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## Immigration and Asylum

### Scottish Parliament Ministerial Statement and Q&A

#### Displaced People from Ukraine

**The Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development and Minister with special responsibility for Refugees from Ukraine (Neil Gray):** Scotland continues to stand in solidarity with Ukraine and remains committed to supporting Ukrainians who have fled the war.

When we opened the supersponsor scheme, like others around the world, we hoped that the crisis would be quickly and peacefully resolved and that Ukrainians could return to safety. However, we are now more than six months into the conflict and we expect the numbers of people who will find a place of safety in Scotland to continue to increase.

We are now providing safety to more than 16,500 people—18.6 per cent of all United

Kingdom arrivals and the highest rate per head of population in the four nations. More than 13,000 people have arrived through our supersponsor scheme, which demonstrates its success.

To date, just under 35,000 visas have been issued to Ukrainians with a Scottish sponsor, many of whom have yet to travel. That compares with more than 85,500 visas that have been issued to those with an English sponsor and 8,000 for Wales. That far exceeds our initial commitment to welcome 3,000 people under the supersponsor scheme ...

We want to ensure that we are able to support displaced people who are already living here, as well as the thousands who might arrive in the coming weeks and months. Therefore, in July, we took the very difficult decision to pause the scheme, in order that those who had already applied could be provided with our warm Scottish welcome. ...

We have taken steps to ensure that we can house as many Ukrainians as possible in safe, suitable, welcoming accommodation. As part of that response, we have rapidly mobilised a passenger ship in Edinburgh, which is successfully providing temporary accommodation for up to 2,200 people, with wraparound support, including from Ukrainian-speaking crew. The Ukrainian consul general welcomed the ship, and we have since secured a second, with capacity for a further 1,750 people. ...

Any fair-minded person who visits the ships or sees the television coverage would conclude that both ships are comparable with hotel accommodation. They provide easy access to support in a centralised, safe space, as well as services from children's play facilities to social security support. ...

We are grateful to everyone across Scotland who has offered rooms and properties to host Ukrainians. ...

After potential accommodation is checked, the matching process that occurs is, by its nature, resource intensive, because multiple and often highly sensitive conversations are required with the displaced person and the potential host. Not all properties will be suitable for all households. ...

We know, too, that, for understandable personal or work reasons, some families have been reluctant to stay outside the central belt. Matching has progressed more slowly than I would wish ...

We are rolling out a new digital matching tool to support that, and we are planning a fresh exercise to recruit hosts, implementing what we have already learned to make it easier for people to offer homes that match Ukrainians' needs ...

The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills and Councillor Tony Buchanan, the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities spokesperson for children and young people, wrote jointly last week to all directors of education affirming Ukrainian children's right to education and setting out available support, including specialist modules for teachers to support pupils who are dealing with trauma.

Ukrainians who are here through the homes for Ukraine, Ukraine family or Ukraine extension schemes and who want to study at a college or university in Scotland from this academic year will be eligible for free tuition and living cost support. For those who want access to English language classes, in addition to Scottish Government English for speakers of other languages funding through colleges, we are calling on the UK Government to make the £850 per adult ESOL tariff that is provided for Afghans and Syrians available to Ukrainians, too.

We have made sure that displaced Ukrainians are able to access the Scottish Government's full range of employment support services ...

We are also providing health services, to ensure that Ukrainians understand how to access primary care, and providing advice on and access to Scottish social security benefits. All pregnant women and families with young babies are entitled to a baby box, with boxes being ready at major welcome hubs for new arrivals in need. ...

**Donald Cameron (Conservative):** ... The daily horror that we continue to witness in Ukraine as a result of Putin's invasion remains deeply troubling and must continue to be

condemned. ...

People across Scotland have opened their doors to families who are fleeing Ukraine, and that generous spirit continues even in these trying times. The minister's statement shows that 35,000 sponsored visas have been issued in Scotland, but only 13,000 people have arrived under the supersponsor scheme, which implies that more than 20,000 sponsored refugees have yet to arrive here. In other words, we might soon be seeing refugee numbers increase significantly.

Last month, the minister stated that more than half of Scots who had expressed an interest in hosting Ukrainians have withdrawn that interest, which is concerning. ...

Given the need to provide certainty to refugees, hosts and local authorities, what information can the minister give on the amount of time that it will take from a refugee arriving in Scotland to their being physically placed with a sponsor?

**Reply from Neil Gray:** ... There are various reasons why people have either withdrawn or their property has not been found to be suitable—either they or their properties might not have passed checks. ...

... we are looking for people to be in temporary accommodation for as short a period as possible. I am very grateful and thankful for those who have already provided sponsorship in private homes and those who are still willing to do so. ...

... staying in somebody else's home will be, by its nature, a temporary situation. That is why, as I set out in my statement, we are looking to get more longer-term accommodation available as quickly as possible, and the review that is taking place during the scheme's pause is looking to achieve that. ...

**Sarah Boyack (Labour):** ... Where is the investment now to support our councils across the country? Why are we not seeing more forward planning, given that it is six months on from the invasion? The issue of support for people from Ukraine is centre stage for our councils, and they need support now to deliver the homes, to work with communities and to provide the schools, the help with transport costs, the access to English courses and the advice that will enable Ukrainians to recover. ...

Yesterday, the Deputy First Minister said that the cost of supporting Ukrainians requires us to "find around £200 million, which was not planned for at the time of the budget, just as the invasion began." ...

Will the minister clarify how the investment will take place? ...

**Reply from Neil Gray:** ... Sarah Boyack will be aware of the £11.2 million that we made available early on to allow local authorities to ensure that accommodation could be made available and to support them through the matching process. We have provided additional funding to local authorities of £1 million for welcome arrangements.

Sarah Boyack will also be aware of the £10,500 tariff that the UK Government is responsible for. I have taken the representation that has been made to me by local government on the adequacy of that sum, and I have sought to do what I can to appeal to UK ministers to invest more than £10,500. I have also appealed to them to provide parity of support, regardless of the scheme that Ukrainian people have arrived on—which might be the homes for Ukraine scheme or the family scheme—to ensure that our local authorities are adequately supported through the process. ...

**Fulton MacGregor (SNP):** Given that the vast majority of displaced Ukrainian people who have come here are women and children, and given that many of them are being housed together in high-rise flats ... what steps are being taken by the Scottish Government to ensure that that vulnerable group of people are being afforded the best security and support as they settle in Scotland?

**Reply from Neil Gray:** ... Ensuring the wellbeing and safety of displaced people arriving from Ukraine is our absolute priority, which we set right at the start of our scheme. ...

An initial triage of all guests' needs takes place at the welcome hub. Local authorities are equipped to support the individual needs of displaced people and are best placed to direct people to local advice services for women and children. We have provided £1.3 million to the Scottish Refugee Council to support arriving Ukrainians, many of whom have experienced significant trauma. ...

**To continue reading the very lengthy question and answer session see**

<https://archive2021.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=13878&i=125837#ScotParlOR>

## Scottish Parliament Oral Answers

### Ukraine: Supersponsor Scheme

**Jeremy Balfour (Conservative):** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the supersponsorship scheme. (S6O-01339)

**Reply from the Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development and Minister with special responsibility for Refugees from Ukraine (Neil Gray):** We have exceeded our initial commitment to welcome 3,000 people under the Scottish supersponsor scheme. As a nation, Scotland is now providing safety to over 16,500 people from Ukraine, which is 18.6 per cent of all United Kingdom arrivals, and the highest number per head of population in the four nations.

Although the Scottish supersponsor scheme has been temporarily paused for new applications, the Scottish Government continues to work with the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities and local councils to provide safe, suitable accommodation and a wraparound support offer to displaced Ukrainians who are already in our country and to those who have been granted permission to travel here.

**Jeremy Balfour:** Has the Scottish Government set itself a target for how long an individual will be housed on the ship in Edinburgh before they will be moved into more permanent accommodation?

**Reply from Neil Gray:** We want people to be out of temporary accommodation as quickly as possible, regardless of whether that is hotel accommodation, the ship that has arrived in Leith, or the ship that is being worked on in Glasgow. We want people to be in temporary accommodation for as short a period as possible and to be moved to longer-term accommodation as quickly as possible, and we want to give people the opportunity to be able to rebuild their lives in Scotland. We do not want people to be staying in short-term accommodation for any longer than is absolutely necessary.

**Paul Sweeney (Labour):** ...The minister will be aware that Ukrainians are not the only people who are seeking refuge and asylum in Scotland. There are almost 5,000 asylum seekers in the country. Extending the concessionary travel scheme to all those asylum seekers would improve their lives immeasurably. The discussions that I have had with the Government have generally been positive, but progress has been painfully slow. Can the minister confirm whether the Government agrees that the concessionary travel scheme should be extended to all asylum seekers?

**Reply from Neil Gray:** For people who are arriving from Ukraine, which is my responsibility, the concessionary travel scheme already applies—so people over 60 and young people already have access to that scheme. I have heard the representations and have met Mr Sweeney, Bob Doris, Mark Ruskell and others to discuss their proposal to extend the concessionary travel scheme. We continue to work on doing what we can to see whether there is more that can be done with the limited financial resources that we have.

**Siobhian Brown (SNP):** What assistance is the Scottish Government giving to third sector

and charitable organisations, such as the Micah Project in Troon, that are giving vital support to Ukrainian refugees in Scotland?

**Reply from Neil Gray:** ... The Scottish Government has provided additional funding to national charities. It has committed £1.3 million to the Scottish Refugee Council and £36,000 to JustRight Scotland's Ukraine advice service. That funding will increase the capacity to extend valuable support to arriving Ukrainians. Along with support from local authorities, that will provide local charities with the assistance that they require to support displaced people from Ukraine who are living in Scotland.

It is worth reiterating the fact that we have also provided support to local authorities to ensure that there is assistance for local organisations, too. If more needs to be done, I am happy to hear such representations and to see what more is possible.

**Sharon Dowe (Conservative):** Councils need to know how many Ukrainians are arriving so that they can provide support. However, ministers are often better informed than they are. I am often referred to Home Office data when I raise such questions; however, that does not show which local authorities will receive Ukrainians under the supersponsor scheme, or how many.

Will the Scottish Governments publish its own detailed breakdown of people who are arriving under the supersponsor scheme in the near future?

**Reply from Neil Gray:** Yes. ...

**Emma Roddick (SNP):** Following comments from the now former refugees minister at Westminster, and given that the cost of living crisis is escalating across the UK, has the UK Government asked the Scottish Government for views on increasing monthly payments to homes of Ukraine hosts?

**Reply from Neil Gray:** I record my thanks to Lord Richard Harrington for the work that he did, collaboratively, with the Scottish Government and the Welsh Government. We worked well together and I am sorry that he has moved on. We wait to see whether his position will be replaced in the UK Government reshuffle. We are actively pressing the UK Government to increase funding for hosts, particularly during the cost of living crisis, when energy bills are soaring. I agree with Richard Harrington that it is essential that the UK Government increase the "thank you" payments for hosts to £700, and I hope that the new Chancellor of the Exchequer will reflect on that as he considers future support for the Ukrainian schemes.

<https://archive2021.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=13878&i=125835#ScotParlOR>

### **Refugee Accommodation (Support for Local Authorities)**

**Douglas Lumsden (Conservative):** To ask the Scottish Government what further support it will provide to local authorities for the provision of accommodation for refugees in Scotland, in light of reports that suitable housing has been significantly reduced as a result of its supersponsor scheme. (S6O-01328)

**Reply from the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government (Shona Robison):** The immigration and asylum systems are fully reserved to the United Kingdom Government. Although local authorities continue to support resettlement schemes by offering accommodation and support in their areas, the Home Office is responsible for the design and operation of resettlement schemes and the UK asylum system.

