration/new-plan-for-immigration-policy-statement-accessible>

Immigration: Glasgow Central

Alison Thewliss (SNP) [3939] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have been subject to immigration removal action in Glasgow Central constituency in each month of the last three years.

Reply from Chris Philp: The only available statistics are ones published on a quarterly basis at:

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

Anyone with no right to be in the UK may be subject to removal or deportation action as appropriate.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-19/3939>

Undocumented Migrants: Deportation

Kate Osamor (Labour Co-op) [2384] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with which countries she has concluded readmission agreements for irregular migrants.

Reply from Chris Philp: The UK already has arrangements with many countries across the world to facilitate the returns of irregular migrants. This year we have just agreed a Migration and Mobility Partnership with India, which commits both countries to greater cooperation on returning illegal migrants back to their country

of origin.

The Joint Political Declaration between the EU and UK agreed in December 2020 noted the UK's intention to engage in bilateral discussions with the most concerned Member States to discuss suitable practical arrangements, including on asylum and illegal migration. These discussions are continuing.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-17/2384>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

Net Migration

Lord Green of Deddington (Crossbench): To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to reduce net migration to the United Kingdom.

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

My Lords, a points-based system is a fair system which prioritises the skills and talents needed in the UK for our economic growth, rather than focusing on arbitrary net migration targets. The system is delivering on our commitment to the British people to take back control of our borders.

Lord Green of Deddington: My Lords, what the Government have actually done is to throw open our work permit system to the entire world. They have lowered the qualification level and reduced the salary requirement and as a result, 7 million—yes, no limit on the numbers. This could so easily spin out of control. Does the Minister agree that it would be wise to impose an annual cap on work permits, as is the case in the real Australian points-based system?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, the noble Lord is right that the new points-based system that we intend to roll out is open to the entire world. Interestingly, the MAC advice was that the cap be abolished and that it would make sense to reduce migration numbers by varying other aspects of the scheme criteria—for example, the salary threshold and the level of the immigration service charge.

Lord Dubs (Labour): My Lords, is not one consequence of the Government's stated policy that we are doing enormous damage to our economy, particularly in areas where there are labour shortages, such as agriculture, horticulture and social care? In the attempt to keep the numbers down, is there not a danger that we will be breaching the human rights of asylum seekers simply because their mode of travel is not acceptable to the Government?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, one of the things we discussed in previous debates was employers in this country not seeking to use cheap migrant labour but to rely on our domestic labour supply. We want a fair system for asylum seekers with safe, legal routes.

Lord Paddick (Liberal Democrat): My Lords, the Home Secretary has made a lot of strengthening our approach to criminality and implementing powers to refuse entry to arrivals convicted of certain criminal offences. How can this be when EU citizens are still allowed to enter the UK without a visa and the UK has lost real-time access to the EU criminal records database? How does Border Force know whether a passenger crossing the UK border has a criminal record?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, from 1 July it will be incumbent upon people who enter this country to do so through a legal route, and the immigration system will be operating from then. It is right that we provide inadmissibility for people who do not come through those safe and legal routes.

Lord Balfe (Conservative): My Lords, while I support many aspects of the new policy, in particular for asylum seekers, will the Minister look at the scandal of people landing on the beaches of this country, seemingly at the end of a system of abuse of the system, and make it an offence, with suitable penalties, to enter the country illegally?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My noble friend has illustrated the abuse on so many levels of people coming to this country through non-legal routes. People landing on the beaches is a scandal for all sorts of reasons, mainly because criminality has brought them there. They are not necessarily criminals, but criminality has brought them there and criminality does not care at all for the safety and security of those people.

Lord Ramsbotham (Crossbench): My Lords, can the Minister please assure the House that the Home Office has sufficient numbers of experienced and qualified caseworkers to deal with the increased numbers likely under the new immigration plan?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I can certainly assure the noble Lord of that.

Lord Rosser (Labour): We supported the Government's decision to enable up to 5 million people from Hong Kong to come to this country if they so wish. What is the Government's current estimate of the number of people in Hong Kong likely to take up the offer, and what is the basis of the calculation of that estimate?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, I have up-to-date figures for the noble Lord. ... Between 31 January and 19 March this year, approximately 27,000 BNO status holders and their family members applied for a visa. That number reflects applications rather than visa holders. The first official statistics on this route will be released as part of the next quarterly migration stats on 27 May.

Baroness Ludford (Liberal Democrat): My Lords, an obsession with net immigration numbers has brought us an end to free movement, and therefore the loss of mobility for service providers; a shortage of health and social care workers, including home carers for people with disabilities; a shortage of horticultural workers to pick our fruit and veg; the mistreatment of EU nationals; and more. When will the Government approach immigration with sensible practicality and fairness, rather than dogma and slogans?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I think our approach is based on the former. There will be fewer lower-skilled migrants, overall numbers will come down and we will ensure that the British people are always in control. On that point about lower-paid workers, as I said to the noble Lord, Lord Dubs, it is time for resident labour market employers to recruit from people in this country.

Lord Mann (Non-affiliated): Local authorities have to project 15 years forward in their allocation of land for new housing. Can the Minister confirm that the ONS will be required to use the change of policy in relation to Hong Kong Chinese in analysing and guessing what the future population will be, and that this in itself will determine the housing allocation requirements that local authorities have to provide?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The ONS figures we receive every year are absolutely vital to providing projections for not only housing numbers but all the other infrastructure that the population need—schools, health services, roads, et cetera.

Lord Singh of Wimbledon (Crossbench): My Lords, the Home Secretary says that we welcome those in genuine need of sanctuary, except those forced to flee in small boats. Many of those people have lost their homes and livelihoods as a result of conflict in the Middle East made worse by the intervention of outside countries, including the UK. Does the Minister therefore agree that we have a moral obligation to give shelter to those we have helped make homeless refugees?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, not only do we have a moral obligation but we have stated that moral obligation time and again. We have a history of meeting that moral obligation, and we intend to continue to do so.

Lord Rooker (Labour): My Lords, in my 20 years of membership of the House, which comes about next month, the population has increased by 6.1 million people, all unplanned. Has the Minister read the Civitas pamphlet *Overcrowded Islands?* by our colleague, the noble Lord, Lord Hodgson of Astley Abbots, calling for a demographic

authority to look at population changes and consequences?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: When the noble Lord started asking that question, I thought he meant the population of the House of Lords until he said 6.1 million. He is absolutely right. This goes to the question from the noble Lord, Lord Mann; we need a system that provides for the skilled workers we need here but also the infrastructure to underpin some of that planning.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2021-05-25/debates/2AE5C548-1FE9-4FDB-B89C-89274A042367/NetMigration>

The pamphlet referred to above can be read at

<https://www.civitas.org.uk/content/files/Overcrowded-Islands1.pdf>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Immigration

Lord Jones of Cheltenham (Liberal Democrat) [HL47] To ask Her Majesty's Government what is the current time delay from application to granting indefinite leave to remain for those who qualify for this status.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: We are deciding cases within published service standard, unless there is a specific reason we cannot, in which case we will contact the customer. Our service standard for the processing of Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) cases remains six months.

