



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 Motions

Bill Kidd (SNP) [S6M-04703] Making Scotland Hostile to Trafficking and a Safe Place for Ukrainian Refugees – That the Parliament welcomes the launch of the Hope for Justice and anti-trafficking partners' website, Ukrainians Welcome, which is aimed at protecting refugees in the UK against modern slavery, and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe's (OSCE) new recommendations on mitigating the risks of trafficking, following the crisis in Ukraine, as it considers refugees are particularly vulnerable to trafficking for sexual exploitation and other forms of modern slavery; understands that the Scottish Government has committed to criminalising sex buyers, addressing the reported impunity of sex buyers in exploiting vulnerable women and children, and, through criminalisation, making Scotland hostile to human traffickers; considers that Baroness Helena Kennedy QC's report on Misogyny and Criminal Justice

in Scotland affirms the understanding of commercial sexual exploitation, including pornography, prostitution and trafficking, as "violence against women and girls"; recognises the OSCE's reported findings that internet searches for Ukrainian women for sale for sexual exploitation has increased by between 200% to 600% across multiple countries in Europe since the Ukrainian refugee crisis started, and that, in the UK, internet searches for Ukrainian women has increased by 669%, compared with March 2021; considers that the criminalisation of sex buyers in Scotland would tackle the demand that fosters trafficking and respond to Palermo protocol commitments; commends the efforts of anti-trafficking organisations, such as International Justice Mission, which presented information to the Cross-Party Group on Human Trafficking on the work that it has been doing to prevent human trafficking occurring at the Romanian-Ukrainian border since the war in Ukraine started, and A21, which it understands is safely housing Ukrainian survivors of sex trafficking and runs trafficking awareness campaigns across Europe; considers that such examples show the success that is possible when authorities and charities work collaboratively to warn refugees of the signs of human traffickers and provide practical assistance to avoid refugees taking up unsafe offers of accommodation or transport; believes that vulnerability to trafficking increases when refugees are in transit or when financial resources reduce over time, and recognises what it sees as the invaluable work of individual sponsors, community groups and local organisations in welcoming refugees to Glasgow and the rest of Scotland, and ensuring that they are provided with the practical and emotional support needed to begin to find refuge and safety as they rebuild their lives.
<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/votes-and-motions/S6M-04703>

The report referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/misogyny-human-rights-issue/>

Paul O’Kane (Labour) [S6M-04593] Rani Skawi Welcomes Refugees to Inverclyde – That the Parliament recognises Rani Skawi’s efforts in welcoming refugees from Afghanistan to their new home of Inverclyde; further recognises that Rani Skawi spoke to an audience, which included 17 Afghan refugee families, during a refugee welcome event organised by Inverclyde Community Development Trust, Inverclyde Council, CVS Inverclyde, Your Voice, Beacon Arts Centre and Compassionate Inverclyde; understands that Rani Skawi was herself a refugee who left her home in Damascus, Syria, three years ago and has since settled in Port Glasgow with her family; celebrates that Rani Skawi is using her own experience as a refugee to offer guidance and reassurance to refugees in similar circumstances; further celebrates that her story of moving to Scotland is one of success, having enrolled in a college course, obtained a driving licence and, in her own words, has "a whole new life" and is "very happy", and believes that, as more stories emerge concerning the challenges and strife of refugees across the world, people like Rani Skawi can be symbols of hope.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/votes-and-motions/S6M-04593>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers: Rwanda Refugee Policy

The following three questions all received the same answer

Asylum: Rwanda

Olivia Blake (Labour) [10048] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when she will publish the terms of reference for the UK-Rwanda partnership's monitoring committee.

Olivia Blake (Labour) [10049] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, on what criteria will individuals be chosen to sit on the UK-Rwanda partnership's

monitoring committee.

Olivia Blake (Labour) [10050] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether it is her policy to make public minutes of all future meetings of the UK-Rwanda partnership's monitoring committee.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: An independent Monitoring Committee will monitor the entire relocation process and compliance with assurances in the Memorandum of Understanding, including the processing of asylum claims and provision of support in Rwanda.

The terms of reference and membership of the Monitoring Committee for the Migration and Economic Development Partnership are in the process of being developed. The Monitoring Committee is due to become operational in the coming months. More details on this will be set out in due course.

Membership of the Monitoring Committee will be decided upon and shared in due course.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-26/10048>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-26/10049>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-26/10050>

Undocumented Migrants: Rwanda

John Hayes (Conservative) [7899] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether there is a cap on the number of illegal immigrants who can be transferred to Rwanda under the Migration and Economic Development Partnership with that country.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: The Migration and Economic Development Partnership between the UK and Rwanda is uncapped and is expected to last for at least five years.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-24/7899>

Asylum: Children

Emma Lewell-Buck (Labour) [8008] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to ensure that age assessments are accurate enough to prevent unaccompanied asylum-seeking children being relocated to Rwanda.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: Everyone considered for relocations to Rwanda will be screened and have access to legal advice. Decisions will be taken on a case-by-case basis, and nobody will be removed if it is unsafe or inappropriate for them. The measures the Government is bringing forward through the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 will address the current weaknesses in the age assessment system and ensure decision making is more robust.

Our reforms aim to make assessments more consistent and robust from the outset, with any disputed decisions resolved quickly and conclusively. We will create a power to enable the Home Secretary to introduce secondary legislation specifying scientific techniques of age assessment, which would widen the breadth of evidence on which to base decisions.

We will also establish a decision-making function in the Home Office, referred to as the National Age Assessment Board (NAAB). The NAAB will primarily consist of expert social workers whose task will be to conduct full age assessments, upon referral from a local authority. Local authorities will also retain the ability to conduct age assessments themselves.

We believe the measures we're planning to introduce will make the system more robust and result in higher quality decisions on people's age.

As part of these measures, in due course, individuals will also have a full right of

appeal (including access to legal aid) to the First Tier Tribunal where they have been assessed as an age other than that claimed. This will provide for independent judicial oversight of the process ensuring the highest standards of decision making are adhered to. In the meantime, individuals will still be able to pursue the existing judicial review process.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-24/8008>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers: Afghanistan

Visas: Afghanistan

Seema Malhotra (Labour Co-op) [9880] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her Department's policy is on whether people from Afghanistan, whose spouses are British nationals and live in the UK, are subject to English language tests when applying for visas; and where those tests are completed.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The Government believes those seeking to enter and make a permanent home in the UK should be equipped to integrate successfully in UK society, with an appropriate level of English and an understanding of British life. However, under the current Rules an applicant can be exempted from the English language requirement to enter the UK if a decision maker considers there are exceptional circumstances preventing the applicant from meeting the requirement. The applicant must demonstrate, as a result of exceptional circumstances, they are unable to learn English before coming to the UK or it is not practicable or reasonable for them to travel to another country to take an approved English language test. Each application for an exemption on the basis of exceptional circumstances will be considered on its merits on a case-by-case basis.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-26/9880>

Refugees: Afghanistan

Jessica Morden (Labour) [3527] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have arrived in the UK under the (a) Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy Scheme and (b) Afghan Resettlement Scheme as of 17 May; and how many people are currently in bridging hotels.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The UK Government undertook the biggest and fastest emergency evacuation in recent history. Over 15,000 people were supported to come to the UK directly following the evacuation of Afghanistan, and a further 3,000 have since arrived.