Refugees who have been granted status following an asylum application have the same rights to access housing as anyone who is legally resident in Scotland.

Since the Ukraine war, under our supersponsor scheme, to ensure that displaced people can travel here safely and immediately, the Scottish Government has directly provided accommodation and support. We have also made £11.2 million

available to local authorities to support that work.

**Douglas Lumsden:** ... it is clear that the houses are not there. ...

**Reply from Shona Robison:** ... I have provided all local authorities with the assurance over five years of the affordable housing supply programme investment. ...

**Stuart McMillan (SNP):** Does the cabinet secretary agree that it is somewhat ironic that, while the Scottish Government is doing everything that it can to support refugees by taking 18 per cent of the Ukrainian refugees in the UK, the UK Tory Government is hell-bent on flying other asylum seekers out to Rwanda, to deter them from settling here?

**Reply from Shona Robison:** The irony never ceases to amaze me ...

With the “New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy”, we are doing what we can to support people to settle and integrate. As the First Minister set out yesterday, and as the Deputy First Minister also said, under the Ukraine programme, almost 16,000 people have arrived with a Scottish sponsor in Scotland, which represents 18 per cent of all UK arrivals and is the most per head of any of the four nations. If only other countries could step up to the mark as well.

<https://archive2021.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=13875&i=125781#ScotParlOR>

*The Strategy referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/new-scots-refugee-integration-strategy-2018-2022/>

### **Ukrainian Refugees (Support for Organisations)**

**Sarah Boyack (Labour):** ... To ask the Scottish Government how much funding it is providing to third sector organisations in the Lothians that are supporting refugees from Ukraine. (S6O-01335)

**Reply from the Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development and Minister with special responsibility for Refugees from Ukraine (Neil Gray):** ...

The Scottish Government has committed £1.3 million to the Scottish Refugee Council to increase its capacity and extend invaluable help and support to arriving Ukrainians.

The Scottish Government has also provided £48,000 to JustRight Scotland’s Ukraine advice service, where displaced people can receive confidential, free legal advice on safe routes to Scotland. Further, we are providing a funding uplift of £77,000 for Edinburgh’s third sector interface organisations, the Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council—EVOC—and Volunteer Edinburgh, to assist with their important work. I commend all the organisations across Edinburgh and the Lothians, such as the Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain and Help Ukraine Scotland, which are doing such phenomenal work on behalf of our guests.

**Sarah Boyack:** ... Last week, I visited the Welcoming, a charity that supports new Scots who are making Edinburgh their home. The charity told me that the demand for its services has increased substantially and it has had to turn away Ukrainians staying in Edinburgh who needed to access its English language sessions. It also said that it is now receiving referrals from the Department for Work and Pensions, the council and service teams on the MS Victoria, but it has not received any additional funding.

Groups such as that one are providing front-line services, so will the minister commit to meeting with the range of third sector organisations that provide direct support on the ground to people who have fled Ukraine and ensure that those groups receive funding to continue their incredible work in what is an incredibly tough financial time for them?

**Reply from Neil Gray:** Yes, absolutely—I would be more than happy to meet the groups that Sarah Boyack has mentioned, and I commend them for the work that they are doing.

There are a number of points to respond to. First, on English for speakers of other languages support, part of the funding that is going to local authorities relates to

providing ESOL classes. It is up to each local authority to ensure that such classes are provided in the way that best fits their areas.

The Scottish Government has also been campaigning with the United Kingdom Government to uplift provision and to provide parity for Ukrainians with the ESOL provision that was provided—quite rightly—for Syrians and Afghans.

Of course, if there is more that we could do within the very tight financial situation that we are in, we will look to do that, but it would be useful for me to meet the excellent group that Sarah Boyack referred to, in order to hear more about its work. ...

<https://archive2021.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=13878&i=125833#ScotParlOR>

### **Ukrainian Refugees (Support)**

**Fulton MacGregor (SNP):** To ask the Scottish Government in what ways it will continue to ensure refugees arriving from Ukraine will be provided with adequate shelter and support on arrival in Scotland. (S6O-01338)

**Reply from the Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development and Minister with special responsibility for Refugees from Ukraine (Neil Gray):** The Scottish Government's priority is to ensure that displaced people arriving from Ukraine are able to stay in appropriate temporary accommodation and get the right support, ahead of moving into safe, sustainable longer-term accommodation.

Welcome hubs across Scotland continue to provide immediate support, such as healthcare, language support, clothes, food and trauma support, as well as access to temporary welcome accommodation.

We are taking significant action to increase our temporary accommodation capacity, including the chartering of two passenger ships. We are boosting our matching system to maximise the number of people who can be placed with volunteer hosts who have completed the necessary safeguarding checks.

**Fulton MacGregor:** ... it is important that people who come here get as much support as possible. Therefore, can the minister provide an update on the increased support that local charities ... are likely to receive in order to manage the increased workload that is associated with the arrival of people from Ukraine and with helping them to settle in the local community?

**Reply from Neil Gray:** ... The engagement between the Scottish Government, local parliamentarians including Fulton MacGregor and Clare Adamson and local authorities will be important. We fund third sector interfaces to provide single points of support for third sector organisations, with one in each local authority area. The TSIs have been heavily involved in co-ordinating efforts to welcome and settle people who have been displaced from Ukraine.

Local authorities are also given funding to support activities to welcome displaced people. They can decide how best to use those funds, taking into account local circumstances and needs. Local authorities may choose to use some of that funding to contract with third sector organisations in order to increase their support. ...

<https://archive2021.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=13878&i=125834#ScotParlOR>

## **Scottish Parliament Written Answers**

### **New Scots Strategy**

**Alex Cole-Hamilton (Liberal Democrat) [S6W-10229]** To ask the Scottish Government

what plans it has to review its New Scots strategy, which is due to expire in 2022.

**Reply from Angus Robertson:** The New Scots refugee integration strategy has been developed and is led in partnership by the Scottish Government, COSLA and Scottish Refugee Council. The current strategy was published in 2018. We have committed to refreshing the strategy with our partners in 2023 and to ensuring that it is shaped by refugees and people seeking asylum, as well as those with expertise supporting them.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-10229>

*The strategy referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/new-scots-refugee-integration-strategy-2018-2022/>

### **Ukrainian and Afghan Refugees**

**Pauline McNeill (Labour)** [S6W-10359] To ask the Scottish Government what information it has on how many (a) Ukrainians who came to Scotland through (i) its Super Sponsor Scheme, (ii) the Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme and (c) seasonal worker visas and (b) Afghans who came to Scotland through the Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP) and Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) have since become homeless, also broken down by local authority area.

**Reply from Neil Gray:** Under the current constitutional arrangements in the United Kingdom immigration, including data related to arrivals, is fully reserved to the UK Government and is dealt with by the Home Office.

The UK Government published quarterly immigration statistics here: [Immigration statistics, year ending June 2022](#)

The Scottish Government do not currently correlate the visa routes and homelessness status regarding displaced individuals from Ukraine or Afghanistan.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-10359>

### **British Army: Ukrainian Refugees**

**Donald Cameron (Conservative)** [S6W-10491] To ask the Scottish Government whether it has sought assistance from the British Army in order to assist Ukrainian refugees who have arrived in Scotland.

**Reply from Neil Gray:** The welfare of all displaced Ukrainians staying across the country remains the Scottish Government's priority.

The Scottish Government has not sought assistance from the British Army in order to assist Ukrainian refugees who have arrived in Scotland.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-10491>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Ukrainian Refugees**

**Jackie Baillie (Labour)** [S6W-10431] To ask the Scottish Government whether it has any plans to use an advertising campaign to encourage individual sponsors to house Ukrainian refugees.

**Jackie Baillie (Labour)** [S6W-10432] To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to encourage individual sponsors to house Ukrainian refugees.

**Reply from Neil Gray:** The Scottish Government is extremely thankful for the generosity of all those who have expressed an interest in hosting people displaced by the current conflict.

Scotland is now providing a place of safety to more displaced people per head of population than any other part of the UK. The Scottish Government is providing accommodation that is safe and sustainable whilst people are waiting to be

matched suitable longer term accommodation. Significant action is underway to increase the temporary accommodation capacity as well as boost the matching system to maximise the number of people who can be placed with volunteer hosts who have completed the necessary safeguarding checks.

We want Scotland to be a safe, secure home for as long as people need and thank the people of Scotland for their continued offers of support to help us in that aim.

Those homes offered are still very much needed. We are keen to see more people in Scotland volunteer as hosts if they think that they can provide a welcoming home for a displaced person or family.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-10431>

and

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-10432>

### **Homes for Ukraine Scheme**

**Alex Cole-Hamilton (Liberal Democrat)** [S6W-10345] To ask the Scottish Government what percentage of those in Scotland who signed up for the Homes for Ukraine scheme are waiting for guests to move in.

**Reply from Neil Gray:** Under current arrangements, applications to sponsor or host under the Homes for Ukraine scheme are made to the UK Government, and processed by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Home Office.

The UK Government published data relating to the Homes for Ukraine scheme, but has not published data on numbers of available hosts or sponsors. Published data is available at: [Ukraine Family Scheme, Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme \(Homes for Ukraine\) and Ukraine Extension Scheme visa data](#)

The Scottish Government will be releasing data on matching progress for super sponsor visa holders in the coming weeks.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-10345>

### **Homes for Ukraine Scheme**

**Alex Cole-Hamilton (Liberal Democrat)** [S6W-10344] To ask the Scottish Government what percentage of those in Scotland who signed up for the Homes for Ukraine scheme have changed their mind and decided to withdraw from the scheme.

**Reply from Neil Gray:** Under current arrangements, applications to sponsor or host under the Homes for Ukraine scheme are made to the UK Government, and processed by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Home Office.

The UK Government regularly publish data relating to the Homes for Ukraine scheme, but has not published data on host or sponsor applications or withdrawals.

Published data is available at: [Ukraine Family Scheme, Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme \(Homes for Ukraine\) and Ukraine Extension Scheme visa data](#)

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-10344>

### **Ukrainian Refugees: Access to services**

**Alex Cole-Hamilton (Liberal Democrat)** [S6W-10345] To ask the Scottish Government what (a) plans it has and (b) additional funding it has allocated to ensure that Ukrainian refugees living in rural areas are able to access affordable travel in order to attend, for example, medical appointments, religious services and job interviews.

**Reply from Jenny Gilruth:** I refer the member to the answer to question S6W-

10148 on 7 September 2022 as to the travel support available to displaced people from Ukraine.

I am aware of the importance of bus services to everyone living in rural areas and am committed, in conjunction with operators and local authorities, to looking at ways of improving services to ensure that everyone has accessible public transport regardless of location. The Scottish Government has brought forward a wide toolkit within the Transport Act to enable local authorities to improve bus services in their local area....

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-10149>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-10148>

### **Ukrainian Refugees: Transport**

**Alex Cole-Hamilton (Liberal Democrat)** [S6W-10148] To ask the Scottish Government, regarding Ukrainian refugees, whether it plans to (a) create a transportation support fund to help them attend school and seek employment, (b) expand the Job Start Payment to help with the transition to employment and (c) include them in the free bus pass scheme.