Performance against service standards for ILR applications are included in the Migration Transparency data which is published here:

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

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-11/hl47>

Immigration Controls: EU Nationals

Lord Scriven (Liberal Democrat) [HL238] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many EU citizens have been denied entry to the UK at the border since 1 January; and, of those denied entry, how many were detained.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: EU citizens are our friends and neighbours and we want them to stay in the UK, which is why we launched our ground-breaking EU Settlement Scheme. Those who do not have status under the EUSS, can enter the UK for up to six months as visitors, visa free. However, now freedom of movement has ended, those coming to work or study must prove they meet our entry requirements. We urge people to check the requirements before travelling.

Border Force treat all arrivals with respect and consider each passenger's situation on an individual basis to check that everyone entering the UK has the right to do so.

We have issued instructions to our officers to reinforce the principle that in all cases there exists a presumption in favour of bail.

The Home Office published data on port returns and passengers initially refused entry which include Data on refusals on EU nationals.

The latest information include data up to December 2020 can be found at: passengers Initially refused Dec 2020 & returns data

The next publication, which includes data for the first quarter of 2021 will be published on the 27 May 2021.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-13/hl238>

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

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

The data referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/988221/returns-datasets-mar-2021.xlsx

Social Security Benefits: EEA Nationals

Lord Foulkes of Cumnock (Labour) [HL271] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether EEA nationals over state pension age who have not applied to the EU Settlement Scheme by 30 June will continue to be eligible to receive (1) Pension Credit, (2) Housing Benefit, and (3) other benefits.

Reply from Baroness Stedman-Scott: From 1 July 2021, EEA and Swiss citizens will be required to have immigration status to carry on living and working in the UK and to access non-contributory benefits in the UK.

EEA and Swiss citizens who were living in the UK by 31 December 2020, and their family members, need to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme by 30 June 2021.

DWP are working closely with the Home Office and other government departments to ensure we are using all available resources to engage with groups who need to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS).

Support for applicants who need it remains available, including from the network of 72 organisations across the UK grant-funded by the Home Office to help vulnerable people apply to the EUSS.

Those who have made an application to the EU Settlement Scheme, but have yet to receive an immigration status before the deadline, will continue to receive benefits as long as they satisfy the entitlement conditions for that benefit.

Where an EEA or Swiss citizen, who was resident here before the end of the transition period, has reasonable grounds for missing the EU Settlement Scheme application deadline, they will be given a further opportunity to apply.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-17/hl271>

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

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

Immigration: Glasgow

Lord Blencathra (Conservative) [HL261] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of inability of immigration officials to detain two individuals in Glasgow on 14 May; and what further steps they will take to enforce immigration law as a result of that incident.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: As is established practice following events such as these the Home Office is conducting a review of the routine and lawful operation in Glasgow on 13 May 2021. This is being done in conjunction with Police Scotland who had responsibility for public order during this incident.

Home Office operations including visits, crime reduction and street operations play a critical role in detecting and deterring immigration abuse and reducing the harm caused by illegal immigration, such as modern slavery, people trafficking and smuggling. The Home Office will continue to conduct such operations throughout the UK.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-17/hl261>

Hassockfield Immigration Removal Centre

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL307] To ask Her Majesty's Government what evidence they used in the decision to open a new immigration detention centre in Country Durham.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The immigration removal estate is

kept under ongoing review to ensure that the Home Office has sufficient resilience, geographical footprint and capacity for the men and women it proves necessary to detain for the purposes of removal, while providing value for money.

As part of our plans to manage the closure and return of the Morton Hall immigration removal centre (IRC) to Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service, the Home Office considered a number of options to maintain necessary capacity in the estate, including the opening of a new IRC.

Given the timescales and value for money considerations, acquiring the vacant Hassockfield site to open as an IRC for women was considered the most cost-effective option for maintaining immigration detention capacity.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-17/hl307>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Asylum: Napier Barracks

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL304] To ask Her Majesty's Government when they plan to publish the most recent report on the use of the Napier Barracks as accommodation for asylum seekers.

Asylum: Penally Camp

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL305] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have for the future use of the Penally Camp; and what consultations are taking place with the Welsh Government about that site.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The use of Penally Training Camp as contingency asylum accommodation ceased on 19 March 2021, with all asylum seekers relocated to alternative accommodation. The site is was handed back to the Ministry of Defence on 13 May 2021.

The Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration inspection is ongoing, and the timing of a final inspection report on Contingency Asylum Accommodation is a matter for the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-17/hl304>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-17/hl305>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Apsana Begum (Labour) [97] **Welcoming refugees during and post covid-19** – That this House recognises that, as the 72th anniversary of the Geneva Convention approaches, there are more refugees, approximately 80 million, than at any other time in history; that they are victims of wars, environmental disasters and climate change, human rights abuses, pandemic and poverty; resolves to frame a response to their predicament with a humanitarian-first approach and not to inflict further trauma via detention or criminalisation and thanks refugees for their contribution to the academic, business, cultural and financial fabric of society.

<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/58534>

Press Releases

Home Secretary Priti Patel speech on immigration

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/home-secretary-priti-patel-speech-on-immigration>

Windrush Day 2021 launches with £500k for celebrations [England only]

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/windrush-day-2021-launches-with-500k-for-celebrations>

Consultation launched to waive visa fees for non-UK military personnel

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/consultation-launched-to-waive-visa-fees-for-non-uk-military-personnel>

New Publications

Migrant journey: 2020 report

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/migrant-journey-2020-report/migrant-journey-2020-report>

Overview of the immigration system

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-march-2021/overview-of-the-immigration-system>

Summary of latest statistics

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-march-2021/summary-of-latest-statistics>

How many people come to the UK each year (including visitors)?

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-march-2021/how-many-people-come-to-the-uk-each-year-including-visitors>

Why do people come to the UK? To work

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-march-2021/why-do-people-come-to-the-uk-to-work>

Why do people come to the UK? To study

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-march-2021/why-do-people-come-to-the-uk-to-study>

Why do people come to the UK? For family reasons

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-march-2021/why-do-people-come-to-the-uk-for-family-reasons>

How many people do we grant asylum or protection to?

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-march-2021/how-many-people-do-we-grant-asylum-or-protection-to>

How many people continue their stay in the UK or apply to stay permanently?

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-march-2021/how-many-people-continue-their-stay-in-the-uk-or-apply-to-stay-permanently>

How many people are detained or returned?