Due to the scale and pace of the evacuation we have had to use hotels as a temporary measure. There are currently over 12,000 individuals from Afghanistan in bridging hotels. This cohort is made up of British and Afghan Nationals who may be eligible for Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP) or Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS).

We do not want to keep people in temporary accommodation for any longer than is necessary. We have moved – or are in the process of moving - over 6,000 people into homes since June 2021. There is a huge effort underway to support the families into permanent homes so they can settle and rebuild their lives, and to ensure those still temporarily accommodated in hotels are given the best start to their life in the UK.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-17/3527>

Information about the Afghan Relocations Assistance Policy, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/afghan-relocations-and-assistance-policy/afghan-relocations-and-assistance-policy-information-and-guidance>

Information about the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme, referred to above,
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/afghan-citizens-resettlement-scheme>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Refugees: Afghanistan

Stuart C McDonald (SNP) [6790] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to help ensure that resettled Afghans are informed about life in the area of the UK in which they are offered accommodation.

Stuart C McDonald (SNP) [6792] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the potential merits of housing resettled Afghans in urban areas; and whether priority is given to finding accommodation in urban areas.

Reply from Kevin Foster: We have been working to support Afghan families into homes of their own, so they can settle into their local communities, feel safe and independent and rebuild their lives in the UK.

We provide 7 days' notice of their move to long-term accommodation. During this time, they can prepare for their move and discuss any concerns with their Home Office Liaison Officer. We will also put them in contact with the relevant Local Authority to discuss the area they are moving to and what the local amenities are including schools, local services and details of the local community to help them integrate as quickly as possible.

We work closely with Local Authorities and we strive to allocate the right families into the right accommodation to ensure integration into their new area is as smooth as possible. To achieve this, we triage and prioritise families to ensure the settled accommodation provides the best possible match, taking into consideration date of arrival into the UK, family size, vulnerability and integration factors.

This also includes finding accommodation within or near to, major conurbations wherever possible so appropriate support and access to services can be more readily provided. Yet this must be balanced with the need to avoid lengthy periods being accommodated in hotels when good offers of accommodation are being made from other areas which are ready to welcome Afghan families.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-23/6790>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-23/6792>

Refugees: Afghanistan

Stuart C McDonald (SNP) [6791] To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, whether resettled Afghans who reject two offers of accommodation will be considered intentionally homeless or will still be able to apply to a local authority for homelessness assistance.

Reply from Eddie Hughes: Homelessness is a devolved matter, but in all parts of the UK Afghan households would be able to apply for homelessness assistance if asked to leave bridging accommodation, following rejection of two appropriate offers of accommodation.

In England, the local authority will have duties to try and help them secure accommodation to 'relieve' their homelessness. These duties apply irrespective of the reason for them becoming homeless. If the local authority has been unable to relieve homelessness within 56 days of accepting the duty, they will have to decide whether a longer term housing duty is owed, including assessing if the household is intentionally homeless. Housing authorities must not adopt general policies which seek to pre-define circumstances that do or do not amount to intentional homelessness. In each case, housing authorities must form a view in the light of all their inquiries about that particular case. Guidance about the law relating to intentional homelessness in England is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/homelessness-code-of-guidance-for-local-authorities/chapter-9-intentional-homelessness>

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-23/6791>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer: Ukraine

Visas: Ukraine

Stuart C McDonald (SNP) [9027] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will include Ukraine Extension Scheme visa-holders in the scope of the Ukraine Family Scheme.

Reply from Kevin Foster: Ukraine Extension Scheme visa holders can already qualify for the Ukraine Family Scheme providing they meet the relevant criteria. Nationals of Ukraine coming to the UK under the Ukraine Family Scheme will be given access to work, benefits and public services as laid down in the Immigration Rules Appendix Ukraine, details of which can be found at:

[Immigration Rules Appendix Ukraine Scheme - Immigration Rules - Guidance](#)

Successful applicants will not be given leave beyond the three years already granted to them under the Ukraine Extension Scheme.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-25/9027>

Information about the Ukraine Extension Scheme, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-to-stay-in-the-uk-under-the-ukraine-extension-scheme>

Information about the Ukrainian Family Scheme, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-a-ukraine-family-scheme-visa>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers: Other Immigration and Asylum

The following three questions all received the same answer

Immigration

Christine Jardine (Liberal Democrat) [4665] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many (a) applications and (b) appeals for indefinite leave to remain have been awaiting a final decision for longer than six months as of 18 May 2022.

Christine Jardine (Liberal Democrat) [4666] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many further leave to remain (a) applications and (b) appeals have been awaiting a final decision for longer than six months.

Christine Jardine (Liberal Democrat) [4667] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people who have been waiting longer than six months for a decision on an application for further leave to remain have no recourse to public funds as of 18 May 2022.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The Home Office does not publish data on the number of applications which have been outstanding for longer than six months awaiting a final decision, nor does it hold data on those who do not have recourse to public funds awaiting a decision. To capture this data would exceed the cost threshold.

The Home Office does publish data of its performance against its service level agreement, which can be found on the GOV.UK webpage: [Migration transparency data](#)

The appeals information requested is not readily available or published. Her Majesty's Court and Tribunal Service manage the appeals system and publish high level timeliness information. The most recent publication is here: [Tribunal Statistics Quarterly: October to December 2021](#)

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-18/4665>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-18/4666>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-18/4667>

Visas: Applications

Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi (Labour) [8111] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent steps she has taken to ensure that visa applicants receive responses from her Department within an appropriate timeframe.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The Home Office is currently prioritising Ukraine Visa Schemes applications in response to the humanitarian crisis caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. We are communicating directly with customers that applications for study, work and family visas are taking longer to process at this time. Staff are being redeployed to these visa routes. We also continue to onboard and train more staff, as we approach the expected summer surge in visa applications including to study in the UK.

Where there are extremely compassionate or compelling circumstances (for example, a medical emergency), the Home Office will consider expediting specific cases. However, the bar for this is high and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-24/8111>

Migrant Workers: Visas

Layla Moran (Liberal Democrat) [5487] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average time taken for a defined certificate of sponsorship to be approved is; what assessment she has made of backlogs for defined certificate of sponsorship applications; and what steps she is taking to resolve those backlogs.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The Home Office does not routinely capture data on the processing times for defined certificates of sponsorship.

UK Visas and Immigration has been experiencing an unprecedented high volume of applications, with around 30% referred back to the sponsor to provide further information which also contributes to the time taken to process them.