**Reply from Jenny Gilruth:** The Scottish Government has ensured that all refugees and displaced people from Ukraine have access to the same transport entitlements as other people resident in Scotland. Those who are aged over 60, under 22 or meet certain disability criteria, are able to access the national concessionary bus travel schemes which provide free bus travel across Scotland. The Improvement Service issued guidance to local authorities on processing concessionary applications of displaced people from Ukraine so that applications are fully supported and fast tracked. Local authorities can also use their own powers to provide additional travel support and a number of councils have already done so. I encourage other authorities to do the same where appropriate and Transport Scotland is actively reviewing whether further support for transport is required.

The Scottish Government has worked with the UK Government to allow immediate access to support, including the Job Start Payment, when displaced people from Ukraine meet the eligibility criteria. We will work with third sector partners and local authorities to consider how best to provide free bus travel to asylum seekers and refugees including displaced people from Ukraine.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-10148>

### **Ukrainian Refugees: Healthcare**

**Alex Cole-Hamilton (Liberal Democrat)** [S6W-10150] To ask the Scottish Government what arrangements it has made to ensure that Ukrainian refugees have access to local dental treatment and GP practices.

**Reply from Humza Yousaf:** The Scottish Government has issued [guidance](#) to Health Boards setting out our expectation that Health Boards will ensure Ukrainian refugees have access to local dental treatment and GP practices.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-10150>

### **Ukrainian Refugees: Covid-19**

**Alex Cole-Hamilton (Liberal Democrat)** [S6W-10146] To ask the Scottish government whether it has taken action to ensure timely access to COVID-19 vaccination for any Ukrainian refugee who wishes to be vaccinated.

**Reply from Humza Yousaf:** The Scottish Government has issued [guidance](#) to

Health Boards setting out our expectation that Ukrainian refugees in Scotland will have access to all primary health care services along with vaccinations including those for COVID-19.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-10146>

### **Ukraine: Refugees**

**Alex Cole-Hamilton (Liberal Democrat) [S6W-10155]** To ask the Scottish Government what (a) assessments it has undertaken and (b) preparations it has made to ensure adequate capacity for (i) Ukrainian children to be educated and (ii) Ukrainian-speaking translators to be made available in Scottish schools.

**Reply from Shirley-Anne Somerville:** The Scottish Government is actively working with local authorities, Education Scotland and other partners to understand and support the needs of Ukrainian children and ensure they can access appropriate education. This work is being co-ordinated through a joint Scottish Government and COSLA working group. In addition, Councillor Buchanan and I have recently written to all local authorities on this issue to ensure a joined-up approach and consistency of understanding.

Local authorities are responsible for the delivery of education and are best placed to consider the educational needs of children arriving into Scotland from Ukraine. These needs are potentially complex and dependent on the age and stage of the child, including any additional support needs such as learning English as an additional language (EAL). I have asked Education Scotland to contact all local authorities to discuss current plans, and to understand where ongoing support can best be provided.

The Scottish Government is pressing the UK Government for more clarity on the method and timing of education tariff payments to local authorities for those arriving from Ukraine. This tariff, which is to be available for 2022-23, pro rata to the time the child or young person is receiving education, can help meet specific needs that arise in relation to accessing education, including having English as an Additional Language. This is in addition to the funding the Scottish Government provides to local authorities for additional support for learning as part of their block grant.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-10155>

### **Ukrainian Pupils: Support**

**Alex Cole-Hamilton (Liberal Democrat) [S6W-10156]** To ask the Scottish Government what additional training it (a) has offered and (b) plans to offer teachers to help them provide any necessary educational and wellbeing support to pupils coming from Ukraine.

**Reply from Shirley-Anne Somerville:** We are actively working with local authorities and partners, including Education Scotland, to support local authorities to identify and meet the additional support needs of pupils arriving from Ukraine. Education Scotland are currently engaging with each local authority to understand their current plans to support these children and young people. We will work with authorities to ensure that teachers can continue to access appropriate professional learning and development to support the needs of pupils, including wellbeing support.

Education Scotland already have a range of resources to support refugee and migrant children, including [Supporting child refugees and their families](#) and specific resources on [welcoming families from Ukraine](#). There is also [Beginner's English for Ukrainian Families](#), as part of the national e-learning offer.

I intend to signpost these and other resources further in a letter to all Directors of Education later this month.

### **Refugees and Asylum Seekers: Translators**

**Alex Cole-Hamilton (Liberal Democrat)** [S6W-10053] To ask the Scottish Government what funding and provision it currently gives to make translators available to refugees and asylum seekers when they first arrive in Scotland, and what additional funding and provision it has made available since the start of 2022.

**Reply from Shona Robison:** Asylum is reserved to the UK Parliament and handled by the Home Office. This includes provision of support and accommodation for people seeking asylum. The Home Office Interpreter Language Services Unit (ILSU) holds overall responsibility for the delivery of interpreting and translation services on behalf of the Home Office.

Asylum seekers living in Scotland can access translation and interpretation support when engaging with services in Scotland on the same basis as other residents, including resettled refugees.

Translators are not provided to individual refugees and asylum seekers when they arrive. Translation and interpretation support is provided at the point of need or service access. Funding and provision are therefore managed across different public services and organisations to enable people to engage with services and support.

The Scottish Refugee Council is working with the Scottish Government to deliver the Warm Scottish Welcome scheme for displaced people arriving from Ukraine. This includes translation and interpreting services. The Scottish Refugee Council have received funding from the Scottish Government to recruit additional advisors for their Refugee Integration Service, including Ukrainian speakers, as part of their work to deliver the Warm Scottish Welcome scheme.

We recognise that translation and interpreting services for displaced people arriving in Scotland from Ukraine are extremely important. The Scottish Refugee Council has asked that anyone wishing to offer assistance in this area contact them to discuss what support they can offer.

The Scottish Government is committed to ensuring that everyone in Scotland whose first language is not English can contribute to Scotland's future and the society they live in. Having support to learn English is key for many refugees and people seeking asylum, enabling them to participate in learning in schools, colleges and universities; engage within communities; and pursue their employment goals. The Scottish Government's aim is to support high quality, relevant, appropriate and accessible ESOL provision that meets learner need. The Scottish Government's ESOL funding is currently provided through colleges as part of the grant allocated to the Scottish Funding Council. Colleges are instructed to work with Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) to determine the level of need for provision and agree with partners how this need can be met.

ESOL courses are delivered through colleges and community organisations. The Scottish Refugee Council website also has [information on ESOL courses](#) available across Scotland.

A key action within the recently launched Adult Learning Strategy for Scotland is to undertake a review with ESOL learners and practitioners on the impact of the ESOL Strategy. It will produce recommendations on next steps for ESOL within the context of the Adult Learning Strategy.

English as an Additional Language for school aged children is available through Education Scotland's [Parentzone](#).

The Strategy referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/adult-learning-strategy-scotland-2022-27/>

## ESOL

**Alex Cole-Hamilton (Liberal Democrat)** [S6W-10052] To ask the Scottish Government what additional funding and provision it has made available since the start of 2022 (a) in total and (b) for nurseries, schools and colleges to teach English as a second language to refugees and asylum seekers arriving in Scotland.

**Reply from Shirley-Anne Somerville:** Local authorities can claim a general tariff of £10,500 per Ukrainian Displaced Person (UDP) arriving on the Homes for Ukraine scheme.

Local authorities will also receive additional education funding for Ukrainian Children and Young People under the Homes for Ukraine Scheme. The education tariff depends on the age of the child, to align with providing ELC, primary or secondary education. The agreed annual rates for this funding are as follows:

- early years (ages 2 to 4) - £3,000
- primary (ages 5 -11) - £6,580
- secondary (ages 11-18) - £8,755

These tariffs include support for children with Additional Support Needs. Both the general and education funding streams should be used to help ensure Ukrainian families are supported as they settle into a new area, and can help meet specific needs that arise in relation to accessing education, including having English as an Additional Language.

This education tariff funding is to be provided by the UK Government. The details of how this funding will be transferred to local authorities is still being resolved with UK Government and we are working intensively with them to release this funding as soon as possible.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-10052>

## UK Parliament, Ministerial Statement

### Children with No Recourse to Public Funds

**The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Education (Brendan Clarke-Smith)** [HCWS276] Today I am providing an update following a consultation undertaken by my Department to consider access to the two-year-old early education entitlement for children from families with no recourse to public funds (NRPF). The purpose of the two-year-old early education entitlement is to provide early education and support to the most disadvantaged two-year-olds in England.

Some families with an irregular immigration status have a NRPF condition designated by the Home Office. This condition restricts these families from drawing on welfare support and other passported Government support, and previously this has meant that their children, regardless of their own circumstances, have been unable to access the early education entitlement for disadvantaged two-year-olds.

The Department announced on 24 March 2022 that we would extend eligibility for free school meals to children from all families with NRPF subject to income thresholds and that we would consult on whether there are any additional groups of children from NRPF families who should be eligible for the two-year-old entitlement that we have not already identified.

I am pleased to confirm the publication of our consultation response on gov.uk. This confirms that the additional groups that have been identified are:

(1) those with a UK ancestry visa

(2) those with temporary protection status under Section 12 of the Nationality and Borders Act; and

(3) those with pre-settled status with no qualifying right to reside.

We have now permanently extended eligibility for the two-year-old early education entitlement to children from all families with NRPF, subject to the income thresholds as follows:

£26,500 for families outside of London with one child.

£34,500 for families within London with one child.

£30,600 for families outside of London with two or more children.

£38,600 for families within London with two or more children.

A maximum capital threshold of £16,000 applies in all areas.

These thresholds were developed to create comparative thresholds with broad equivalence with families with recourse to public funds and who qualify for the early education entitlement due to being in receipt of welfare benefits.

This permanent extension begun on 1 September 2022. We have published guidance to support local authorities in implementing these changes.

This will help to ensure that every child gets the best possible start and receives the right support, in the right place, at the right time.

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-09-](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-09-05/debates/22090544000022/ChildrenWithNoRecourseToPublicFunds)

[05/debates/22090544000022/ChildrenWithNoRecourseToPublicFunds](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-09-05/debates/22090544000022/ChildrenWithNoRecourseToPublicFunds)

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

### Topical Questions: Home Department: Rwanda

**Caroline Lucas (Green):** This Government are planning to remove refugees to Rwanda who sought sanctuary in the UK from torture and trafficking. This is a new and despicable low even from this Home Office. Can the Home Secretary confirm whether she has read the medical analysis from the charity Medical Justice, and will she find some moral backbone, immediately release from indefinite immigration detention all those targeted with removal to Rwanda and finally abandon this shameful policy?

**Reply from Priti Patel:** Absolutely not, because the immoral aspect is the role of people smugglers and the criminal trade that facilitates people smuggling. Not only is the migration and economic development partnership the first of its kind, but it is being looked at by other countries around the world. Our processes are not only legitimate but show that a deterrent factor can be achieved through this policy. It is absolutely right that we ensure that people are detained on the basis that they will be removed to Rwanda at the soonest possible opportunity.

**Henry Smith (Conservative):** Tens of thousands of migrants crossing the English channel in small boats is a potential security risk, increasingly unsustainable in terms of accommodation and housing, and costing the taxpayer ever growing sums. May I seek an assurance that my right hon. Friend the Home Secretary's Department will work with the Ministry of Defence on a push-back policy, to be implemented as soon as possible, and continue to pursue the Rwanda processing plan? (901282)

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department (Simon Baynes):** The rise in dangerous channel crossings is unacceptable, as my hon. Friend has said. Indeed, there is a push-back policy in place. Not only are these crossings an overt abuse of our immigration laws, but they risk the lives of vulnerable people who are being exploited by ruthless criminal gangs. Our new Nationality and Borders Act 2022 is breaking the business model of these evil criminals. We have introduced tougher sentences for those who facilitate illegal entry into the country, with 38 people already arrested and facing further action since the Act became law.