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-march-2021/how-many-people-are-detained-or-returned>

Visas and Citizenship data: Q1 2021

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/989287/UKVI_VC_Transparency_Q1_2021_Published.ods

Immigration Age Disputes

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/988041/age-disputes-datasets-mar-2021.xlsx

Asylum applications, decisions and resettlement

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/988038/asylum-applications-datasets-mar-2021.xlsx

Asylum appeals logged and determined

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/988042/asylum-appeals-logged-datasets-mar-2021.xlsx

Non-suspensive asylum appeals

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/988044/non-suspensive-appeals-datasets-mar-2021.xlsx

Asylum applications awaiting a decision

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/988040/asylum-applications-awaiting-decision-datasets-mar-2021.xlsx

Outcome analysis of asylum applications

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/962011/outcome-analysis-asylum-applications-datasets-dec-2020.xlsx

Asylum seekers in receipt of support

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/988045/asylum-seekers-receipt-support-datasets-mar-2021.xlsx

Applications for section 95 support

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/962016/applications-section-95-support-datasets-dec-2020.xlsx

Dublin Regulation

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/962018/dublin-regulation-datasets-mar-2020.xlsx

Family reunion visa grants

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/988046/family-reunion-visa-grants-datasets-mar-2021.xlsx

Immigration detention datasets

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/988220/detention-datasets-mar-2021.xlsx

Immigration Returns datasets

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/988221/returns-datasets-mar-2021.xlsx

EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics, March 2021

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-quarterly-statistics-march-2021/eu-settlement-scheme-quarterly-statistics-march-2021>

Immigration and protection data: Q1 2021

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/989292/UKVI_IP_Q1_2021.ods

Windrush Task Force Data: Q1 2021

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/989290/UKVI_VC_WRTF_Q1_2021_Published.ods

Windrush Compensation Scheme data: May 2021

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/989299/Windrush_Compensation_Scheme_Published_Data_-_April_2021.ods

Visiting the UK as an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/visiting-the-uk-as-an-eu-eea-or-swiss-citizen>

National Insurance numbers allocated to adult overseas nationals to March 2021

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/national-insurance-numbers-allocated-to-adult-overseas-nationals-to-march-2021/national-insurance-numbers-allocated-to-adult-overseas-nationals-to-march-2021>

News

Freedom to Crawl

Every mother and baby in Scotland has the right to safe, suitable accommodation. Asylum seekers are no exception.

<https://www.freedomtocrawl.org/>

Windrush compensation: £30m offered to victims so far, Home Office says

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-57271540>

35,000 Hongkongers apply to live in UK under visa scheme

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/35-000-hongkongers-apply-to-live-in-uk-under-visa-scheme-h35zqcvb9>

UK Government urged to extend EU Settlement Scheme

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/19337969.uk-government-urged-extend-eu-settlement-scheme/>

Scramble for British citizenship after Brexit

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/scramble-for-british-citizenship-after-brexit-nrh7qc0k6>

Home Office underestimated how many EU migrants live in Britain

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2021/05/27/home-office-underestimated-many-eu-migrants-live-britain/>

EU citizens win right to access personal data held by Home Office

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/may/26/eu-citizens-win-right-access-personal-data-held-home-office>

Arriving channel migrants double as smuggling gangs use bigger boats to target smaller ports

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2021/05/25/arriving-channel-migrants-double-smuggling-gangs-use-bigger/>

Dover protest: Anti-immigration protesters halt traffic at port

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/19338138.dover-protest-anti-immigration-protesters-halt-traffic-port/>

Four arrested at Dover anti-immigration protest | Immigration and asylum

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/may/29/arrests-at-dover-anti-immigration-protest>

Hundreds of asylum seekers in UK being considered for removal to EU – despite absence of returns deals

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/uk-asylum-seekers-deportation-returns-b1854858.html>

Greens call on Scots to ‘resist’ Home Office over immigration after Kenmure Street raid

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/19326222.greens-call-scots-resist-home-office-immigration/>

Home Office drops plan to evict thousands of migrants during pandemic

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/may/25/home-office-drops-plan-to-evict-thousands-of-migrants-during-pandemic>

Thousands of asylum seekers left unable to afford food as financial support stops

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/asylum-seekers-home-office-aspen-cards-b1854401.html>

Cash card delays are leaving asylum seekers penniless, say charities

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/may/27/cash-card-delays-are-leaving-asylum-seekers-penniless-say-charities>

Anger as Aspen card problems leave people without food or essentials

<https://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/anger-as-aspen-card-problems-leave-people-without-food-or-essentials/>

More impoverishment for Glasgow Asylum Seekers as Aspen card switch leaves families Without Food or Money

<https://www.paih.org/more-impoverishment-for-glasgow-asylum-seekers-as-the-aspen-card-switch-means-people-left-without-food-or-money/>

Girl, 10, refused EU settled status in UK despite all family members being accepted

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/eu-settled-status-home-office-b1854470.html>

I won my fight to stay in the UK. Now I want to help others access justice

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/i-won-my-fight-to-stay-in-the-uk-now-i-want-to-help-others-access-justice-lvnxfgjh>

Uncovered: the brutal secrets of UK deportation flight Esparto 11

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/may/29/asylum-seekers-risked-all-to-get-to-the-uk-then-they-were-deported-at-dawn>

Home Office must compensate trafficked women for lack of childcare, court rules

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/may/24/home-office-must-compensate-trafficked-women-for-lack-of-childcare-court-rules>

Chinatown pop-up Covid clinic inundated after undocumented migrants told to come forward

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/05/27/chinatown-pop-up-covid-clinic-inundated-undocumented-migrants/>

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Community Relations

News

George Floyd death: How do I talk to my son about race?

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/world-us-canada-57205016>

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Equality

UK Parliament Debate

Child Poverty: Ethnicity

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2021-05-27/debates/7DC3E342-1EDB-4352-AA63-A1CD8B22C058/ChildPovertyEthnicity>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Education: Ethnic Groups

Diane Abbott (Labour) [1271] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what estimate he has made of the proportion of the Education Recovery Package fund that will be allocated to supporting the needs of Black and Asian children and students.

Reply from Nick Gibb: The Government is focused on raising education standards for all pupils, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds. The Department does not design education policy to exclusively target certain groups of pupils based on ethnicity.

The Department recognises that the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak has been felt most heavily by disadvantaged children and young people.

In June 2020, the Department announced a £1 billion catch up package, which includes £350 million for the National Tutoring Programme to increase the availability of high quality tuition for the most disadvantaged children and young people, helping to accelerate their education and tackle the attainment gap.

In February 2021, the Department committed to funding of £700 million for summer schools, expansion of our tutoring programmes and a Recovery Premium for the next academic year. The £302 million Recovery Premium for state funded primary and secondary schools, builds on the Pupil Premium, to further support pupils who need it most.

The Department is also considering the education recommendations from the Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-14/1271>

Curriculum

Diane Abbott (Labour) [1270] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what policies his Department is considering in relation to diversifying the curricula.

Reply from Nick Gibb: The Department is committed to an inclusive education system which recognises and embraces diversity and supports all pupils to tackle racism and have the knowledge and tools to do so. As part of the statutory curriculum, pupils should be taught about different societies and how different groups have contributed to the development of Britain.