Significant additional resource has been allocated to the case work team, to progress outstanding cases.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-19/5487>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Visas: Applications

Adam Afriyie (Conservative) [3539] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to resolve delays to processing of (a) visa applications for highly skilled workers and (b) visa sponsor licences.

Migrant Workers: Visas

Layla Moran (Liberal Democrat) [5488] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average time taken for a skilled worker application linked to a defined certificate of sponsorship to be approved is; what assessment she has made of backlogs for skilled worker applications linked to defined certificate of sponsorship applications; and what steps she is taking to resolve those backlogs.

Kevin Foster: Performance and efficiency of visa and sponsor licence processing is continually reviewed to ensure performance is as strong as possible.

Information on our immigration routes with service standards and whether they have been processed against these standards is available as part of our transparency data, at: [Migration transparency data](#)

We are, however, currently flexing resources across all routes to ensure a robust response to the Ukrainian crisis while still processing standard applications within service standard wherever possible. As a result, customers with standard applications in study, work, and family routes may experience some temporary impacts to the processing of their application.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-17/3539>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-19/5488>

Visas: Graduates

Catherine West (Labour) [8093] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the potential merits of enabling graduates from high-ranking UK universities to apply for the High Potential Individual visa.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The High Potential Individual route is a highly selective route. It is designed to attract individuals who are at an early stage of their career who have demonstrated their potential through academic achievement at a limited number of universities outside of the UK.

Graduates of all UK universities are already able to remain and work in the UK for the same period through the Graduate route.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-24/8093>

Information about the High Potential Individual route, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/high-potential-individual-visa>

Information about the Graduate route, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/graduate-visa>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Windrush Compensation Scheme

Kate Osamor (Labour Co-op) [4643] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people who sought a tier one review through the Windrush Compensation Scheme received an increased offer of compensation in each month during the period from April 2019 to May 2022.

Kate Osamor (Labour Co-op) [4644] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people who sought a tier two review through the Windrush Compensation Scheme received an increased offer of compensation in each month during the period from April 2019 to May 2022.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The Home Office publishes Windrush Compensation Scheme Data monthly, including for Tier one and Tier two reviews. Published data is available to the end of March 2022,

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data#windrush-compensation-scheme>

Windrush Compensation Scheme data: March 2022 refers. The data covering the period ended 14 April 2022 and 12 May 2022 has not yet been published.

The Home Office has no published data with regards to how many of those received increases. The information is not readily available in a reportable format nor held centrally and could only be obtained at a disproportionate cost.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-18/4643>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-18/4644>

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

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-18/4644>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Kate Green (Labour) [4572] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what is the average processing time for (a) applications to the EU Settlement Scheme and (b) a family permit under the EU Settlement Scheme in each of the last 12 months.

Reply from Kevin Foster: Our aim is to process all applications to the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) as quickly as possible. Each individual case is considered on its own facts, which means some cases will inevitably take longer than others to conclude. Cases may take longer dependent on the circumstances of the case, for example, if the applicant is facing an impending prosecution or has a criminal record.

The following link lists the expected processing times for EU Settlement Scheme applications, based upon current performance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-application-processing-times/eu-settlement-scheme-pilot-current-expected-processing-times-for-applications>

Our aim is to conclude applications for an EEA family permit or an EUSS family permit as soon as possible after identity and supporting documents are submitted. More information can be found here;

[Visa decision waiting times: applications outside the UK](#)

Decisions are made in accordance with this service standard where possible.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-18/4572>

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

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

The following two questions both received the same answer

British Nationality: Ilois

Andrew Rosindell (Conservative) [6712] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reason it is her policy that the new route for Chagossians to acquire British Nationality will be time-limited to five years from the commencement date of the Nationality and Borders Act 2022.

Andrew Rosindell (Conservative) [6713] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she has made an assessment of the potential merits of extending the new route to British Citizenship for Chagossians to those who are born outside of the British Indian Ocean Territory.

Reply from Kevin Foster: All direct descendants of people who were citizens of the UK and Colonies by virtue of their birth in the British Indian Ocean Territory are already eligible to apply under the measure, and regardless of where those descendants were born.

Our legislative provision is a generous one. We recognise the special circumstances of this group, so will create a registration route which breaks the traditional nationality model whereby citizenship is normally only passed on for one generation overseas. It is therefore not an open-ended offer, but those interested will have plenty of time to apply, and children will have until they are 23 years old to do so. The route is free, and no-one who is eligible and wants to apply should miss out.

We will publish further details of the support we will offer to those applying as soon as it is available.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-23/6712>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-23/6713>

Asylum: Applications

Stephen Kinnock (Labour) [9023] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home

Department, how many asylum applications were processed to the point of either rejection or leave-to-remain granted in the 12 months leading up to 31 March (a) 2019, (b) 2020, (c) 2021 and (d) 2022.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The Home Office publishes data on asylum in the '[Immigration Statistics Quarterly Release](#)'. Data on the outcomes of asylum applications at initial decision are published in table Asy_D02 of the '[asylum and resettlement detailed datasets](#)'. Information on how to use the datasets can be found in the 'Notes' page of the workbook. The latest data relates to the end of March 2022.

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/2022-05-25/9023>

Asylum

Olivia Blake (Labour) [9208] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will publish information on the nationalities of people who have been granted Humanitarian Protection Leave within the last year.

Reply from Kit Malthouse: The Home Office publishes data on asylum and resettlement in the '[Immigration Statistics Quarterly Release](#)'. Data on the number of grants of Humanitarian Protection leave broken down by nationality are published in table Asy_D02 of the '[asylum and resettlement detailed datasets](#)'.

Information on how to use the datasets can be found in the 'Notes' page of the workbook. The latest data relates to March 2022. Additionally, the Home Office publishes a high-level overview of the data in the '[summary tables](#)'. The 'contents' sheet contains an overview of all available data on asylum and resettlement.

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/2022-05-25/9208>

The following four questions all received the same answer

Asylum: Children

Emma Lewell-Buck (Labour) [8005] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, who is supervising unaccompanied asylum seeking children placed in hotels; and whether that supervision is 24 hours a day.

Emma Lewell-Buck (Labour) [8006] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if there have been paying guests present in any of the hotel sites used to accommodate unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in the last three months.

Emma Lewell-Buck (Labour) [8007] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will make an estimate of whether the companies who own the hotel sites used to accommodate unaccompanied asylum-seeking children have made a profit from this provision in the last 12 months.

Emma Lewell-Buck (Labour) [8009] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average length of time was that unaccompanied asylum-seeking children spent in hotels after arriving in the UK during the period from 14 July 2021 to 24 May 2022.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: UASC being temporarily accommodated in hotels are supported with wrap around care, including from professional care workers, social workers, and nurses. Activity is supported by SACC (Safeguarding Advice and Children's Champion) a Home Office team led by professional advisers who are registered social workers with extensive strategic and frontline experience in safeguarding the vulnerable.