### **Asylum: Rwanda**

**Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi (Labour):** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the guidance entitled Country policy and information note: Rwanda, assessment, published on 11 May 2022, if she will make an assessment of the (a) objectivity, (b) impartiality and (c) independence of that guidance in the context of it having been sent to the Government of Rwanda for comment and amendment prior to publication.

**Reply from Simon Baynes:** We are entirely confident in our assessment, our methodology and the objectivity and impartiality of the report.

The UK retained editorial control throughout the process.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-21/42178>

*The Policy and Information Note referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rwanda-country-policy-and-information-notes/country-policy-and-information-note-rwanda-assessment-may-2022-accessible>

### **UK and Rwanda Migration and Economic Development Partnership**

**Tony Lloyd (Labour):** What recent progress [has the Minister] made on delivering the UK and Rwanda migration and economic development partnership. (901267)

**Reply from the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Priti Patel):** I have secured a world-first migration and economic development partnership with Rwanda, and our innovative partnership means that illegal migrants will be relocated to Rwanda to build a new and prosperous life there. The number of people who can be relocated there is unlimited, and they will have support and care while their claims are considered.

**Tony Lloyd:** Does credible evidence of the use of violence and torture by the Rwandan security authorities not give the Home Secretary any pause for thought?

**Reply from Priti Patel:** First and foremost, as well as all our work with the Government of Rwanda—even prior to the announcement of this policy and the work that went into this partnership—plenty of in-country work has been undertaken. That is part of our country report and planning work, and all the advice that is taken in-country and across Government. With that, however, it is important to recognise that this partnership is very clear in terms of standards, the treatment of people who are relocated to Rwanda, the resources that are put in, and the processing of how every applicant is treated.

**Mike Wood (Conservative):** There are various reports—not all of them accurate—about the limit on the number of people who can be processed under the partnership agreement with Rwanda. What action is being taken to increase capacity in Rwanda to accept more asylum seekers so that the full benefits of the partnership can be realised?

**Reply from Priti Patel:** It is important to emphasise again that the number of people who can be relocated is unlimited and, importantly, they have the support and capacity in-country—that is part of the resources that we have put in, and part of the programming approach that has been developed directly with the Government of Rwanda.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-09-05/debates/812004A7-12AC-4ED6-826C-E5851DCD3B62/UKAndRwandaMigrationAndEconomicDevelopmentPartnership>

### **Small Boat Crossings**

**David Davis (Conservative):** What steps [is the Minister's] Department taking to reduce the number of people crossing the English channel in small boats. (901262)

**Reply from the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Priti Patel):** Our

new laws, brought in through the Nationality and Borders Act 2022, mean that we have legislated to introduce long-term solutions and to address legal entry into the UK. Of course, that means tackling the number of people coming over in small boats, but also introducing tougher criminal sentences. As my right hon. Friend will know, all these measures were opposed by the Labour party.

**David Davis:** ... we do agree that we must take back control, or keep control, of our own borders. The Australian experience demonstrated that pushback works, and we can learn from that. We can learn from the necessary increase in surveillance, we can learn from the increase in control and command by both the Australians and Frontex, and we can learn from the application of international maritime law. If we do all those things, I have no doubt that pushback will work with Belgium and France too.

**Reply from Priti Patel:** Despite the chuntering from the Opposition Benches, my right hon. Friend speaks a lot of common sense on these issues. This is important, primarily because when it comes to tackling channel crossings, we have specifically reviewed the whole Australian model, which, for the benefit of Opposition Members, is called Operation Sovereign Borders. That is effectively what the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 was built upon, including the proposition of pushbacks at sea—something that has been developed by the Home Office but has not been operationalised by the Ministry of Defence—surveillance tactics and many other measures.

Finally, for the benefit of our colleague on the Opposition Benches, there is no single solution to this issue, which is why, as my right hon. Friend pointed out and as I have said at the Dispatch Box many times, it takes multiple solutions to come together, including reform of the asylum system, deterrents and criminal sanctions, which the Opposition completely voted against. ...

**Diana Johnson (Labour):** I agree with the Home Secretary that it takes multiple ways of looking at the problem of channel crossings. In July, the Home Affairs Committee produced our report on channel crossings. We were very keen to discuss the report with the Home Secretary but, sadly, she cancelled her appearance before the Committee. However, we hope that she will, in whatever capacity she holds in the coming weeks, attend the next Committee hearing in September to discuss her time at the Home Office. One of our key recommendations was to pilot providing UK asylum assessment facilities within France, enabling the juxtaposed consideration of claims in the same way that we already have juxtaposed immigration and passport controls in Dover and Calais. I wonder whether she might say what her solution to the problem would be.

**Reply from Priti Patel:** I would be very happy to attend ...

This is all about collaboration and working with our French counterparts—

**Chris Bryant (Labour):** Our friends.

**Reply from Priti Patel:** They are our friends. In fact, I spoke to my French counterpart last week. In that conversation, as ever, a range of issues on UK co-operation were discussed. Those discussions continue right now, including on work on deterrence and interceptions—points that my right hon. Friend the Member for Haltemprice and Howden (Mr Davis) would support. A range of issues, such as processing, are always under discussion. ...

**Stuart C McDonald (SNP):** Instead of the cruel and utterly failed Rwanda policy, or resurrecting impossible and dangerous pushbacks, we need safe legal routes, investment, asylum and modern slavery processing, and, as the Home Secretary has alluded to, close co-operation with our French allies. On that note, will she join me in stating clearly that President Macron is very much a friend rather than a foe, and will someone have a quiet word with the incoming Prime Minister about how important it is to work with France and avoid unhelpful, attention-seeking and counterproductive comments about our allies?

**Reply from Priti Patel:** With all respect to the hon. Gentleman, we clearly have a different stance on the policies and tactics. We debated these issues — and

accommodation, refugees and so on—many times during the passage of the Nationality and Borders Act 2022. I have worked closely with my counterparts in the French Government for three years, and I restate for the record that, on the basis of the discussions I had last week, of course they are our friends. It is important to say that in international co-operation on anything to do with migration—particularly illegal migration, at a time when 100 million people around the world are on the move because of global migration pressures—it is always right that we work in a united way with our international colleagues.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-09-05/debates/62DEE1BB-185B-4D58-BD1C-2F1562ABC7AC/SmallBoatCrossings>

### **Albanian Migrants**

**Philip Hollobone (Conservative):** What steps [is the Minister] taking to fast-track the removal of Albanian migrants without a right to be in the UK. (901263)

**Reply from the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Priti Patel):** Over the last calendar year, I have overseen the enforced removal of more Albanian nationals than any other nationality. We regularly return Albanian criminals and immigration offenders to Albania via chartered flights, a process that is aided by the returns agreement that I have signed with the Albanian Government.

**Philip Hollobone:** Recent reports suggest that despite passing through many safe countries en route to the UK, when the very large numbers of Albanians who have been crossing the channel in small boats in recent weeks land on our shores, they claim not only asylum, but modern slavery protection. Does my right hon. Friend agree that now is the time to reform our modern slavery laws to prevent an increased abuse of our good will?

**Reply from Priti Patel:** My hon. Friend is absolutely right. He is correct that over the summer the majority of arrivals in small boats from France—about 60%—have been Albanian nationals. He will be delighted to hear about the work that I have led on reform of the national referral mechanism, a key component of the reforms to the Modern Slavery Act 2015, which has been committed to within this Session of Parliament.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-09-05/debates/E1DA4C5A-1A63-474B-9C50-C2EFEBE53737/AlbanianMigrants>

### **Afghan Citizens: Asylum Policies**

**Deidre Brock (SNP):** What assessment [has the Minister] made of the potential impact of her asylum policies on Afghan citizens seeking refuge and humanitarian protection in the UK. (901264)

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department (Kevin Foster):** Our United Kingdom has a proud history of providing sanctuary to those in need through our resettlement schemes. The new plan for immigration will ensure that our resources can be focused on those in most need of resettlement around the world, including in Afghanistan, rather than on those who can pay a people smuggler.

**Deidre Brock:** Does the Minister share my concern regarding the findings of nine expert groups last month, including Humans Rights Watch, which found the UK Government's resettlement schemes to be “unjustifiably restrictive”, and that it is deeply concerning that the UK Government are not offering a safe route for many Afghan women and girls, or to oppressed minority groups?

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Well, I look at our record, which includes last year's evacuation—the largest since the war—to bring people to safety here in the United Kingdom, and at the work we are doing week in, week out with colleagues, particularly in the Ministry of Defence, to bring more people to safety. We need to

focus our efforts on those who need resettlement and safety and are under threat in Afghanistan, rather than on those who prefer to be here than in another safe and democratic country.

**Julian Lewis (Conservative):** Will the Minister confirm that the Government still hold in a special place in their priorities those Afghans who assisted the British armed forces when they were present in Afghanistan? May I thank the Minister and the Home Secretary for the work of those in the specialist hub, whether in Portcullis House or remotely, who have done outstanding work in enabling MPs on both sides of the House to help people fleeing from persecution?

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** ... Those people who worked with UK operations, particularly the military operation in Afghanistan, would liaise primarily with our colleagues in the Ministry of Defence, who hold the records and will do the relevant checks under the Afghan relocations and assistance policy scheme. We then look to work with them to facilitate the relocation of those people to the UK, where that is deemed appropriate. ...

**Stephen Kinnock (Labour):** We owe loyal-to-Britain Afghans a debt of gratitude and honour, yet with 10,000 of them still stuck in bridging hotels, at huge cost to their mental health and a cost of £1.4 million a day to the taxpayer, it looks as though Operation Warm Welcome has become operation cold shoulder. It is little wonder that the Minister for Refugees resigned yesterday in despair. Further still, the Government have broken their promises to vulnerable Afghan groups such as women judges and LGBT activists. Can the Minister therefore tell us why, if British Council employees and Chevening scholars can apply for asylum in the UK from within Afghanistan, pathway 2 of the Afghan citizens resettlement scheme does not allow women judges and LGBT activists to do the same? Does he accept that these failures put Afghan lives at risk, bearing in mind that the Taliban have already conducted at least 160 reprisal killings?

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** ... As I said, last year we arranged one of the biggest evacuations since the war years and a rapid process to bring people here. About 7,400 people have moved into new homes since the first ARAP flight in June, which is an unprecedented pace of resettlement. Yes, there is more work to do; we are working with local authorities to do that and to find more homes, but we have to be clear: it is about working with local communities, particularly given the size and scale of accommodation, particularly family accommodation, that needs to be provided across the country.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-09-05/debates/436B2D22-A02A-4158-B6F5-3967395B02CA/AfghanCitizensAsylumPolicies>

### **Afghan Citizens: Asylum Policies**

**Sarah Olney (Liberal Democrat):** What steps [is the Minister] taking to support Afghan citizens relocated to the UK under the (a) Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme and (b) Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy. (901271)

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department (Kevin Foster):** Together with our colleagues in the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities we provide a range of support in accessing public services including essentials such as school places for children and housing. Around 7,400 people have moved, or are in the process of being moved, into new homes since the first ARAP flights in June 2021, an unprecedented rate of resettlement.