The Government is currently considering the recommendations in the report by the Commission for Race and Ethnic Disparities (CRED), including on curriculum resources, and assessing the next steps for future policy. In recognition of the extensive scope of recommendations, my right hon. Friend, the Prime Minister, has established a new Inter Ministerial Group to review recommendations. The group will be chaired by my right hon. Friend, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

The report recommendation is for curriculum resources and is not a change in the statutory curriculum. In particular, the report calls for resources that complement and enhance the content and quality of lessons taught in all schools, so that all children can be taught about the UK and the evolution of our society.

As the report highlights, there is a wide range of high quality teaching resources on black history or other culturally diverse curriculum content throughout the curriculum, including those produced by education publishers, voluntary organisations and subject associations, and remote education resources from the Oak National Academy.

The Government will publish its response to CRED later this year.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-14/1270>

The report referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-report-of-the-commission-on-race-and-ethnic-disparities/foreword-introduction-and-full-recommendations>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Teachers: Ethnic Groups

Diane Abbott (Labour) [1267] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, whether he plans to take specific steps to increase the recruitment of Black and Asian teachers.

Diane Abbott (Labour) [1268] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, whether he is taking steps to (a) support, (b) retain and (c) support the promotion of Black and Asian teachers.

Reply from Nick gibb: Apply for Teacher Training is a new application service for initial teacher training (ITT). To support recruitment, Apply has been designed to be as simple and user friendly as possible and it has been extensively tested with a diverse range of potential applicants. Currently, Apply is in public beta, running alongside the existing application service for teacher training. As we roll the service out further, we will continue to develop and test interventions to support people from diverse backgrounds to become teachers.

The Department's 'Teaching – Every Lesson Shapes A Life' recruitment campaign is targeted at audiences of students/recent graduates and potential career changers of all races and backgrounds, and we take every effort to ensure that our advertising is fully reflective of this across the full range of marketing materials we use.

Alongside a focus on recruitment, it is important we retain people from diverse backgrounds. From September 2021, all new trainee teachers will be entitled to at least three years of evidence-based professional development and support. This starts with ITT, based on the new ITT Core Content Framework, which sets out a core minimum entitlement for all trainees, describing the fundamental knowledge and skills that ITT providers must draw upon when designing and delivering their

programmes.

Following on from their training, all new teachers will be entitled to two years of funded high quality professional development, including the support of a dedicated mentor, through the Early Career Framework reforms. Schools will receive additional funding so new teachers can spend time away from the classroom for this extra training and mentoring. Together, these reforms will ensure that all new teachers will develop the expertise and confidence they need to thrive in the classroom.

Our new suite of National Professional Qualifications, available from September 2021, will make sure that we continue to develop our best teaching and leadership talent, whatever their background.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-14/1267>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-14/1268>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Equal Pay: Ethnic Groups

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL199] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to make ethnicity pay gap reporting mandatory.

Reply from Lord Callanan: The Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities recently published its independent report which included recommendations in relation to ethnicity pay gap reporting.

We welcome the opportunity to consider the Commission's findings on this matter, and to consider them in light of the work that has already taken place within government. As well as consulting on ethnicity pay gap reporting, we have met with businesses and representative organisations to understand the barriers towards reporting and what information should be published. We have also run a methodology testing exercise with a broad range of businesses to better understand the complexities outlined in the consultation.

The Government will respond to the Commission's report in due course.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-12/hl199>

The report referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/974507/20210331_-_CRED_Report_-_FINAL_-_Web_Accessible.pdf

Press Release

UK Supreme Court to launch paid internship for aspiring lawyers from underrepresented communities

<https://www.supremecourt.uk/news/uk-supreme-court-to-launch-paid-internship-for-aspiring-lawyers-from-underrepresented-communities.html>

New Publication

Your rights matter: Police stops

https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2021-fundamental-rights-survey-police-stops_en.pdf

TOP

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Motion

John Mason (SNP) [S6M-00146] Hate Crime Security Fund – That the Parliament welcomes the launch of the Hate Crime Security Fund; notes that £500,000 has been allocated to protect places of worship with security measures such as CCTV, security doors and alarms; acknowledges that hate crime is already significantly under-reported; reiterates that places of worship should be places of peace and sanctuary and that faith groups should feel safe to practice freely; regrets that these measures are necessary to ensure that faith communities are protected, and notes that applications for the scheme will be available until 21 July 2021.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/votes-and-motions/votes-and-motions-search/S6M-00146>

Information about the funding referred to above can be read at

<https://www.impactfundingpartners.com/open-applications/hate-crime-security-fund>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Hate Crime

Afzal Khan (Labour) [4692] To ask the Secretary of State for the Housing, Communities and Local Government, what steps his Department is taking to tackle the rise in (a) anti-Semitic and (b) Islamophobic hate crime in the UK as a result of the Israel-Palestine conflict.

Reply from Luke Hall: There is no place in our society for the shocking rise of Antisemitic and Islamophobic incidents that have been seen as a result of the conflict. We are absolutely clear that this is unacceptable, and we have a zero-tolerance approach to hate crime against any and all communities.

This Government has a strong record on tackling hate crime against religious communities; following our encouragement, we have seen nearly 3 quarters of local authorities and 91 higher education providers adopt the IHRA definition of antisemitism and take an important step to combatting this hatred.

We have also taken steps in protecting the Muslim communities; providing over £5 million in the last 5 years to the Places of Worship protective security funding scheme, which has helped protect at least 84 Mosques. We have also supported Tell MAMA with just over £2.8 million between 2016 and 2020 to monitor and combat anti-Muslim hatred.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-20/4692>

Antisemitism: Greater London

Michael Fabricant (Conservative) [2182] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she plans to take in response to anti-Semitic abuse from and reported incitements to violence by pro-Palestinian demonstrators visiting London against Jewish people on 15 to 16 May 2021; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The Government is clear that any criminal activity, including the incitement of violence or racial hatred, is completely unacceptable. We have robust laws to tackle such criminal offences.

The Metropolitan Police Service is investigating a number of allegations in relation to recent demonstrations in London.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-17/2182>

Racial Discrimination: Technology

Chi Onwurah (Labour) [3857] To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities, with reference to her oral contribution of 24 March 2021, Official Report, column 907, if she will publish the research conducted by the Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities referred to in that answer; and what steps she is taking to prevent structural racism from being further entrenched by new technologies.

Reply from Kemi Badenoch: The Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities published its findings on 31 March 2021 and its report is available on [GOV.UK](https://gov.uk). The Employment and Enterprise chapter of the report includes the Commission's research about Artificial Intelligence systems and bias in technology.

The Commission has recommended that Government issue guidance that clarifies how to apply the Equality Act to algorithmic decision-making and require transparency for public sector bodies when such is applied to decision making concerning individuals. The Government is now considering the Commission's recommendations in detail and will respond in full this summer.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-19/3857>

The oral contribution referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2021-03-24/debates/6D30E292-47BE-404E-8D29-93A159530E05/TopicalQuestions#contribution-60391ED7-6578-47C0-8049-1BF3373FA89A>

Press Releases

Welsh Government takes action against racism. It's time for real change.