The Home Office have sole occupancy of all of the hotels in which UASC are temporarily accommodated

Accommodation costs are considered to be commercially confidential, therefore the Home Office does not publish this information.

The average length of time that unaccompanied asylum-seeking children spent in hotels after arriving in the UK during the period from 14 July 2021 to 24 May 2022 was 15.5 days. These figures are taken from a live operational database. As such, numbers may change as information on that system is updated.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-24/8005>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-24/8006>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-24/8007>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-24/8009>

Asylum: Undocumented Migrants

John Hayes (Conservative) [7904] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the number of failed asylum seekers who have no right to remain in the UK.

Reply from Kevin Foster: Information regarding the number of failed asylum seekers still living in the UK can be found on tables ASY03 and RCM02 of the most recently published immigration and protection transparency data:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-and-protection-data-q4-2021>

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-24/7904>

Asylum: Employment

Angela Crawley (SNP) [5431] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 18 May 2022 to Question 847, on Asylum: Employment, what steps her Department is taking to promote employment support to (a) refugees and b) people entering the UK as part of a resettlement scheme.

Reply from Kevin Foster: Those granted refugee status or humanitarian protection, as well as those arriving under one of the UK's resettlement schemes, have immediate access to the labour market and welfare benefits. If in receipt of Universal Credit, they can receive employment support from the Department for Work and Pensions.

For those arriving through one of the UK's resettlement schemes, the Home Office funds local and regional authorities to provide a package of support. As part of this, authorities are responsible for ensuring that arrivals are provided with a dedicated source of advice and support to assist with registering for mainstream benefits and services, including assistance with access to employment.

For those who were asylum seekers, we provide a further 28 days' support after the grant of refugee status to help with the transition to the mainstream benefits system. This Move-On service includes advice and assistance in relation to applying for Universal Credit and employment support.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-19/5431>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-11/847>

Migrants: Detainees

Dan Carden (Labour) [9127] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the value for money of legal costs incurred by her Department as a result of people who are wrongly held in immigration detention.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: Decisions to detain people are not taken lightly and

subject to regular reviews to ensure it remains appropriate. We will robustly defend decisions subject to legal challenge, when appropriate to do so and each decision is reviewed on an individual basis, with a decision to defend or concede based on the merits of the individual case.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-25/9127>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Deportation

Stuart C McDonald (SNP) [6788] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department has a record of the number of parents separated from their children as a result of deportations by her Department.

Deportation: Appeals

Stuart C McDonald (SNP) [6789] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many appeals against deportation lodged in 2021 were allowed (a) on family life grounds and (b) on the basis that deportation would have an unduly harsh impact on a qualifying child.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The information requested above is not available in a reportable format and would require a manual check of individual records which could only be done at disproportionate cost.

The Home Office published a one-off release on 22 February 2022, [Statistical note: FNO appeals lodged and allowed on human rights grounds, 2008 to 2021](#). The Ministry of Justice also publish data regarding all appeals lodged with the First-tier Tribunal Immigration and Asylum Chamber (FTIAC) in the following statistical quarterly release:

[Tribunal Statistics Quarterly: October to December 2021](#)

Section 32 of the UK Borders Act 2007 provides a statutory duty to deport a foreign national if they have been convicted of an offence in the UK and sentenced to a period of imprisonment of at least 12 months. This is subject to several exceptions, including where to do so would be a breach of a person's ECHR rights or the UK's obligations under the Refugee Convention.

Those deported are provided with the opportunity to raise claims prior to their removal being enforced. Where an Article 8 human rights claim is advanced by a foreign national offender, careful consideration is given to their claimed family and/or private life, in accordance with the Immigration Rules. All claims raised are fully considered on the individual merits of the case and decided before deportation. The UK only ever returns those who the Home Office and, where applicable, the courts are satisfied do not have a legal basis to remain in the UK.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-23/6788>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-23/6789>

Asylum: Deportation

John Hayes (Conservative) [7903] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many failed asylum seekers have been deported from the UK since 2020.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: The Home Office publishes statistics on the number of returns from the UK in the '[Immigration Statistics Quarterly Release](#)'. Data on asylum-related returns are published in table Ret_05 of the '[Returns Summary Tables](#)' with the latest data up to the end of December 2021.

Asylum-related returns relate to cases where there has been an asylum claim at some stage prior to the return. This will include asylum seekers whose asylum claims have been refused and who have exhausted any rights of appeal, those returned under third-country provisions, as well as those granted asylum/protection

but removed for other reasons (such as criminality).

The term 'deportations' refers to a legally-defined subset of returns, which are enforced either following a criminal conviction, or when it is judged that a person's removal from the UK is conducive to the public good. The published statistics refer to enforced returns which include deportations, as well as cases where a person has breached UK immigration laws, and those removed under other administrative and illegal entry powers that have declined to leave voluntarily. Figures on deportations, which are a subset of enforced returns, are not separately available.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-24/7903>

Deportation: China

Catherine West (Labour) [9082] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will review deportations to China in light of human rights concerns relating to that country.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: All asylum and human rights claims are carefully considered on their individual merits in accordance with our international obligations. Each individual assessment is made against the background of any relevant caselaw and the latest available country information. Our position on the Uyghurs in China is set out in the relevant country policy and information note on the gov.uk website.

Where someone establishes a well-founded fear of persecution or serious harm in their country, they are normally granted protection and are not expected to return there. The Home Office only seeks to return those whose asylum claim have been unsuccessful. By definition, they do not need protection and not at risk on return.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-25/9082>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Visas

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL270] To ask Her Majesty's Government what is the reason for the backlog in the issuing of visas in the Home Office.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Home Office is currently prioritising Ukraine Visa Schemes applications in response to the humanitarian crisis caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. We are communicating directly with customers that applications for study, work and family visas are taking longer to process at this time. Staff are being redeployed to these visa routes, in addition we continue to onboard and train more staff, as we approach the expected summer surge in visa applications including to study in the UK.

Where there are extremely compassionate or compelling circumstances (for example, a medical emergency), the Home Office will consider expediting specific cases. However, the bar for this is high and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-16/hl270>

Refugees: Disability

Baroness Fraser of Craigmaddie (Conservative) [HL528] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking, if any, to support (1) the devolved administrations, (2) local councils, and (3) regional health authorities, to ensure that disabled refugee children have access to health and education services and support.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Refugees, including children, have access to the statutory agencies who are responsible for social care and health issues for all UK residents.

The Government provides funding to enable local authorities, schools and health partners to provide vulnerable refugees with a safe environment and the chance to rebuild their lives.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-25/hl528>

General Practitioners: Migrant Workers

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL357] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to permit overseas-born trainee GPs to stay in Britain at the end of their training.