**Sarah Olney:** Of those who have arrived in the UK, around 10,000 Afghans remain stuck in hotels up and down the country at a cost to the public of £1 million a day. Most of them have been there for a year now, left in limbo due to the Government's failure to work effectively with local authorities. Will the Minister commit to opening up safe and legal routes so that those in Afghanistan who are at risk can come to the UK? That also requires

working constructively with local authorities so that Afghans in this country can finally start their new lives properly, in a home rather than a hotel room.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** We are working constructively with 350 local authorities to ensure people get the accommodation they need. Given the cohort, that is clearly a challenge as there are large families and a balance needs to be struck with local authorities meeting their housing duties to local people. This also involves working with others, but we are grateful to see the number of local authorities taking part; their reaction is far better than that of the Lib Dem leader of my local council who initially, until he made a U-turn, refused to take part.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-09-05/debates/C1E0FCE7-05F4-4BB2-96F7-344C2199FB74/AfghanCitizensAsylumPolicies>

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

### Asylum: Rwanda

**Amy Callaghan (SNP) [901278]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent discussions she has had with the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs on the potential impact of her policy of removing asylum seekers to Rwanda on the UK's international (a) human rights obligations and (b) reputation.

**Reply from Simon Baynes:** This Government is committed to our migration Partnership with Rwanda, which will break the business model of criminal gangs, save lives and help to tackle the global migration crisis.

As with any policy, there have been discussions throughout its development. We are confident that the policy is fully compliant with our domestic and international legal and human rights obligations.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-05/901278>

### Asylum: Rwanda

**Rosena Allin-Khan (Labour) [40872]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much funding has been allocated to providing mental health services in the asylum processing system per person in Rwanda.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** As made clear in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) governing the Migration and Economic Development Partnership at paragraphs 8.1 and 10.3.2 individuals transferred will be given the support necessary by the Government of Rwanda to ensure their health and wellbeing. The MoU can be found at the following link: [Memorandum of Understanding between the government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the government of the Republic of Rwanda for the provision of an asylum partnership arrangement](#)

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-20/40872>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer: Channel Migrants

### Undocumented Migrants: Personal Property

**Owen Thompson (SNP) [45943]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what means of redress are available to undocumented people who arrive in the UK by small boats whose personal items are not returned to them after being taken into the

custody of Home Office agents on arrival.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Dry clothing is provided after arrival at Dover, with the consequence people are parted from their wet clothing and possessions. These are bagged and logged, and go with the person during their journey through the reception process.

During the reception phase, people are searched for anything which might injure themselves or others as well as for documentation related to their journey to the UK. These items are retained during the reception process but, if not contraband, are returned to the individual upon release into accommodation and our aim is to reunite people with their possessions as quickly as possible. Identity documentation is retained until such time as an individual is either granted leave to enter or is removed from the UK. It should be noted no cash belonging to people arriving by small boat is retained by either HO staff or contractors, but is instead returned immediately unless the sum is of such a magnitude that an investigation into potential proceeds of crime is warranted.

Inevitably, with such large volumes of persons being processed and the challenging conditions in which journeys are made, items can be mislaid. Every effort is made to reduce the risk of this happening, and there is a lost property process to enable people to raise any concerns about missing possessions. The lost property cases which do occur represent a small percentage of overall arrival numbers, but there are no plans to publish this data at present.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/45943>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers: Afghanistan

### Refugees: Afghanistan

**Stephen Kinnock (Labour) [40792]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many referrals has the United Nations Human Rights Council made to the Government concerning the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme since 15 June 2022; and how many Afghans have arrived in the UK since 15 June 2022.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Pathway two of the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) provides for vulnerable refugees who have fled Afghanistan to be referred for resettlement to the UK by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The launch of pathway two was announced on 13 June and we have already started to receive the first referrals.

Under pathway two, we anticipate receiving referrals from the UNHCR of up to 2,000 refugees during the first year, although this number will be kept under review. We will continue to receive UNHCR referrals to the scheme in coming years.

Resettlement figures for the ACRS will be published in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-20/40792>

*Information about the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme Pathway 2, referred to above, can be read at*

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2022-06-](https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2022-06-13/debates/2206135000016/AfghanCitizensResettlementSchemeLaunchPathways2And3)

[13/debates/2206135000016/AfghanCitizensResettlementSchemeLaunchPathways2And3](https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2022-06-13/debates/2206135000016/AfghanCitizensResettlementSchemeLaunchPathways2And3)

### Refugees: Afghanistan

**Seema Malhotra (Labour Co-op) [45074]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Afghan nationals have been resettled to the UK via a referral from a UNHCR centre in a third country as part of Pathway 2 of the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme as of 25 July 2022.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** The Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS)

launched in January, and this will provide up to 20,000 women, children, and others at risk with a safe and legal route to resettle and re-build their lives in the UK over the coming years.

The ACRS is not application-based. Instead, eligible individuals will be prioritised and referred for resettlement to the UK through one of three referral pathways.

Under ACRS Pathway 2, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) will refer refugees - who have already fled Afghanistan - for resettlement to the UK. Those referred will be assessed for resettlement by the UNHCR, using their established processes. We have now begun to receive the first referrals for resettlement under pathway 2 of the ACRS – which opened in June – from the UNHCR. It is anticipated that we will receive referrals for up to 2,000 refugees during the first year of this pathway, although this number will be kept under review – and we look forward to welcoming the first new arrivals under this pathway in due course. Further information on UNHCR referrals is available at:

[UNHCR UK Information and Links on Afghanistan Situation - UNHCR United Kingdom](#)

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/45074>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Refugees: Afghanistan**

**Kate Hollern (Labour) [45837]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Afghan citizen refugees have entered the UK since August 2021; and through which schemes or pathways they have been admitted.

**Kate Hollern (Labour) [45838]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Afghan citizens have been referred to Pathway Two of the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme as on 2 September 2022; and how many and what proportion of these have been admitted to the UK.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** Operation PITTING took place in August 2021 – it was the largest UK military evacuation since the Second World War, during which we evacuated around 15,000 individuals to the UK. In the year since the evacuation, around 5,000 more individuals have arrived in the UK via neighbouring countries.

The Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) launched in January, and this will provide up to 20,000 women, children, and others at risk with a safe and legal route to resettle and re-build their lives in the UK over the coming years.

The ACRS is not application-based. Instead, eligible individuals will be prioritised and referred for resettlement to the UK through one of three referral pathways.

Through ACRS Pathway 1, some of those already evacuated to the UK under Op PITTING are being granted a place on the scheme. Those eligible who were called forward during the evacuation, but were not able to board flights, will also be resettled through pathway 1 if they subsequently come to the UK.

Under ACRS Pathway 2, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) will refer refugees - who have already fled Afghanistan - for resettlement to the UK. Those referred will be assessed for resettlement by the UNHCR, using their established processes.

We have now begun to receive the first referrals for resettlement under pathway 2 of the ACRS – which opened in June – from the UNHCR. It is anticipated we will receive referrals for up to 2,000 refugees during the first year of this pathway, although this number will be kept under review – and we look forward to welcoming the first new arrivals under this pathway in due course.

Further information on UNHCR referrals is available at:

[UNHCR UK Information and Links on Afghanistan Situation - UNHCR United Kingdom](#)

Under ACRS Pathway 3 eligible British Council and GardaWorld contractors as well as Chevening alumni will be considered for resettlement during the first year of this pathway.

The ACRS is in addition to individuals relocated through the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP). We have relocated around 10,000 eligible Afghan citizens and their family members under the ARAP scheme since it opened in April 2021 – and the scheme remains open.

Work is underway to assure information relating to all the individuals relocated under the ARAP and ACRS on case working systems. Once this work concludes, statistics on both schemes - including the number of people resettled under each - will be included in the published Immigration Statistics.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/45837>  
and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/45838>

*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, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/afghan-citizens-resettlement-scheme>*

### **Afghanistan: Refugees**

**Caroline Lucas (Green)** [40759] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what recent estimate she has made of the potential total number of (a) Chevening Alumni, (b) British Council contractors and (c) GardaWorld contractors eligible for the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme Pathway Three.

**Reply from Graham Stuart:** Under the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) Pathway 3, the FCDO has received an estimated 11,400 Expressions of Interest (EOIs). The window for EOIs under ACRS Pathway 3 closed on 15 August 2022 and we are in the process of assessing EOIs in terms of eligibility. In the first year, we will offer up to 1,500 places to eligible at-risk British Council contractors, GardaWorld contractors and Chevening alumni, including their eligible family members.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-20/40759>

*Information about the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme Pathway 3, referred to above, can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/afghan-citizens-resettlement-scheme-pathway-3-eligibility-for-british-council-and-gardaworld-contractors-and-chevening-alumni>

### **Refugees: Afghanistan**

**Kate Green (Labour)** [901275] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate she has made of the number of Afghan citizens referred to her Department as eligible for relocation under the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy who remain in Afghanistan awaiting permission to enter the UK.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** An estimated 6,500 people, who are eligible for the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy, remain in Afghanistan.

Securing safe passage out of Afghanistan continues to present a barrier to the international community's efforts to relocate eligible people and their families. There are no direct flights and some will need to consider very carefully what is the best option to travel safely through the country in order to reach a third country.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-05/901275>

### Refugees: Afghanistan and Ukraine

**Barry Sheerman (Labour Co-op)** [901274] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking with Cabinet colleagues to ensure that refugees fleeing Ukraine and Afghanistan have access to appropriate (a) housing, (b) education and (c) employment opportunities.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Through our resettlement and relocation schemes we have already welcomed tens of thousands of vulnerable Afghans and Ukrainians. Our cross-government approach is supporting families to rebuild their lives, find work, pursue education, and integrate with local communities.

We continue to explore options to unlock local authority capacity and identify appropriate housing for those resettling in the UK.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-05/901274>

### Refugees: Afghanistan

**Rachael Maskell (Labour Co-op)** [42078] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to find residential accommodation for Afghan refugees who are living in bridging hotels.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Due to the scale and pace of the evacuation in Afghanistan we have had to use hotels as a temporary accommodation measure. We do not want to keep people in temporary accommodation for any longer than is absolutely necessary. We have moved – or are in the process of moving - over 7,000 people into permanent homes since June 2021. There is a huge effort underway to support the families into permanent homes as soon as we can 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.

We continue to work with local authorities to source appropriate accommodation as quickly as possible. We have set up a bespoke local engagement team within Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, with named points of contact for each region across the country, to make it easier for local authorities to come forward with offers of accommodation – including larger properties to support bigger families - and develop strong local integration initiatives.

In addition, we are working on a number of alternative accommodation options including MOD properties, using education based accommodation and the private rented sector. This includes providing councils with additional resources for appropriate properties.

The government is working with councils to find families settled homes as quickly as possible. It is right we take time to ensure families are provided with suitable homes which support their integration alongside access to education and employment.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-21/42078>

*The following five questions all received the same answer*

### Refugees: Afghanistan

**Anne McLaughlin (SNP)** [45559] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many and what proportion of Afghan child refugees who arrived in the UK since 15 August 2021 are in full-time education as on 2 September 2022.

**Anne McLaughlin (SNP)** [45891] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many and what proportion of Afghan refugees who arrived in the UK since 15 August 2021 are living in hotel accommodation as on 2 September 2022.

**Anne McLaughlin (SNP)** [45892] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many and what proportion of Afghan child refugees who arrived in the UK since 15 August 2021 are not in full-time education as on 2 September 2022.