<https://gov.wales/welsh-government-takes-action-against-racism-its-time-real-change>

Independent Investigation into alleged discrimination within the Conservative and Unionist Party releases final Report

<https://singhinvestigation.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Singh-Investigation-Report-Release-FINAL.pdf>

Equality and Human Rights Commission response to independent investigation into discrimination in the Conservative Party

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/news/response-independent-investigation-discrimination-conservative-party>

Moving forward: Reponse to the Professor Singh investigation into the Conservative party

<https://tellmamauk.org/moving-forward-reponse-to-the-professor-singh-investigation-into-the-conservative-party/>

New Publications

Independent Investigation into Alleged Discrimination Citing Protected Characteristics within the Conservative and Unionist Party in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

<https://singhinvestigation.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Singh-Investigation-Report-for-download.pdf>

A Collision of Crises: Racism, policing, and the COVID-19 pandemic

<https://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/projects/CoDE%20Briefings/Runnymede%20CoDE%20A%20Collision%20of%20Crises%20FINAL.pdf>

News: Singh Report into Discrimination in the Conservative Party

PM's burka comments gave impression of insensitivity - report

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-57239483>

Islamophobia: PM's burka comments suggested Tories 'insensitive' to Muslims

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/19327154.islamophobia-pms-burka-comments-suggested-tories-insensitive-muslims/>

Boris Johnson's burka comments give impression Tories 'insensitive to Muslim communities', review finds

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/boris-johnsons-burka-comments-give-impression-tories-insensitive-to-muslim-communities-review-finds-3249002>

SNP: Islamophobia report 'no surprise' after Johnson's 'overtly racist' comments

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/19327203.snp-islamophobia-report-no-surprise-johnsons-overtly-racist-comments/>

SNP's Kirsten Oswald claims Islamophobia report shows Boris Johnson 'not fit for office'

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/snps-kirsten-oswald-claims-islamophobia-report-shows-boris-johnson-not-fit-for-office-3249431>

Tory Islamophobia report a 'whitewash', say Muslims in party

<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2021/may/25/tory-islamophobia-report-criticises-boris-johnson-over-burqa-remarks>

Will the Tories finally tackle Islamophobia in their party?

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/may/26/tories-finally-tackle-islamophobia-singh-report>

Critics believe Tory Islamophobia report was doomed to fail

<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2021/may/25/critics-believe-tory-islamophobia-report-doomed-to-fail>

Tory party is not institutionally Islamophobic, report finds

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/05/25/tory-party-not-institutionally-islamophobic-report-finds/>

The Tories will do what it takes to root out Islamophobia

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2021/05/25/tories-will-do-takes-root-islamophobia/>

The Tories' Islamophobia report is no whitewash

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/05/26/tories-islamophobia-report-no-whitewash/>

Boris Johnson's burqa comments gave impression Tories 'insensitive' to Muslim communities, review finds

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/boris-johnson-burqa-racism-islamophobia-b1853358.html>

Report says UK Conservatives seen as insensitive to Muslims

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/report-says-uk-conservatives-seen-as-insensitive-to-muslims-boris-johnson-conservative-party-britain-muslims-b1853410.html>

Tory Islamophobia report: The key findings from inquiry into Conservative Party racism
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/conservative-party-racism-inquiry-islamophobia-b1853354.html>

Report branded a 'whitewash' as Conservatives apologise to victims 'hurt by' Islamophobia and racism in party
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/tory-racism-report-boris-johnson-b1853539.html>

Tory Islamophobia report: Evidence of anti-Muslim discrimination is likely just the tip of the iceberg
<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/editorials/boris-johnson-tory-racism-review-islamophobia-b1853642.html>

Tory Islamophobia report: Party chair apologises after racism inquiry
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/boris-johnson-news-live-tory-racism-b1853392.html?page=44&jwsourc=cl>

Tories must banish Islamophobia from party, says Sajid Javid
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/boris-johnsons-veil-comment-contributed-to-tories-perceived-muslim-problem-57cgx9vzd>

Following society is not enough: Tories have to lead Britain against racism
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/it-s-not-enough-to-change-with-society-we-must-lead-b6qnpnrrx>

Anti-Muslim sentiment in the Tory party: Patterns of Prejudice
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/the-times-view-on-anti-muslim-sentiment-in-the-tory-party-patterns-of-prejudice-btb788slb>

Tory Islamophobia inquiry: Anti-Muslim sentiment 'remains a problem' within Conservative Party, report finds
<https://news.sky.com/story/tory-islamophobia-anti-muslim-sentiment-remains-a-problem-within-conservative-party-report-finds-12316516>

News: Other Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Diane Abbott accused of stoking racial tension over shooting of BLM activist Sasha Johnson
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/diane-abbott-accused-of-stoking-racial-tension-over-shooting-of-blm-activist-sasha-johnson-gc8hmfrfq>

Black SNP candidate hits out over 'harassment from SNP member' putting women off politics
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/19331028.black-snp-candidate-hits-harassment-snp-member-putting-women-off-politics/>

Sewell says commission did find evidence of 'persistent discrimination' despite controversial race report
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/race-commission-racism-britain-sewell-b1855304.html>

BAME: 'Some ethnic minority doctors in Wales feel unwelcome'

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-57273961>

Black, Asian and disabled tenants 'more likely to face housing discrimination'

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2021/may/26/black-asian-disabled-tenants-more-likely-face-housing-discrimination>

Britain's racist 1970s education policies still resonate today

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/may/28/britains-racist-1970s-education-policies-black-children-educationally-subnormal>

Antisemitism: Williamson warns headteachers amid tension in schools

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2021/may/29/antisemitism-williamson-warns-headteachers-amid-tension-in-schools>

Schools must act now to tackle spike in 'abhorrent' anti-Semitic incidents, Gavin Williamson says

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2021/05/28/schools-must-act-now-tackle-spike-abhorrent-antisemitic-incidents/amp/>

'It is a terrifying time to be a Jew on campus': the rise of anti-Semitism in British universities

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/education-and-careers/2021/05/25/terrifying-time-jew-campus-rise-antisemitism-british-universities/>

David Baddiel on antisemitism: the oldest racism is no longer lurking in the shadows

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/david-baddiel-on-antisemitism-the-oldest-racism-is-no-longer-lurking-in-the-shadows-2rdhzsfn>

Anti-Zionism is simply the 'acceptable' new face of anti-Semitism

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/05/24/anti-zionism-simply-acceptable-new-face-anti-semitism/>

Ministers fear revival of Islamist extremism could be fuelling rise in anti-Semitism

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2021/05/29/ministers-fear-revival-islamist-extremism-could-fuelling-rise/>

Government isn't doing enough to tackle the extremism behind Britain's rise in anti-Semitism