Reply from Lord Kamall: We are working with NHS England and NHS Improvement, Health Education England and the profession to understand the barriers faced by international medical graduates in general practitioner (GP) specialty training. The two-year General Practice Fellowship programme guarantees the opportunity for every newly qualified GP entering general practice, including international medical graduates, to receive funded mentorship, one funded session of continuing professional development opportunities per week and rotational placements in Primary Care Networks to develop their experience and support their transition into the workforce.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-18/hl357>

Asylum: Rwanda

The Lord Bishop of Southwark [HL352] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether asylum seekers removed to Rwanda as part of the UK–Rwanda Asylum Partnership Arrangement will receive vaccinations for (1) Hepatitis A, (2) Tetanus, and (3) Typhoid, prior to travelling to that country, in line with (a) advice, and (b) recommendations, from the (i) National Health Travel Network, and (ii) the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Various vaccinations are routinely offered to individuals within our detention estate pending their transfer or returns overseas.

Upon relocation to Rwanda, individuals will be provided with the healthcare and other support needed to ensure their health, security and wellbeing. This includes vaccinations where appropriate.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-18/hl352>

The following three questions all received the same answer

Deportation: Jamaica

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL271] To ask Her Majesty's Government, for each of the last four flights carrying deported Jamaican nationals, how many such individuals were on each flight.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL272] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many Jamaican nationals will be deported on the special charter flight to Jamaica on 18 May.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL273] To ask Her Majesty's Government how old each Jamaican national deported to Jamaica on each of the last four flights was when they first came to the UK.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Our priority will always be to keep our communities safe, and we make no apology for seeking to remove those with no right to remain in the UK and foreign criminals.

Since January 2019 we have removed 10,017 foreign criminals from the UK. Information on the number of Jamaican foreign national offenders returned from the UK is available from [Immigration statistics quarterly release](#) in table Ret_D03, which can be found attached.

A person's age upon arrival to the UK or their nationality are not exceptions to automatic deportation under the Borders Act 2007, but may be relevant factors, in addition to the strength of their social, cultural and family ties in the UK, in considering whether a human rights exception applies. All those deported will have been provided with the opportunity to raise claims, which are fully considered and determined prior to removal including, where applicable, via the Courts.

We do not routinely comment on individual cases.

[Ret 03](#)

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-16/hl271>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-16/hl272>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-16/hl273>

Press Releases

A nation of helping hands

<https://www.gov.scot/news/a-nation-of-helping-hands/>

Points based system welcomes highly skilled graduates to the UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/points-based-system-welcomes-high-skilled-graduates-to-uk>

First migrants set for Rwanda to be given final notice

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/first-migrants-set-for-rwanda-to-be-given-final-notice>

New Publications

Migrant Journey: 2021 report

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/migrant-journey-2021-report/migrant-journey-2021-report>

House of Commons Library Briefing: Migration Statistics

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

Global Talent Visa Evaluation: Exploring experiences of the Global Talent visa process: Wave 1 Report

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1072031/Final_Global_Talent_evaluation_wave_1_report_-_for_publication.pdf

Migrants detected crossing the English Channel in small boats - daily data

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/migrants-detected-crossing-the-english-channel-in-small-boats>

Weekly number of migrants detected in small boats – weekly data

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/migrants-detected-crossing-the-english-channel-in-small-boats-weekly-data>

Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme: Visa data by country, upper and lower tier local authority

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ukraine-sponsorship-scheme-visa-data-by-country-upper-and-lower-tier-local-authority>

Refugee Week Activities Pack for Children and Young People 2022

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1esKju5m7237_KEWmWlq-DpAoT722z7dg/view

News: Rwanda Refugee Policy

First flight taking Channel migrants to Rwanda set for 14 June

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-61653063>

Migrants notified of removal to Rwanda as first flight is set for June 14

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/migrants-notified-of-removal-to-rwanda-as-first-flight-is-set-for-june-14-3716520>

First 'illegal' migrants to be deported to Rwanda next month, Priti Patel confirms

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/20179271.first-illegal-migrants-deported-rwanda-next-month-priti-patel-confirms/>

Priti Patel gives green light for first Rwanda deportation flight

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2022/05/31/priti-patel-sanctions-first-rwanda-deportation-flight-take-100/>

First Rwanda deportation flight set for next month as asylum seekers to be given final notice

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/rwanda-migrant-deport-flight-patel-b2091260.html>

First Rwanda deportation flight to leave UK on 14 June, says Priti Patel

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/may/31/first-rwanda-deportation-flight-leave-uk-14-june-priti-patel>

Home Office threatens hunger strikers with faster deportation to Rwanda

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/jun/02/home-office-threatens-hunger-strikers-with-faster-deportation-to-rwanda>

Asylum seekers stage hunger strike as UK prepares Rwanda deportation

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-61676961>

Asylum seekers threatened with Rwanda deportation under Priti Patel scheme 'go on hunger strike'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/independentpremium/uk-news/asylum-seekers-hunger-strike-rwanda-b2093587.html>

Home Office accused of attempting to deport unaccompanied children to Rwanda

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/20188091.home-office-accused-attempting-deport-unaccompanied-children-rwanda/>

Home Office accused of attempting to deport unaccompanied minors to Rwanda

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-office-patel-rwanda-deport-children-b2094221.html>

UK accused of attempting to deport children to Rwanda

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/jun/05/uk-accused-of-attempting-to-deport-children-to-rwanda>

Rwanda deportation having 'catastrophic' impact on asylum seekers, say charities
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/rwanda-deportation-asylum-seekers-uk-latest-b2092002.html>

'Despair' over Rwanda deportation leading to suicide attempts, say UK charities
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/jun/01/suicide-attempts-among-those-facing-rwanda-offshoring-uk-charities-warn>

News: Channel Migrants

Clear majority of people crossing Channel are refugees, says UNHCR
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/jun/02/clear-majority-of-people-crossing-channel-are-refugees-says-unhcr>

Afghans with western links among rising number trying to cross Channel
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/jun/03/afghans-western-links-among-rising-number-trying-cross-channel>

Number of people to reach UK in small boats in 2022 nears 10,000
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/jun/04/number-of-people-to-reach-uk-in-small-boats-in-2022-nears-10000>

Migrant arrivals nearly hit 10,000 in UK for this year
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/ministry-of-defence-france-english-channel-mod-kent-b2093856.html>

Channel migrant crossings double to 10,000 in five months
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/channel-migrant-crossings-double-to-10-000-in-five-months-lntww7tk7>

Women and young children among latest small boat arrivals in UK
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/dover-ministry-of-defence-kent-rnli-english-channel-b2090983.html>

News: Ukraine

Ukrainian refugees get 'warm Scots welcome' as war reaches grim milestone
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/20185815.ukrainian-refugees-get-warm-scots-welcome-war-reaches-grim-milestone/>

'Generous' Scots praised for support shown to displaced Ukrainians
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/russia-scottish-government-scots-scottish-holyrood-b2093307.html>