**Anne McLaughlin (SNP)** [45893] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department,

how many and what proportion of female Afghan refugees who arrived in the UK since 15 August 2021 are in full-time education as on 2 September 2022.

**Anne McLaughlin (SNP)** [45894] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many and what proportion of Afghan refugees who applied to the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme remain in Afghanistan as on 2 September 2022.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** Afghans resettling in the UK under the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP) and Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) will be supported in accessing accommodation and the vital health, education, and support into employment they need, to fully integrate into society.

The Department for Education have confirmed that individuals resettling under these schemes who wish to access higher education, are eligible for home fee status and student support from the 2022/23 academic year – putting them on the same footing as refugees. At this time, the Home Office is working to improve the data it holds on those who have accessed higher education among those being temporarily accommodated in hotels.

All children who were evacuated during Op Pitting have been enrolled in school - and school places are offered on a rolling basis, as more children arrive in the UK. As stated in the recently published, '[Afghan Resettlement: Operational Data](#)' factsheet, at 12 Aug 2022, the UK:

- Has welcomed 21,450 people to the UK from Afghanistan - or a neighbouring country - since June 2021. Whilst we believe that around half of this number are children, we are unable, at this time, to provide an accurate breakdown of arrivals by age, in order to determine how many children are in full-time education.
- Is providing temporary accommodation for 9,667 people in hotels.

Officials are working at pace to assure information relating to the individuals resettling in the UK under our bespoke schemes for Afghans on case working systems. Once this work concludes, the Home Office will include Afghan resettlement statistics in its [quarterly Immigration Statistics publications](#).

Until then the factsheet will be updated every quarter – with the next iteration scheduled for publication on 24 November 2022.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/45559>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/45891>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/45892>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/45893>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/45894>

*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, can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/afghan-citizens-resettlement-scheme>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers: Ukraine

### Refugees: Ukraine

**Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi (Labour)** [40901] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home

Department, for what reason the (a) interim and (b) subsequent payments available under the Homes for Ukraine Scheme are not provided under the Ukraine Family Scheme.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The Ukraine Family Scheme (UFS) was launched in March 2022 as a bespoke response to the unprecedented events in Ukraine, and is intended as a light touch, temporary, alternative to the existing family routes under Appendix FM.

Applicants under Appendix FM are not normally given access to public funds, except in exceptional circumstances. Under the UFS full access to work and the benefits system (including access to homelessness assistance) are provided, giving beneficiaries the opportunity to seek an income to enable them to find their own accommodation in the future should they so wish.

The Homes for Ukraine Scheme extended the support offered to allow Ukrainians to come to the UK who did not already have family ties here. Whilst it is normal to expect family networks to support family members the Home for Ukraine Scheme was specifically set up to provide support for Ukrainians fleeing the conflict who are not able to rely on family support.

Ukrainian nationals coming to the UK under the Ukraine Family Scheme and the Homes for Ukraine Scheme are given identical access to work, benefits and public services for the duration of the leave granted.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-20/40901>

*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>

*Information about the Homes for Ukraine Scheme, referred to above, can be read at*

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

### **Refugees: Ukraine**

**Ian Blackford (SNP)** [45844] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether relationship breakdown due to (a) domestic abuse, (b) bereavement and (c) other reasons would affect a person's entitlement to a visa (i) under the Ukraine Family Scheme, (ii) as the third-country national family member of a Ukrainian and (iii) other visa schemes for Ukrainian refugees.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** Where a person has already entered the UK using a visa issued under the Ukraine Family Scheme, the Homes for Ukraine Scheme or has had their leave extended under the Ukraine Extension Scheme, should they become the victim of domestic abuse or become bereaved, the leave granted to them under the relevant scheme would remain valid.

Where the person has yet to make an application to one of the schemes, whether they are in the UK or abroad, they will still need to meet the requirements of the relevant scheme. Under each of the schemes, decision makers are able consider any exceptional circumstances and apply discretion where appropriate.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/45844>

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

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Immigration: Fees and Charges**

**Imran Hussain (Labour)** [42044] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department has plans to introduce a fee waiver for applications for indefinite leave to remain.

**Imran Hussain (Labour)** [42045] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department,

what steps his Department is taking to help people who were placed on a ten year route to settlement in July 2012 and are reaching the end of this ten year period but cannot afford to apply for Indefinite Leave to Remain.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Settlement in the UK is a privilege, not an automatic entitlement. Anyone not qualifying for settlement, including being unable to pay the fee, is able to apply to extend their permission to stay in the UK.

There is already a fee waiver in place for those making applications to extend their permission to stay in the UK who cannot afford the fee, are destitute, at risk of imminent destitution or where the welfare of a child would be put at risk by payment of the fee.

It is right for users of the immigration system, who benefit directly, to be charged a fee. Although a fee waiver is not available for settlement, it is available for an application for permission to stay in the UK and this arrangement allows an individual to continue with their life in the UK, and even to apply for access to public funds if necessary. They can then apply for settlement once they have saved the necessary funds to pay the application fee.

Income from fees charged plays a vital role in the Home Office's ability to run a sustainable Migration and Borders system and it is the government's policy those who use and benefit most from the immigration system should contribute towards the cost of operating the system, reducing reliance on the UK taxpayer. Fees levels and access to fee waivers are reviewed regularly.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-21/42044>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-21/42045>

### **Visas: Children**

**Bell Ribeiro-Addy (Labour)** [46149] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will review the requirement for children to apply for a visa to visit the UK when accompanied by a parent or guardian who is a British citizen.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** The Immigration Rules

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules/immigration-rules-appendix-v-visitor>

set out the requirements to visit the UK, usually for up to six months. The requirements apply to all visitors to the UK including children. Applications for visit visas or for entry as a visitor are considered on their merits regardless of the nationality of the applicant.

The Home Office has a statutory duty to have regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in the UK under section 55 of the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009. Decision makers must ensure a child's welfare is taken into account when considering applications from someone under 18 years of age, irrespective of the parents' nationality.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/46149>

### **Migrants: Children**

**Stephen Timms (Labour)** [45495] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the judgments *R (W) v SSHD* [2020] EWHC1299 (Admin) of 20 May 2020 and *ST and Anor v Secretary of State for the Home Department* [2021] EWHC 1085 (Admin) of 29 April 2021, what recent assessment her Department has made of the impact of the immigration regulations governing No Recourse to Public Funds and social security support on the families of ethnic minority British children subject to those conditions.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** Revised No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) guidance was published on 18 October 2021 to ensure the best interests of children

are considered when considering whether to lift NRPF conditions.

People with leave under the Family, Private life and Human Rights routes that engage Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights, and those who have been granted leave on the Hong Kong British National (Overseas) route can apply, for free, to have their NRPF condition lifted by making a 'change of conditions' application. An individual can apply if they are destitute or at risk of imminent destitution, if the welfare of their child is at risk due to their low income, or where there are other exceptional financial circumstances.

Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 imposes a general duty on local authorities to safeguard and promote the welfare of "children in need" in their area. Support provided to a child by local authorities under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 is not dependent on the immigration status of the child or their parent(s).

Local authorities may also provide basic safety net support, regardless of immigration status, if it is established there is a genuine care need which does not arise solely from destitution, for example, where there are community care needs, migrants with serious health problems or family cases where the wellbeing of a child is in question.

Status holders who have made the necessary national insurance contributions can also claim contributory benefits such as contribution-based Jobseekers Allowance, statutory sick pay, and the state pension.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/45495>

*The judgements referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/Admin/2020/1299.html>

and

<https://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/Admin/2021/1085.html>

### **Migrants: Children**

**Sarah Green (Liberal Democrat)** [45522] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her department is taking to support the welfare of children whose parents are subject to No Recourse to Public Funds.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** Temporary migrants are generally required to support themselves and any accompanying family members, including children, in the UK without recourse to public funds. This is a well-established principle which protects taxpayer-funded public services from becoming overburdened.

There are, nonetheless, strong and important safeguards in place to ensure migrants receive support where they are destitute, at risk of destitution, or have community care needs, including issues relating to human rights or the wellbeing of children.

People with leave under the Family, Private life and Human Rights routes that engage Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights, and those who have been granted leave on the Hong Kong British National (Overseas) route can apply, for free, to have their NRPF condition lifted by making a 'change of condition' application. An individual can apply if they are destitute or at risk of imminent destitution, if the welfare of their child is at risk due to their low income, or where there are other exceptional financial circumstances.

Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 imposes a general duty on local authorities to safeguard and promote the welfare of "children in need" in their area. Support provided to a child by local authorities under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 is not dependent on the immigration status of the child or their parent(s).

Local authorities may also provide basic safety net support, regardless of immigration status, if it is established there is a genuine care need which does not arise solely from destitution, for example, where they are community care needs, migrants with serious health problems or family cases where the wellbeing of a child

is in question.

Status holders who have made the necessary national insurance contributions can also claim contributory benefits such as contribution-based Jobseekers Allowance, statutory sick pay and state pension.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/45522>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Windrush Compensation Scheme**

**Lyn Brown (Labour)** [41960] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether any applicants to the Windrush Compensation Scheme have been apprehended by immigration enforcement since the launch of that scheme.

**Lyn Brown (Labour)** [41961] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent assessment she has made of the potential for the Windrush Compensation Scheme application form to serve as a barrier to people wishing to apply for compensation with particular regard to (a) its complexity and (b) the nature of information it requires.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** In response to question UIN: 41960

Any information provided as part of a compensation claim is solely used for the purpose of assessing that claim. Information provided as part of a compensation claim is held on a separate system, and is not shared outside of the compensation team. Information provided as part of a compensation claim would never be passed on to Immigration Enforcement or used as part of enforcement action.

Immigration Enforcement have put in place safeguards to ensure members of the Windrush generation are not subjected to enforcement action. Whenever a person is encountered who claims to be a member of the Windrush generation or to be in the UK lawfully, they are referred to the Windrush Help Team to consider their case and, if appropriate, issue documentation under the Windrush (status) Scheme confirming their right to be in the UK. No enforcement action is taken against individuals whose status is under review by the Windrush Help Team, or who have an ongoing Windrush (status) Scheme application.

Anyone is free to submit a claim to the Windrush Compensation Scheme, irrespective of whether they are actually eligible for compensation. It is possible for a person who is in the UK unlawfully, and who is not a member of the Windrush generation, to submit an unmeritorious compensation claim. They may, rightly, be subject to enforcement action on the basis of information obtained by Immigration Enforcement independently. We do not hold data on how many compensation claimants have later faced enforcement action.

In response to question UIN: 41961

Since its launch, the Home Office has continued to listen and respond to feedback from affected communities and stakeholders about how the Scheme operates and its accessibility. In response to feedback, we have re-designed the primary claim form to make it easier to complete.

We have designed the compensation scheme to be as clear and simple as possible, so people do not need legal assistance to make a claim. We have published a redesigned primary claim form which now has a Crystal Mark from the Plain English Campaign, demonstrating our commitment to ensuring the scheme is accessible and as easy to use as possible.

The new form includes more targeted and closed questions to help people understand and provide the key information we need from them. We believe the new form will improve peoples' experiences of applying to the scheme and help to speed up the processing of claims by reducing the amount of additional information and evidence we must ask people to provide.

We have made the evidential threshold as low as possible. Our intent is to ask for the minimum evidence necessary to reduce the burden on individuals, whilst

maximising the offers we can make. In doing so we are seeking to strike the right balance between ensuring the scheme is comprehensive and covers the broadest range of circumstances, whilst also making it easy to navigate.