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/05/29/government-not-enough-tackle-extremism-behind-britains-rise/>

University of Reading pledges action on racism

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-berkshire-57226998>

Cambridge professors fight plan to let students file secret racism denunciations

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/cambridge-professors-fight-plan-to-let-students-file-secret-racism-denunciations-q7s6fjzns>

George Floyd one year on: Reflections from the UK

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-57093888>

Boys ‘mimic George Floyd murder in attack on black pupil’

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/boys-mimic-george-floyd-murder-in-attack-on-black-pupil-at-a-school-in-nottinghamshire-r2rhp3ngl>

Mark Macpherson sentenced for racist graffiti on Elgin Mosque

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/what-s-happening/news/2021/may/mark-macpherson-sentenced-for-racist-graffiti-on-elgin-mosque/>

Sikh bullied and racially abused at work wants record £6.6m payout

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/sikh-bullied-and-racially-abused-at-work-wants-record-6-6m-payout-pz67xcp57>

Racist abusers keep jobs after driving Sikh colleague to quit tech firm

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/racist-abusers-keep-jobs-after-driving-sikh-colleague-to-quit-tech-firm-bt2n2s7ql>

Racist abuse outside Birmingham Wetherspoon investigated

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-birmingham-57228019>

Woman caught on camera using racial slur at bouncer and spitting

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/woman-racist-bouncer-birmingham-video-b1852838.html>

Woman arrested on suspicion of racially abusing pub doorman

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/may/24/west-midlands-police-investigate-after-racial-abuse-video-goes-viral>

Police investigating ‘70 racial slurs’ sent to Marcus Rashford

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/marcus-rashford-racist-abuse-police-b1854909.html>

Marcus Rashford reports racial abuse to police after Europa League loss

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2021/may/27/marcus-rashford-receives-racial-abuse-social-media-after-europa-league-loss>

‘He teaches children!!’ Marcus Rashford says maths teacher among at least 70 racist messages sent after Europa League final

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2021/05/27/marcus-rashford-bombarded-racial-abuse-europa-league-final-defeat/>

We need more than social media boycotts to tackle racism in football, says Antonio Rüdiger

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/we-need-more-than-social-media-boycotts-to-tackle-racism-in-football-says-antonio-ruediger-5v87gpxgk>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Release

Scotland's Recovery: First Minister sets out priorities for Government.

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

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Other UK Parliament and Government

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Offences against Children: Ethnic Groups

Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi (Labour) [4010] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reason her Department does not record the ethnicity of victims of child sexual exploitation and abuse.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The Government recognises the importance of gathering crime data to inform policy and operational decisions. All police forces routinely collect and publish data on offences. However, published data relates to recorded offences rather than the characteristics of the victims who have experienced them. This is so that the published data reflects all recorded offences, including those where there is no specific, intended, or identifiable victim, or where there are multiple offences against one victim.

The Government remains determined to build on our understanding of the nature of child sexual abuse, including the ethnicity and background of victims. To inform our understanding of the number of victims and their ages, we use data gathered through the Crime Survey for England and Wales (ONS). We also draw on the research and insight produced by the Centre of Expertise on Child Sexual Abuse, which we established in 2017, and why we draw on the insight of other experts including the Independent Inquiry on Child Sexual Abuse, which has produced research on ethnic minority victims of CSEA.

We also work closely with local areas to improve their response to exploitation, enabling them to spot trends in abuse and protect local communities. In addition, we have increased investment in support services, including specific projects to support victims from BAME backgrounds.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-19/4010>

The Crime Survey referred to above can be read at

<https://www.crimesurvey.co.uk/en/SurveyResults.html>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Batley Grammar School: Harassment

Lord Vinson (Conservative) [HL114] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to protect the Batley Grammar School teacher who spoke about the Charlie Hebdo event from threats reportedly made by Islamists; and what steps they are taking to apprehend the individuals making such threats.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Home Office has been in close contact with West Yorkshire Police, who worked with local partners to take swift action to protect the individual involved in recognition of the significant interest both

locally, nationally and across various media outlets.

We expect the police to take appropriate and proportionate action in relation to any threats made, and we will continue to engage with them as appropriate in relation to this case.

We are committed to tackling those who spread views that promote violence and hatred against individuals and communities in our society, and must stand up to those who seek to undermine our fundamental values.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-05-11/hl114>

New Publications

Births and infant mortality by ethnicity in England and Wales: 2007 to 2019

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/childhealth/articles/birthsandinfantmortalitybyethnicityinenglandandwales/2007to2019/pdf>

Female Genital Mutilation - January to March 2021

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/female-genital-mutilation/january-to-march-2021>

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Health Information: Coronavirus (COVID-19)

NHS

Coronavirus helpline

People living in Scotland who don't have any symptoms but are looking for general information can call the coronavirus helpline. If you're a non-English speaker you can still use this service. Phone 0800 028 2816, tell the call handler that you need an interpreter, give the name of your preferred language and you will be connected to a Language Line interpreter. You will not have to pay for this.

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 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/>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Ministerial Statement

Covid-19 Health Inequalities: Quarterly Report

The Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury (Kemi Badenoch) [HCWS56] I am publishing today the third of my quarterly reports to the Prime Minister on progress to address covid-19 health disparities among ethnic minority groups.

Vaccination offers the clearest path out of the pandemic and remains the key step in addressing the disparities in risks and outcomes from covid-19. My report summarises the unprecedented programme of measures taken to tackle misinformation and to increase both vaccine confidence and uptake among ethnic minorities.

Over the last quarter the Government, together with national and local partners, have responded quickly, effectively and flexibly to drive vaccine uptake. Measures include:

A bespoke plan for vaccinations during Ramadan, including the use of “twilight jabbing”;

Establishing vaccination centres at around 50 different religious venues, with many more acting as pop-up sites, to build trust and confidence within local communities;

Piloting family vaccinations with a view to encourage uptake among multi-generational households, where the risk of infection may be higher;

Allocating over £7 million of additional NHS funding to local sustainability and transformation partnerships to enable targeted engagement in areas with health inequalities and with communities that are not vaccine confident; and

Providing local health leaders with comprehensive data on vaccine uptake among those most at risk from covid-19, allowing them to take targeted action.

My report also sets out progress with the community champions scheme, which was launched in January. The 60 local authority areas participating in the Government-funded scheme recruited 4,653 individual community

champions by the end of March, who are now playing a vital role in combating misinformation and driving vaccine uptake.

These combined efforts have led to increases in both positive vaccine sentiment and vaccine uptake across all ethnic groups over the last quarter. Vaccine confidence has increased in three consecutive research periods and the vast majority of people say they have already been vaccinated, or would be likely to accept a vaccine.

The Government are not complacent. The relatively low uptake rates for some ethnic groups and emerging new variants remain areas of concern. The Government will continue to encourage everyone to take the vaccine when offered.