Scots teachers' help for refugee children has been priceless, says Ukrainian MP
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/scots-support-scottish-nicola-sturgeon-glasgow-b2091764.html>

Over 500 Ukrainian children stuck waiting for UK visa decision
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/may/29/homes-for-ukraine-children-stuck-waiting-for-uk-visa-decision>

'It doesn't make sense': Ukrainian teenager left in limbo by Home Office

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/may/29/homes-for-ukraine-teenager-left-limbo-home-office>

Ukrainian families in Livingston felt threatened over relocation

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-61626107>

'I've spent thousands hosting Ukrainian refugees – the Government's payments aren't enough'

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/money/consumer-affairs/spent-thousands-hosting-ukrainian-refugees-governments-payments/>

Ukraine: Vegan refugee struggling to find a home

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-61509312>

News: Other Immigration and Asylum

World's top graduates get new UK visa option

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-61628740>

Visa scheme for graduates from top 50 non-UK universities is launched

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2022/may/30/visa-scheme-graduates-top-50-non-uk-universities-high-potential-individual>

Visas opened up for top graduates as Priti Patel puts 'talent first'

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2022/05/30/uk-opens-door-worlds-top-graduates-post-brexit-immigration-push/>

Migrant camp delayed after legal action by Tory council

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/05/31/guantanamo-on-ouse-migrant-camp-delayed-legal-action-tory-council/>

'No final decision' taken over controversial asylum centre in Yorkshire village

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/asylum-seekers-reception-centre-linton-on-ouse-b2091401.html>

Plan to move 1,500 asylum seekers to Yorkshire village hit by delay

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/may/31/plan-to-move-1500-asylum-seekers-to-yorkshire-village-hit-by-delay>

Home Office cancels flight to deport Kurdish failed asylum seekers to Iraq

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/may/31/home-office-cancels-flight-to-deport-kurdish-asylum-seekers-to-iraq>

The truth is out: Britain's immigration system is racist, and always has been. Now let's fix it

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2022/may/30/britain-immigration-system-racist-laws>

The increasing politicisation of migration – and the challenges that brings

<https://www.independent.co.uk/independentpremium/long-reads/immigration-europe-uk-priti-patel-reporting-b2084541.html>

The racist legislation that led to Windrush

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/may/29/racist-legislation-led-windrush-home-office>

Windrush scandal caused by '30 years of racist immigration laws' – report

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/may/29/windrush-scandal-caused-by-30-years-of-racist-immigration-laws-report>

Windrush scandal: Everything you need to know about the major political crisis

<https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/windrush-day-2022-scandal-history-b2090931.html>

Head of Scottish Refugee Council receives Queen's honour

<https://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/head-of-scottish-refugee-council-receives-queens-honour/>

TOP

Community Relations

Scottish Parliament Motion

Alex Cole-Hamilton (Liberal Democrat) [S6M-04620] Welcoming the St Margaret Declaration – That the Parliament welcomes the approval of the St Margaret Declaration, a joint statement of friendship between the Catholic Church in Scotland and the Church of Scotland, by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Scotland and the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland; commends the Catholic Church in Scotland and the Church of Scotland for acknowledging the historic issues that have divided the churches, and further commends the churches for, it believes, refusing to be bound by the past and their desire to promote the healing of division within the life of the Scottish nation.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/votes-and-motions/S6M-04620>

Information about the Declaration referred to above can be read at

<https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/news/2022/articles/kirks-general-assembly-endorses-saint-margaret-declaration>

and

<https://scmo.org/news-releases/perma/1651136400/article/catholic-church-and-church-of-scotland-release-dec.html>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Gypsy Roma Traveller History Month

Bnaroness Whitaker (Labour) [HL388] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to support Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month in June.

Reply from Lord Greenhalgh: The Government supports Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month and welcomes the wide range of organisations across the country that celebrate it each year. This includes schools, colleges, housing associations, Government departments and local authorities.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-19/hl388>

News

The Jubilee answers Britain's 'anti-racist' critics

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/06/04/jubilee-answers-britains-anti-racist-critics/>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

New Publication

European Commission Against Intolerance Annual Report: 1 January to 31 December 2021

<https://rm.coe.int/ecri-2021-annual-report-24052021-en/1680a6a6d3>

News

Walsall mayor suspended over racist WhatsApp post

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-birmingham-61662831>

Walsall mayor suspended from Tory party over racist WhatsApp post

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2022/jun/01/walsall-mayor-rose-martin-suspended-tory-party-racist-whatsapp-post>

Racism fears 'let Islamist extremists go unreported'

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/racism-fears-let-islamist-extremists-go-unreported-89zpq506>

GPs failing Asian victims of 'honour abuse' over racism fears

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/05/29/gps-failing-asian-victims-honour-abuse-racism-fears/>

Quakers to pay slavery reparations

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/quakers-to-pay-slavery-reparations-086pfwvkz>

UK resort Pontins faces legal notice over claims of discrimination against Irish Travellers

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/uk-resort-pontins-faces-legal-notice-over-claims-of-discrimination-against-irish-travellers-06kh2383k>

Royal Opera stages non-racist Madam Butterfly

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/royal-opera-stages-non-racist-madam-butterfly-5t6252zql>

Essex facing further punishment after falling short on anti-racism goals

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/essex-facing-further-punishment-after-falling-short-on-anti-racism-goals-vps7kdjq3>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Debate

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

<https://archive2021.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=13795&i=125085#ScotParIOR>

Scottish Parliament Motion

Nicola Sturgeon (First Minister, SNP) [S6M-04716] The Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022 – That the Parliament congratulates Her Majesty The Queen on the occasion of her Platinum Jubilee; expresses its gratitude for Her Majesty's exceptional public service and dedication to duty over 70 years; affirms the deep respect that is held for Her Majesty in Scotland, and sends good wishes for her continued service.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/votes-and-motions/S6M-04716>

New Publication

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee debate: First Minister's statement

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/queens-platinum-jubilee-debate-first-ministers-statement/>

News

Nicola Sturgeon speaks of her deep respect for the Queen

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-61676157>

Nicola Sturgeon in tribute to the Queen ahead of Platinum Jubilee celebrations

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/nicola-sturgeon-elizabeth-ii-scots-first-minister-scottish-parliament-b2092042.html>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

Press Release

The Scottish Secretary sends his congratulations to the Queen on her Platinum Jubilee

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/queens-platinum-jubilee>

New Publication

New website: Help with the cost of living – see what support is available

Note that while some of the information on this website also applies in Scotland, other sections only apply in England and Wales

<https://costoflivingsupport.campaign.gov.uk/>

TOP

**The deadline for submitting census forms has now passed,
but completed forms will still be accepted until
12 June 2022!**

Households who don't fill in the census are being warned they may face prosecution, which could lead to a criminal record and a fine of up to £1000.