However, for those who want or need support to make a claim, the Home Office provides free assistance in making applications through our independent claims assistance provider - We Are Digital. The Windrush Compensation Scheme Help Team can also assist individuals should they have questions about the claim form or process.

We continue to work extensively with communities and stakeholders to raise awareness of the Scheme and encourage affected individuals to apply.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-21/41960>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-21/41961>

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

### **Immigration: EU Nationals**

**Kirsten Oswald (SNP) [42048]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 12 July 2022 to Question 30043 on Immigration: EU Nationals, what steps she is taking to increase the level of satisfaction among landlords at the system for EU citizens with settled or pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme to prove that they have the right to reside in the UK.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The Immigration Act 2014 put in place a requirement for landlords to make simple checks on tenants to evidence their right to rent property in the UK. The 2014 Act applies the Right to Rent Scheme to the whole of the UK, however it is currently in force in England only. No decisions have been taken on rolling out the scheme to the rest of the UK.

Providing immigration status information online has enabled us to simplify and standardise the system of checks for landlords, by providing information about an individual's status in a format which is easy to understand and accessible to all users, removing the need for checkers to interpret various types of physical documents, complex legal terminology or confusing abbreviations.

We are committed to reviewing feedback on our services and, where necessary, making improvements. Feedback and user satisfaction scores for checkers and migrants are collected from our gov.uk services and are published as a part of our transparency data on a quarterly basis:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/home-office-data-q1-2022>

We analyse and review this feedback monthly and use it to improve the service. We also collate and conduct trend analysis on incidents which are reported to us by checkers and status holders in order to make improvements.

For example, we have added a prefix to the share code which users provide to checkers when they wish to share their status. This makes it clear whether a share code is generated for a right to work or right to rent check so landlords and employers can quickly determine if they have the right type of code. We also extended the validity of share codes from 30 to 90 days following feedback they expired too quickly.

We are also improving the multiple check process in response to checker feedback, adding a button which will take checkers to the start of the process, rather than forcing them to navigate backwards after making each check. This improvement is currently live in the View and Prove service, and we will add it to the right to rent and right to work check services shortly.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-21/42048>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-04/30043>

The following two questions both received the same answer

### **Refugees: Finance**

**Imran Hussain (Labour)** [42043] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department is applying the no recourse to public funds condition to refugees who are granted Temporary Protection Status under Section 12 of the Nationality and Borders Act.

### **Refugees**

**Imran Hussain (Labour)** [42046] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department has made projections for the number of refugees expected to be granted Temporary Protection Status under section 12 of the Nationality and Borders Act in the 12 months from 28 June 2022.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The Nationality and Borders Act 2022 contains the powers to differentiate entitlements between two groups of refugees. Those who came to the UK directly, claimed asylum without delay, and are able to show good cause for any illegal entry or presence in the UK are Group 1 refugees. Where an individual fails to meet one or more of these requirements, they are a Group 2 refugee.

Changes to Part 11 of the Immigration Rules, which came into force for asylum claims lodged on or after 28 June 2022, implemented the differentiated asylum system. Section 12 of the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 allows us to differentiate on the length of permission to stay, route to settlement, recourse to public funds and family reunion rights.

An individual who qualifies for refugee status as a result of an asylum claim made on or after 28 June 2022 will be recognised as a Group 1 or Group 2 refugee. Whilst, across the asylum system we work to a number of assumptions, we do not routinely comment on these as they can be affected by a number of external factors. The Home Office have recruitment strategies in place to continually assess and maintain resources at the required levels to take prompt decisions at all points of the system, for example initial decisions, decisions on applications for further permission to stay for Group 2 refugees and decisions on applications for settlement for Group 1 refugees.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-21/42043>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-21/42046>

### **Refugees: Temporary Accommodation**

**John McNally (SNP)** [38699] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department has made an assessment of the potential merits of a scheme allowing refugees to temporarily stay with members of the public while awaiting permanent dispersal.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** For those claiming asylum in the UK, we support and house those who would otherwise be destitute whilst they await a decision on their claim. We have no plans to house those who require our accommodation in this way with members of the public. Where someone is then subsequently granted refugee status, whilst in the United Kingdom, we would provide advice to them on onward accommodation and Local Authorities would provide housing advice and support. For those who are granted refugee status abroad and then resettled in the UK, our Community Sponsorship Scheme enables civil society - including friends, charities and faith groups - to directly support families through both our UK Resettlement Scheme and now the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme. Those brought to the

UK under Community Sponsorship must have accommodation arranged in advance.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-18/38699>

### **Asylum: Electronic Tagging**

**Kirsten Oswald (SNP)** [40824] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department has made an equality impact assessment on the use of electronic monitoring of asylum seekers.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** On 15 June 2022, the Government introduced a 12-month pilot to test whether electronic monitoring (EM) is an effective means by which to improve and maintain regular contact with asylum claimants who arrive in the UK via unnecessary and dangerous routes. This is to assist in progress their claims more effectively toward conclusion.

This pilot operates in parallel to our established EM processes under which foreign national offenders who have outstanding asylum claims may be subject to EM as a condition of bail.

Equality Impact Assessments on the use of electronic monitoring of asylum seekers have been conducted and will be published in due course.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-20/40824>

### **Derwentside Immigration Removal Centre: Legal Profession**

**Caroline Lucas (Green)** [40757] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, pursuant to the Answer of 14 July 2022 to Question 32512 on Derwentside Immigration Removal Centre: Legal Profession, if he will make it his policy to (a) require legal aid providers contracted from 1 July 2022 to deliver Detained Duty Advice Scheme (DDAS) appointments at Derwentside immigration removal centre (IRC) to deliver those appointments in person and (b) remove the requirement for a prior request to be made in order to have an in-person legal visit; and whether any remote DDAS appointments took place with women at Derwentside IRC between 1 and 7 July 2022.

**Reply from Sarah Dines:** The provision of legal advice under the Detained Duty Advice Scheme is governed by the terms of the 2018 Standard Civil Contract: Immigration Specification. The Contract currently permits, but does not require, appointments to be in person, unless specifically requested by the resident. There are currently no plans to change this. This is the same requirement as for all other Detained Duty Advice Schemes.

Between 1 July 2022 and 7 July 2022, there were 10 requests for Detained Duty Advice Scheme legal appointments at Derwentside IRC, with 9 of these taking place remotely. One resident left the centre before their appointment could be fulfilled.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-20/40757>

*The question referred to above can be read at*

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-07/32512>

*The following three questions all received the same answer*

### **Dungavel House Immigration Removal Centre**

**Carol Monaghan (SNP)** [45653] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many asylum seekers are held at Dungavel House Immigration Removal Centre as on 2 September 2022.

**Carol Monaghan (SNP)** [45660] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the countries of origin are of asylum seekers held at Dungavel House Immigration Removal Centre as on 2 September 2022.

**Carol Monaghan (SNP)** [45896] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what average time was for asylum seekers to be held at Dungavel House Immigration

Removal Centre in the latest period for which data is available.

**Reply from Simon Baynes:** The Home Office publishes statistics on people in detention on the last day of each quarter and on people leaving detention in the '[Immigration Statistics Quarterly Release](#)'.

Data on people in detention are published in table Det\_D02 of the '[Detention detailed tables](#)', where the data can be broken down by current place of detention (including Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre (IRC)), nationality (which may differ from country of origin), and length of detention.

Data on people leaving detention are published in table Det\_D03 of the '[Detention detailed tables](#)', where the data can be broken down by length of detention. Data on last place of detention are published in table Det\_04c of the '[Detention summary tables](#)', including Dungavel IRC.

Data on people in detention and leaving detention broken down by asylum and non-asylum related detainees are published in table Det\_01 of the '[Detention summary tables](#)'. The latest data relate to the end of June 2022.

Data on people in detention counts the number of people in detention on the last day of the period (e.g. 31 December).

Last place of detention does not show where an individual spent their time in detention. In some cases, an individual may have spent a period of time detained elsewhere before being moved to their last place of detention.

Asylum-related cases refer to those where there has been an asylum claim at some stage prior or during detention. 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 detained for other reasons (such as criminality).

Figures on people in detention and leaving detention at the end of September 2022 will be published on 24 November 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/2022-09-02/45653>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/45660>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/45896>

### **Dungavel House Immigration Removal Centre**

**Carol Monaghan (SNP)** [45897] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reasons asylum seekers would be held at Dungavel House Immigration Removal Centre.

**Reply from Simon Baynes:** Migrants, including asylum claimants, may be detained for immigration purposes only in accordance with Home Office detention policy, as set out in the Detention General Instructions, and in accordance with the adults at risk in immigration detention policy. The detention decision must always be made on the basis of the individual's particular circumstances and eligibility for detention. If at any time it is concluded that a particular detained individual's ongoing detention would not be appropriate, the individual must be released, with bail conditions appropriate to their particular circumstances.

Most people detained under immigration powers spend only short periods in detention. In the year ending June 2022, data shows that the overwhelming majority of people (98%) who left detention were detained for less than 6 months, and 82% were detained for 28 days or less. The great majority of asylum claims are processed in the non-detained system, with claimants living in the community.

Only a small minority of claimants are detained whilst their claim is considered.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/45897>

## Offenders: Deportation

**Alison Thewliss (SNP) [42055]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people were detained under immigration powers in a prison at the end of their sentence in 2021; and how many of those people were subsequently released back into the community at the end of their period of detention.

**Reply from Simon Baynes:** The Home Office publishes statistics on people entering, leaving and in immigration detention in the '[Immigration Statistics Quarterly Release](#)'. The number of people in detention at the end of each quarter are in table Det\_02 of the '[Detention detailed datasets](#)' and can be broken down by place of detention including by 'H M Prisons' with the latest data relating to the end of March 2022.

Data on in detention counts the number of people in detention on the last day of the period (e.g. 31 December).

Information on how to use the dataset can be found in the 'Notes' page of the workbook.

The number of people leaving detention by reason for leaving are in table Det\_04a of the '[Detention summary tables](#)' with the number of people leaving detention by last place of detention (including 'H M Prisons') are in table Det\_04c of the '[Detention summary tables](#)' with the latest data relating to the year ending March 2022.