My report sets out a number of next steps, including improving our understanding of how the pandemic has impacted frontline healthcare workers, investigating any practical barriers to vaccine uptake by ethnicity, and improving the quality of ethnicity data in health records.

My fourth and final report will provide a further update and will include recommendations on how this work to address covid-19 disparities should be taken forward, as part of our longer term strategy to tackle health inequalities.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2021-05-25/debates/2105252000012/Covid-19HealthInequalitiesQuarterlyReport>

The report referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/988838/Third_quarterly_report_on_progress_to_address_COVID-19_health_inequalities.pdf

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 statement - 28 May 2021

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-update-first-ministers-statement-28-2021/>

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Debate: Deputy First Minister's statement - 27 May 2021

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/covid-19-debate-deputy-first-ministers-statement-27-2021/>

Coronavirus (COVID-19) update: First Minister's statement – 25 May 2021

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-update-first-ministers-statement-25-2021/>

UK Government Press Release

Government report shows improving vaccine confidence among ethnic minority groups

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-report-shows-improving-vaccine-confidence-among-ethnic-minority-groups>

UK Government Publications

The R value and growth rate

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-r-value-and-growth-rate>

Third quarterly report on progress to address COVID-19 health inequalities

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/988838/Third_quarterly_report_on_progress_to_address_COVID-19_health_inequalities.pdf

Updating ethnic contrasts in deaths involving the coronavirus (COVID-19), England: 24 January 2020 to 31 March 2021

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/articles/updatingethniccontrastsindeathsinvolvingthecoronaviruscovid19englandandwales/24january2020to31march2021/pdf>

Other Organisations

Leeds University and Birmingham University

The interaction of ethnicity and deprivation on COVID-19 mortality risk: A retrospective ecological study

<http://www.repec.bham.ac.uk/pdf/20-22.pdf>

News

Covid mortality: at-risk groups and vaccine hesitancy

<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/thebirminghambrief/items/2021/may/covid-mortality-at-risk-groups-and-vaccine-hesitancy.aspx>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

UK Parliament

Online Safety Bill (Draft)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/draft-online-safety-bill>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

Evidence for Equality National Survey (EVENS) (closing date 30 June 2021)

<https://evensurvey.co.uk/>

Protect Duty (closing date 2 July 2021)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/protect-duty>

**** Immigration Costs for Armed Forces Personnel** (closing date 7 July 2021)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/immigration-fees-public-consultation>

Possible changes to the immigration and asylum rules in relation to tribunal reform [in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland] (closing date 14 July 2021)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/possible-changes-to-the-immigration-and-asylum-rules-in-relation-to-tribunal-reform>

Black Lives in Scotland (closing date not stated)

<https://blacklivesinScotland.typeform.com/to/YFrnnHSC>

Social Distance, Digital Congregation: British Ritual Innovation under COVID-19

(closing date not stated)

<https://bric19.mmu.ac.uk/take-the-survey/>

Experiences of people with refugee status who are renting private property in Scotland

(closing date not stated)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/YDR67MN>

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>

Global Majority Fund

Closing date 17 June 2021

Comic Relief and National Emergencies Trust funding of up to £20,000 to provide support for organisations led by and/or serving Black and minority ethnic communities who are experiencing hardships due to COVID-19, and focussed on addressing COVID-19 needs and priorities among communities experiencing racial inequality. For information see <https://www.crer.scot/global-majority-fund>

Adapt and Thrive

Running until the end of June 2021

This programme, which is part of the Scottish Government Community and Third Sector Recovery Programme, offers grants of up to £75,000, loans, and specialist advice to organisations across the third sector to adapt to the challenges presented by COVID-19 and build back better to thrive in the future. For information see <https://scvo.scot/support/coronavirus/funding/scottish-government/community-recovery/atf>

Public Confidence in Policing: Seldom Heard Communities

Closing date 1 July 2021

Police Scotland, the Scottish Institute for Policing Research and Scottish Police Authority funding for projects and activities which will meet genuine evidence gaps and support Police Scotland to further contact and engagement with all elements of communities in Scotland, particularly those groups which are seldom heard. For information see <http://sipr.ac.uk/research-activities/seldom-heard-communities-grants>

**** Hate Crime Security Fund for Places of Worship**

Closing date 21 July 2021

This fund aims to reduce the vulnerability to hate crime that some places of worship across Scotland face. The Scottish Government has made £500,000 available for the provision of capital security measures and improvements. These measures are intended to reduce the risk of hate crimes to places of worship in Scotland and provide reassurance for faith communities who worship at them. ...

Applications are welcomed from individual places of worship of all faiths who can demonstrate their vulnerability to hate crime, whether or not a crime has been committed or reported to the police. ...

Up to 100% grants are available for the installation of up to three security measures and

improvements, and you can apply for a maximum of £20,000 to cover all or part of your proposed security measures and improvements.

<https://www.impactfundingpartners.com/open-applications/hate-crime-security-fund>

and

<https://tinyurl.com/4ujukfuf>

**** Henry Duncan Grants for mental health and wellbeing**

Closing date 21 July 2021

The health, economic and social impacts of the coronavirus pandemic are likely to increase people's need for mental health support. Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities have been among those most impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. This is likely to affect people's mental health, for example through fear and anxiety, experience of illness or loss of loved ones. Research has shown that Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities are disadvantaged when accessing mental health and well-being services, including the quality of care they receive. This is due to racism, structural and institutional inequalities, fear, stigma and discrimination. For these reasons, Henry Duncan Grants 2021 includes a strand focused on Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities. For information see <https://www.corra.scot/grants/henry-duncan-grants/>

Vaccine Information Fund

Running until August 2021

Grants of up to £1,000 are available to eligible organisations to create appropriate resources and activities to ensure that all people in Scotland have informed and equal access to information about the vaccine. For information see <https://bemis.org.uk/vif/>

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Events, Conferences, and Training

**** new or updated this week**

Rights and Entitlements of EEA Nationals

9 June 2021 (online, 10.30–12.30)

4 August 2021 (online, 10.00–12.30)

6 October 2021 (online, 10.00–12.30)

12 January 2022 (online, 10.30–12.30)

2 March 2022 (online, 10.00–12.30)

PAiH training on 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 see <https://tinyurl.com/24ba4stk>

**** Towards an Anti-Racist Dance Research**

10 June 2021 (online, 2.00)

Reflections on expectations, doubts, and discoveries arising from a collaborative, anti-racist research project on contemporary dance in the UK, "Contemporary Dance and Whiteness". For information see <https://tinyurl.com/468tvwc9>

**** Refugee Festival Scotland**

14–20 June 2021 (Scotland-wide)

Celebrations will take place across Scotland, from the Borders to the Highlands and Islands. And there's something for everyone, from live music and dance to online art exhibitions, film screenings and family-friendly picnics. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yk322my2>

**** Making Home**

14–20 June 2021 (online)

Online exhibition bringing together artwork created by Scottish and New Scots families which reflect on the idea of “home”. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/j28rsfha>