<https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/news-and-events/scots-risk-being-fined-as-census-enters-final-weeks/>

News

Census deadline extended again

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/20182337.census-deadline-extended/>

Sturgeon: Lessons will be learned from census row

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-61662558>

Steering Group: Census has 'solid foundation' to move to next phase

<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/news/2022/steering-group-census-has-%E2%80%98solid-foundation%E2%80%99-to-move-to-next-phase>

Fears census abstention could hit public services in Scotland's poorest areas

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/may/30/fears-census-abstention-hit-public-services-scotland-poorest-areas>

About Scotland's Census 2022

Scotland's Census 2022

<https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/taking-part-in-the-2022-census/scotland-s-census-2022/>

Complete Scotland's Census now

<https://www.census.gov.scot/>

MEMO+ Scotland's Census 2022

https://www.scojec.org/memo+/2022/22iii_scotlands_census_2022.pdf

Video: Scotland's Census 2022. Getting the right things out, starts with filling it in

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tC2plmy827c>

Video: Scotland's Census 2022. What am I filling in and why does it matter?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w8AjE_2z2Kg

Video: Scotland's Census 2022. What exactly is Census Day?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ypmk4F3rLhs>

Video: Scotland's Census 2022. What do I need to know about filling it in?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z8e_Kza2XpM

Video: Scotland's Census 2022. Am I legally required to fill it in?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZm1By8Al2g>

Video: Scotland's Census 2022. Can I get help filling it in?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RsF1UZBeXgY>

Video: How to complete your census online

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4TQA9yKSpfA>

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Other News

Sustrans peer mentor programme – Activate Mentoring

Sustrans Activate mentoring provides an opportunity for groups to share their knowledge about walking, wheeling, and cycling with other organisations. Mentors will receive training from the Scottish Mentoring Network, and a continuing professional development certificate. Mentees will receive support and guidance from their mentor to develop or expand activities in their community. For information see the Active Travel Hub Network website <http://athubnetwork.co.uk/>

To apply to become a mentor see

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/37e5e4cbcd6f4ba3be8e7b688d9e5123>

To apply to become a mentee see

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/337927ec0e844e1e87bd19baae2cc280>

Platinum Jubilee: Queen's life in pictures

<https://www.bbc.com/news/in-pictures-60279300>

Platinum Jubilee: 70 years of the Queen in 70 seconds

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-61660128>

Platinum Jubilee: Queen thanks nation as Jubilee weekend begins

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-61654780>

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Bills in Progress ** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

Scottish Local Government Elections (Candidacy Rights of Foreign Nationals) Bill

<https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/bills/scottish-local-government-elections-candidacy-rights-of-foreign-nationals-bill>

UK Parliament

**** Online Safety Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3137>

Notice of amendments

https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0004/amend/online_day_pbc_0607.pdf

Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3164>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

Public Participation at the Scottish Parliament (closing date 30 June 2022)

<https://yourviews.parliament.scot/cppp/participation-2022/>

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Job Opportunities

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

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Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

**** Investing in Communities Fund**

Closing date for applications: 28 June 2022

Scottish Government funding of up to £350,000 over a three-year period to support organisations based in the places they serve that tackle poverty and inequality, develop and sustain place-based approaches, are involved in community-led regeneration, and are working to ensure a just transition to net zero. Awards will prioritise disadvantaged, rural, and fragile communities across Scotland. For information and to apply see

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/investing-in-communities-fund-round-two-draft-guidance-note>

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Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Working with People from Diverse Religious Backgrounds

9 June 2022 (online, 1.00–4.30)

Interfaith Scotland course on improving our confidence in discussing and responding to the religion and belief of those we work with. We learn about the core beliefs and cultural practices of the main faiths, and the individual needs that may arise from a person's faith or belief identity. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/ye2ntnpv> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

Human Rights Leadership: Priorities and concerns for Scotland

15 June 2022 (online, 9.30–12.00)

Human Rights Consortium Scotland event to discuss where Scotland currently stands on human rights, where it is showing leadership, and where it is hanging back, what it is championing, what it is ignoring, and the position of Scotland within the UK. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2v89sy65>

Refugees: Asylum and Resettlement

16 and 17 June 2022 (online, 11.30–3.30 both days)

6 and 7 September 2022 (online, 11.30–3.30 both days)

27 and 28 October 2022 (online, 11.30–3.30 both days)

Scottish Refugee Council 2-day course drawing on the experiences of people seeking asylum and people who have been resettled in the UK, to examine why people might need to flee their own country, how they seek asylum in the UK, and what opportunities exist for rebuilding their lives here in the UK. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/jd2tey6w>

Refugee Festival Scotland

17 to 26 June 2022 (Scotland-wide)

The theme of this year's festival is storytelling in all its forms – from music, dance, theatre and film to visual art, cookery and conversation. The diverse programme includes contributions from artists and performers who came to Scotland seeking refugee protection and the communities that have welcomed them. For information and the full programme see <https://www.refugeefestivalscotland.co.uk/whats-on/>

Day of Cultural Stories and Diversity

17 June 2022 (Glasgow (10.00–12.00))

Scottish Asylum Seekers Resident Association Refugee Festival Scotland celebration of cultural diversity to bring people from different backgrounds together to share stories, music and experiences. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2p9e8d6b>

Community Sponsorship: How to go about it

17 June 2022 (online, 5.00–6.00)

20 June 2022 (online, 6.00–7.00)

22 June 2022 (online, 7.00–8.00)

24 June 2022 (online, 6.00–7.00)

Failte Edinburgh Community Sponsorship group Refugee Festival Scotland sessions to find out how you and your friends can sponsor a refugee family to come and live in Scotland. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2p8b3xcc>

Storyplay at the Scottish Refugee Festival

18 June 2022 (Glasgow, 11.00–12.30)

Play workshop for families with children aged 3-8 (older and younger siblings are very welcome) led by Licketyspit with help from Storyplay Champion families. Storyplay opens doors to imaginary play worlds, firing your imagination and nurturing lasting friendships. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/3wu73uh5>

Stories from Syria

18 June 2022 (Edinburgh, 11.00–1.00)

Re-Act event for Refugee Festival Scotland presenting the record of the life journey of elderly Syrian refugees who have made Scotland their new home. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/37cvu5x2>

Where Our Roads Meet

18 June 2022 (Edinburgh, 11.00–1.00)

Edinburgh Old Town Development Trust music and art workshop for Refugee Festival Scotland, sharing stories from different cultures – a chance for the community to come together and share folk tales from around the world using the universal languages of art and music. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2s3c44ud>

Love Without Limits

18 June 2022 (Glasgow, 12.00–5.00)

Faith in Community Scotland gathering to explore and develop the faithful welcome offered to asylum seekers and refugees, including to hear and better understand the diverse needs of those who have been displaced from their own communities and families, and amplify the voice of refugees and asylum seekers in an unjust world and respond to actual rather than perceived need. The gathering will be followed by a ceilidh from 5-7pm. For information about the gathering see <https://tinyurl.com/y4kyftwp> and about the ceilidh see <https://tinyurl.com/2rpv3tux>