**** Travellers**

14–20 June 2021 (online)

‘Travellers’ is a filmed dance piece with choreography and content inspired by the shared experiences of the performers and Syrian women living in the Highlands of Scotland. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/zpfjyj4n>

**** The Anti Dawn Raid Chorus**

14 June 2021 (online, 12.00–1.30)

University of Glasgow critical and celebratory conversation with Glasgow-based activists and community members who used the arts as advocacy to protest against the conditions in which refugees live. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/rn52p6zb>

**** Launch: Stories of Hope**

14 June 2021 (online, 1.30)

Poverty Truth Community launch of a graphic booklet created by a group who have been through or are going through the asylum process. The booklet has been created to encourage those arriving in this country, and offers advice and support. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2mkukud4>

**** From Exclusion to Inclusion**

15 June 2021 (online, 11.00)

Scottish Wider Access Programme workshop around participants development of skills and competence assessment to assist with the transition to education or employment. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/m8k6ckph>

**** Monuments for a Multicultural Society**

15 June 2021 (online, 6.00)

In the wake of Black Lives Matter protests, local campaigns and online petitions have asked for the removal of statues and monuments that implicitly celebrate slavery and racism. If these were to be removed, what are the “symbols” that would replace them? Workshop to map personal and cultural knowledge of the multiple communities that compose Scotland today. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/c8vjwrta>

**** Right to Work: Right to Freedom**

15 June 2021 (online, 6.00)

Maryhill Integration Network discussion about the impact of not being able to work on people seeking asylum. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/5rmenbe9>

Rights of Refugees and Asylum Seekers

16 June 2021 (online, 10.00–12.30)

18 August 2021 (online, 10.00–12.30)

20 October 2021 (online, 10.00–12.30)

19 January 2022 (online, 10.00–12.30)

9 March 2022 (online, 10.00–12.30)

PAiH 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 see <https://tinyurl.com/24ba4stk>

**** Covid and Recovery roundtable: experiences of lockdown in Scotland for people in the asylum process and the Third Sector**

16 June 2021 (online, 12.00–1.30)

Roundtable to discuss individual and Third Sector experiences of surviving lockdown, and asking: What does recovery mean for refugees and people seeking asylum and the Third Sector who support them? What does the support and advocacy landscape look like in digital times? What does the New Immigration Plan mean for Third Sector work? What solidarity actions and supports are needed? For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2jzs3jw6>

**** Refugee histories Scotland**

(16 June 2021 (online, 4.00–5.30)

Learn some of the stories of refugees in Scotland, from the post-war camp for Polish refugees in Prestwick to present-day experiences of life for refugees in communities around Scotland. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/jn8d2dc5>

**** ‘We Journey Together’ – Film Screening and Discussion**

16 June 2021 (online, 6.00)

Govan Community Project film and resource pack aiming to increase understanding of the asylum system, challenge stigma, and open up conversations. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2nspa72a>

**** Listening, watching, doing: Reflections on researching refugee integration**

17 June 2021 (online, 10.00)

Glasgow University discussion about researching refugee integration initiatives in Scotland. The event will also consider the need to include people from refugee backgrounds in the research process and how this can be innovatively achieved. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/42bm7a8c>

**** Bring a Refugee Family to Safety in Your Local Community (Scotland)**

17 June 2021 (online, 6.00–7.00)

Sponsor Refugees (Citizens UK) and Communities 4 Refugees webinar to get familiar with Community Sponsorship in Scotland and learn how you can start your own Community Sponsorship group so that you can welcome a refugee family. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/3rwrenfs>

**** Books to help children and young people understand the refugee crisis**

19 June 2021 (online, 11.00)

Youth Libraries Group Scotland showcases a variety of current picture books, novels for older children and graphic novels about refugees that encourage empathy and understanding. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2kb5nj2z>

**** Coming Together: Southern European Migrants and Their Intercultural Encounters in Edinburgh**

20 June 2021 (online, 5.00–6.00)

St Andrews University exhibition of photographs from workplaces that capture moments of interaction between Southern European migrants, other migrants and the local people in Edinburgh, and creation of Wikipedia entries on cultural festivals in Edinburgh run by and involving Southern European migrants. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/3tzs7rna>

No Recourse to Public Funds

30 June 2021 (online, 10.30–12.30)

27 October 2021 (online, 10.30–12.30)

26 January 2022 (online, 10.00–12.30)

PAiH workshop 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 see <https://tinyurl.com/24ba4stk>

Introduction to Working with Religious Diversity

15 July 2021 (online, 10.30–12.30)

Interfaith Scotland workshop on improving confidence in discussing and responding to the religion and belief of those we work with. The event will explore guiding principles behind working with religion and belief diversity, and take a closer look at the core beliefs and cultural practices of Islam, Sikhism and Judaism. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/fsbvp2ac> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

Advantage Is Invisible – Understanding Unintentional Discrimination

3 August 2021 (online, 10.30–12.30)

Interfaith Scotland course exploring the nature and patterns of discrimination, focussing on unintentional discrimination, and exploring its prevalence. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/u6tb4ext> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

Intention Versus Impact – Exploring Challenges Around Group Labels And Unintended Offence

25 August 2021 (online, 13.30–15.30)

Interfaith Scotland workshop exploring the terminology used to describe groups, particularly in relation to protected characteristics such as race, disability, religion and belief. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/z7wcfh46> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

Debiasing Our Systems, Debiasing Ourselves – An Introduction To Tackling Unconscious Bias

14 September 2021 (online, 10.30–1.30)

Interfaith Scotland session exploring the evidence of unconscious bias, methods for reducing its impact on decisions and behaviour, and describing the steps that we can take to become more aware of potential bias and how to reduce its impact. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/tamye4rv> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

Interpreting Culture – Improving Cross-Cultural Communication

14 October 2021 (online, 10.30-13.00)

Interfaith Scotland course to explore how culture forms a lens through which we interpret behaviour, and learn how to improve our inter-cultural communication. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/27mj9h3b> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

**** updated!**

Scottish Interfaith Week 2021

31 October to 7 November 2021 (Scotland-wide)

Scottish Interfaith Week will coincide with COP26 (United Nations Climate Change Conference 2021), and the theme for 2021 is Together for Our Planet. Event submissions are now open and can be registered on the [Scottish Interfaith Week website](#). Sign up to the [Scottish Interfaith Week newsletter](#) to receive updates.

3 Mottos For Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

17 November 2021 (online, 13.00–16.30)

Interfaith Scotland course considering diversity in its widest sense, looking at three models which provide insight on our experience of difference: the role of the dominant identity in

shaping organisations; why some people overlook the disadvantages that others experience; and how to respond to misunderstandings or offence. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/b762err8> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

Working With People From Diverse Religion & Belief Identities

14 December 2021 (online, 13.00–16.30)

Interfaith Scotland course on improving confidence in discussing and responding to the religion and belief of those we work with. The event will explore 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://tinyurl.com/83rwadrb> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

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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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