Empowering Refugees

18 June 2022 (Edinburgh, 1.00–5.00)

Renfrewshire Effort to Empower Minorities (REEM) event for Refugee Festival Scotland for members of Renfrewshire's Syrian community to share their stories of coming to Scotland. They will tell us how their journeys began and how they are going in the present day. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2p88yfbd>

My Experience, Your Knowledge

18 June 2022 (Motherwell, 2.00–6.00)

African Collaboration Group Refugee Festival Scotland storytelling event enabling refugees and the local community to share experiences of their past and present lives. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2uvcd4wz>

Alternative Tracks

19 June 2022 (Edinburgh, 2.00–5.00)

Edinburgh Printmakers Refugee Festival Scotland exhibition of a large textile artwork created by refugee groups in Edinburgh. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2nvrhskz>

Refugee Write

20 June 2022 (Aberdeen, 11.00–1.00)

Women-only event

Grampian Regional Equality Council Refugee Festival Scotland creative writing and art workshop for New Scots women. The workshop will be structured around the theme of home and what home means to each individual taking part. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/35w6d62v>

Our Stoiries: A Women's Writing Workshop

22 June 2022 (Glasgow, 11.00–2.00)

Women-only event

Interfaith Glasgow Weekend Club Refugee Festival Scotland workshop to explore refugee women's stories and work together to create our own short pieces of writing. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/8er6xcrz>

New Scots meet a new generation

22 June 2022 (Stepps, 12.30–2.30)

Ubuntu Scotland Refugee Festival Scotland family-friendly event led by young people from

different backgrounds, including a fun-filled afternoon of games and storytelling. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/7snb7zrd>

Garnethill Refugee Trail

22 June 2022 (Glasgow, 2.00–4.00)

Scottish Jewish Heritage Centre guided walk for Refugee Festival Scotland revealing places that are connected with Jewish refugees who came to Glasgow from Europe around the Second World War, including where children from the Kindertransport stayed, and the house on Sauchiehall street where refugees were able to meet and mix with local people. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yms8ajah>

Evocations: Art and Storytelling Workshop

22 June 2022 (Edinburgh, 7.30–9.30)

Edinburgh Old Town Development Trust Refugee Festival Scotland storytelling workshop for adults bringing New Scots and life-long Edinburgh locals together to celebrate both differences and the things we have in common. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/46pne8cs>

New Scots Storytelling on the Isle of Bute

23 June 2022 (Bute, 9.00–5.00)

SAWA Refugee Programme Refugee Festival Scotland film featuring New Scots who have settled in Rothsey and surrounding towns and villages on the island. Each person will share traditional stories from their countries of origin. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/4me8crxz>

Worlds Apart and Worlds Together

25 June 2022 (Edinburgh, 12.30–3.30)

The Welcoming Association Refugee Festival Scotland cross-cultural storytelling event to bring together members of local refugee communities. The family-friendly afternoon will be led by a professional storyteller, with live music, arts and crafts and buffet-style food and drink. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/34jwda78>

Refugee Success Stories

25 June 2022 (Glasgow, 1.00–3.00)

Safety Awareness Glasgow Refugee Festival Scotland event to show children and young people from refugee backgrounds that they can build successful lives for themselves in Scotland. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2p9y6j49>

Advantage is invisible – understanding unintentional discrimination

6 July 2022 (online, 1.30–3.30)

Interfaith Scotland course exploring why discrimination is common even when our intentions are to work fairly with all staff and service users. The role of the dominant identity in shaping our working culture and practices will be discussed, and we will consider the persistent pattern that advantage tends to be hidden from those that have it. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2d5zwje9> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

Interpreting culture – improving cross-cultural communication

11 August 2022 (online, 11.00–1.00)

Interfaith Scotland course on cultural diversity. Our cultural background has a profound influence on each of us. It shapes our behaviour, values and beliefs. It even affects our thought processes and how we perceive the world. In this course we explore how culture forms a lens through which we interpret each other's behaviour and learn how to improve

our inter-cultural communication. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yckbt9hs> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

Our lives are ruled by the stories we tell ourselves – how interpretation shapes interaction

13 September 2022 (online, 10.00–12.00)

Interfaith Scotland course exploring the impact of our inner narratives - our meaning-making - on our interactions and relationships. We will consider ways we can become more aware of our readings as they form, and more cautious about their accuracy. We will also discuss tools for more authentic conversations. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/m63kxvrm> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

Working with Interpreters

27 and 28 September 2022 (online, 1.00–4.30 both days)

24 and 25 November 2022 (online, 1.00–4.30 both days)

Scottish Refugee Council 2-day courses to enable participants to understand the legal context and qualifications governing interpreters in the EU, UK and Scotland, know the different types of interpreting, identify the differences between an interpreter and a bilingual support worker, and who to use when, and recognise when it is inappropriate to use a family member, a friend or a community member to interpret. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/puykxxnu>

Supporting Refugee Integration

11 and 12 October 2022 (online, 1.00–4.30 both days)

15 and 16 December 2022 (online, 1.00–4.30 both days)

Scottish Refugee Council 2-day course to enable participants to understand the principles of a refugee-led integration framework, understand how dependency is created and how to build on people's resilience, and feel confident to facilitate refugee-led integration effectively. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/ukvn5rs5>

Introduction to Working with Religious Diversity

26 October 2022 (online, 10.30–12.30)

Interfaith Scotland short course where delegates will improve their confidence in discussing and responding to the religion and belief of those they work with. We explore guiding principles behind working with religion and belief diversity. Then we take a closer look at the core beliefs and cultural practices of Islam, Sikhism and Judaism. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2p88vnps> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

Working with Unaccompanied Refugee Children

10 and 11 November 2022 (online, 11.30–3.30 both days)

Scottish Refugee Council 2-day course to enable participants to recognise the legal difference between children seeking asylum, children who have been trafficked, refugees and migrants, appreciate the journeys that children have made to be in the UK including being trafficked, understand the Age Assessment process, identify the rights and entitlements of separated children, and become familiar with the statutory responsibilities of the Scottish Guardianship Service. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/3fedr5xn>

Intention versus impact – exploring challenges around group labels and unintended offence

6 December 2022 (online, 1.30–3.30)

Interfaith Scotland short course exploring the language used to describe groups of people, particularly in relation to Protected Characteristics like race, disability, religion and

belief. We also consider how we can respond to unintended interpretations, confusion or offence by exploring the difference between the speaker's intention and the impact on the listener. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/k9hz52pk> 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>

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/disclosure-types>

Volunteer Scotland Disclosure Services
<https://www.volunteerscotland.net/for-organisations/disclosure-services/>

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

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SCoJeC
Scottish Council of
Jewish Communities

Representing, connecting, and supporting Jewish people in Scotland



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

BEMIS

Empowering Scotland's Ethnic and
Cultural Minority Communities

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



gov.scot

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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