Last place of detention does not show where an individual spent their time in detention. In some cases, an individual may have spent a period of time detained elsewhere before being moved to their last place of detention.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-21/42055>

## Press Releases

### Second charter ship for Ukrainians

<https://www.gov.scot/news/second-charter-ship-for-ukrainians/>

### Home Affairs Committee examines support available for migrant victims and survivors of domestic abuse

<https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/83/home-affairs-committee/news/172944/home-affairs-committee-examines-support-available-for-migrant-victims-and-survivors-of-domestic-abuse/>

### Concerns remain for European citizens trying to stay in Wales after Brexit

<https://research.senedd.wales/research-articles/concerns-remain-for-european-citizens-trying-to-stay-in-wales-after-brexit/>

## New Publications

### Updated: Overview of the immigration system

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-june-2022/overview-of-the-immigration-system>

### Summary of latest statistics

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-june-2022/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-june-2022/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-june-2022/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-june-2022/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-june-2022/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-june-2022/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-june-2022/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-june-2022/how-many-people-are-detained-or-returned>

**Asylum claims on the basis of sexual orientation 2021**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-june-2022/asylum-claims-on-the-basis-of-sexual-orientation-2021--2>

**Statistics on Ukrainians in the UK**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-june-2022/statistics-on-ukrainians-in-the-uk>

**Windrush Compensation Scheme data: July 2022**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1101993/Annex A - WCS Data July 22.ods](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1101993/Annex_A_-_WCS_Data_July_22.ods)

**EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics, June 2022**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-quarterly-statistics-june-2022/eu-settlement-scheme-quarterly-statistics-june-2022>

**Afghan Resettlement Programme: operational data**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/afghan-resettlement-programme-operational-data/afghan-resettlement-programme-operational-data>

**Ukraine Family Scheme, Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme (Homes for Ukraine) and Ukraine Extension Scheme visa data**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ukraine-family-scheme-application-data/ukraine-family-scheme-and-ukraine-sponsorship-scheme-homes-for-ukraine-visa-data--2>

### **Irregular migration to the UK, year ending June 2022**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/irregular-migration-to-the-uk-year-ending-june-2022/irregular-migration-to-the-uk-year-ending-june-2022>

### **Migrants detected crossing the English Channel 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>

### **Visa holders entering the UK under the Ukraine Humanitarian Schemes – Follow-up survey: 20 July to 4 August 2022**

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/internationalmigration/bulletins/visaholdersenteringtheukundertheukrainehumanitarianschemes/visaholderenteringtheukundertheukrainehumanitarianschemesfollowupsurvey20julyto4august2022/pdf>

### **Review of applications by Tier 1 (General) migrants refused under paragraph 322(5) of the Immigration Rules**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-tier-1-general-settlement-refusals/review-of-applications-by-tier-1-general-migrants-refused-under-paragraph-3225-of-the-immigration-rules-accessible-version>

### **Ugandan Asians: 50 years since their expulsion from Uganda**

<https://lordslibrary.parliament.uk/ugandan-asians-50-years-since-their-expulsion-from-uganda/>

## **News: Rwanda Refugee Policy**

### **Ministers warned about Rwanda's human rights, court told**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-62798632>

### **UK ministers ignored evidence Rwanda violated human rights, court told**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/sep/05/deported-uk-asylum-seekers-human-rights-at-risk-in-rwanda-court-told>

### **Rwanda flight migrants include torture victims, say doctors**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-62744529>

### **Home Office planning new deportation flight to Rwanda**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/aug/25/home-office-planning-new-deportation-flight-rwanda>

### **More asylum seekers told they could be sent to Rwanda ahead of High Court challenge**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/rwanda-migrants-court-challenge-flights-b2152794.html>

### **Rwanda threat raised UK asylum seekers' suicide risk, clinicians said**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/sep/01/rwanda-threat-raised-uk-asylum-seekers-suicide-risk-clinicians-said>

**UK asylum seeker deal leaves Rwanda hostel residents homeless**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/aug/30/uk-asylum-seeker-deal-leaves-rwanda-hostel-residents-homeless>

## **News: Channel Migrants**

**Channel migrants: More than 25,000 cross to Kent so far in 2022**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-kent-62705913>

**Dozens more Channel migrants land in Kent as total this year nears 25,000**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/08/27/dozens-channel-migrants-land-kent-total-year-nears-25000/>

**Channel migrants: Almost 1,300 migrants cross Channel in new record**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-kent-62644946>

**Channel migrant crossings reach record high for single day**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/channel-migrant-crossings-reach-record-high-for-single-day-3816367>

**Record 1,295 people in one day cross Channel in small boats**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/aug/23/record-1295-people-in-one-day-cross-channel-in-small-boats>

**More than 25,000 migrants have crossed the English Channel this year**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/people/more-than-25000-migrants-have-crossed-the-english-channel-this-year-3822250>

**Channel crossings to the UK exceed 25,000 for the year**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/priti-patel-government-english-channel-ministry-of-defence-mod-b2154375.html>

**Dozens more Channel migrants land in Kent as total this year nears 25,000**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/08/27/dozens-channel-migrants-land-kent-total-year-nears-25000/>

**Record 1,295 migrants cross Channel in one day**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/new-record-as-migrants-rush-across-channel-ccwcfgt5z>

**More migrants crossed channel in August than during whole of 2020**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/more-migrants-crossed-channel-in-august-than-during-whole-of-2020-j8tpxntpb>

**Scottish Refugee Council response to Home Office statistics on small boat crossings**

<https://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/our-response-to-home-office-statistics-on-small-boat-crossings/>

**Channel migrants: Home Office pays firms to pick up people in small boats**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-62728398>

### **Growing number of Afghans risking lives on small boats to reach UK**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/afghans-english-channel-home-office-priti-patel-rwanda-b2152672.html>

### **Priti Patel's plans to fast-track removal of Albanian asylum seekers 'could violate law'**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/albanians-channel-migrants-patel-removals-b2156133.html>

### **Thousands of Albanians crossing the Channel 'to bolster crime gangs'**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/thousands-of-albanians-crossing-the-channel-to-bolster-crime-gangs-s2q3rhl7n>

### **Channel migrants from Albania to be returned within days of arriving**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/channel-migrants-from-albania-to-be-returned-within-days-of-arriving-dxf0632rq>

### **UK to fast-track failed Albanian asylum-seeker deportations**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/ap-home-office-priti-patel-english-channel-london-b2152593.html>

### **Albanian migrants deported just days after illegally arriving in the UK**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/09/01/albanian-migrants-deported-just-days-illegally-arriving-uk/>

## **News: Ukraine**

### **Ukrainian refugee minister Lord Harrington quits before PM change**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-62787398>

### **Ukraine refugee hosts should get £700 a month, says minister**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-62651997>

### **Money for Ukraine refugee hosts 'should be doubled'**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2022/08/22/money-ukraine-refugee-hosts-should-doubled/>

### **Double Ukraine refugee host payments to aid cost of living, says minister**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/aug/23/double-ukraine-refugee-host-payments-to-aid-cost-of-living-says-minister>

### **Ukrainian refugees: More finding work in UK, ONS survey shows**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-62687622>

### **Ukrainian refugees urged to exit Central Belt as Scots lose interest in resettlement**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/20849579.ukrainian-refugees-urged-exit-central-belt-scots-lose-interest-resettlement/>

### **War in Ukraine: More than half of 20,000 Scots who planned to host Ukrainian refugee have dropped out of scheme**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/world/war-in-ukraine-more-than-half-of-20000-scots-who-planned-to-host-ukrainian-refugee-have-dropped-out-of-scheme-3824414>

**War in Ukraine: Scottish Government considering mass refugee reception centres to house 18,000 potential arrivals from Ukraine**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/world/war-in-ukraine-scottish-government-considering-mass-refugee-reception-centres-to-house-18000-potential-arrivals-from-ukraine-3828190>

**Scottish Government could open 'mass refugee centres'**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/20896659.scottish-government-open-mass-refugee-centres/>

**Mass refugee reception centres 'considered for Ukrainians arriving in Scotland'**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/scottish-government-scotland-victoria-glasgow-snp-b2158531.html>

**War in Ukraine: Second cruise ship to house Ukrainian refugees arrives in Glasgow**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/world/war-in-ukraine-second-cruise-ship-to-house-ukrainian-refugees-arrives-in-glasgow-3828171>

**Ukrainian refugees on cruise liner happy to stay in Edinburgh**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/ukrainian-refugees-on-cruise-liner-happy-to-stay-in-edinburgh-65cs6mn2z>

**Ukrainian family return to home near frontline as they wait for UK visa**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/aug/24/ukrainian-family-return-to-home-near-frontline-as-they-wait-for-uk-visa>

**We've learnt so much hosting a Ukrainian refugee**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/weve-learnt-so-much-hosting-a-ukrainian-refugee-8zbccd5tk>

## News: Other Immigration and Asylum

**Proportion of refugees granted UK asylum hits 32-year high**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/aug/25/proportion-refugees-granted-uk-asylum-hits-32-year-high>

**Students and refugees send visa numbers past a million for first time**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/students-and-refugees-send-visa-numbers-past-a-million-for-first-time-whp8bgzvg>

**Only 21 foreign nationals removed from UK under post-Brexit asylum rules**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-62676829>

**Record delays as number of asylum claims hits highest level for 20 years**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/channel-kent-home-office-afghans-government-b2152782.html>

**Cost of asylum tops £2bn a year for the first time**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-office-liz-truss-afghans-channel-kent-b2153048.html>

**Priti Patel to force councils to house asylum seekers**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/priti-patel-to-force-councils-to-house-asylum-seekers-bq202vszt>

**Halving time asylum seeker children held in UK hotels not enough, say charities**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/aug/24/unaccompanied-asylum-seeker-children-uk-hotels-charities>

**Britain must stop making criminals of desperate refugees**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/aug/25/britain-must-stop-making-criminals-of-desperate-refugees>

**Albanian with British-born children faces deportation after decade in UK**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/aug/26/albanian-british-born-children-faces-deportation-decade-uk>

**Trafficked in a lorry, humiliated for being an Asian in Glasgow ... Scotland's fight for refugees gets personal**  
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/20899527.neil-mackays-big-read-trafficked-lorry-humiliated-asian-glasgow-scotlands-fight-refugees-gets-personal/>

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## Community Relations

### Scottish Parliament Motion

**Jackie Dunbar (SNP) [S6M-05869] Visit My Mosque Open Day** – That the Parliament welcomes the return of the Visit My Mosque open day after a two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic; notes that on 4 September 2022, visitors were given the opportunity to listen to a talk from the Imam of the Mosque, participate in a question and answer session, and given the opportunity to observe the Muslim daily prayer in congregation at the Aberdeen Mosque and Islamic Centre; understands that Visit My Mosque day is a national initiative facilitated by the Muslim Council of Britain, which encourages mosques across the UK to hold open days to welcome in neighbours from all faiths and none and build bridges across communities; further understands that the Visit My Mosque initiative first became a national initiative in February 2015, with about 20 mosques taking part to hold an open day, and notes that the number of mosques now participating in the initiative is over 250 with the aim of promoting better outreach and engagement work between mosques and their local communities throughout the year.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/votes-and-motions/S6M-05869>

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## Equality

### Scottish Parliament Motion

**Alexander Stewart (Conservative) [S6M-05858] Fife Centre for Equalities Launches Diversity Week 2022** – That the Parliament welcomes the news that Fife Centre for Equalities has launched Diversity Week 2022, which runs from 5 to 11 September 2022; understands that the 2022 theme of “Reconnect” has come about from the centre’s conversations and experiences with people in Fife; further understands that, coming out of two years of COVID-19, along with many of its associated restrictions to communities,

services and myriad other areas, many are still unsure whether they can safely return to their everyday activities as they were before the pandemic; considers that, while many people connected online where possible, they may have missed out on friendships, support networks and participation in public life; understands that, for Diversity Week 2022: Reconnect, Fife Centre for Equalities is inviting individuals and community groups to reach out to the people who they have missed over the past two years, and to reconnect on a face-to-face basis where it is safe to do so, and wishes everyone involved all the very best with this initiative and their successful reconnections.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/votes-and-motions/S6M-05858>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

### Prisons: Ethnic Groups

**Ellie Reeves (Labour)** [42158] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, if he will make an estimate of the proportion of people in (a) senior leadership and (b) governor positions in the prison system from ethnic minority backgrounds.

**Reply from Stuart Andrew:** As of 30 June 2022, based on self-declared information, the proportion of ethnic minority staff in senior leadership positions and substantive Governing Governors working in public sector prisons was 6.5% and 5.6% respectively.

We recognise that race disparities persist in the Criminal Justice System, and we are committed to actively tackling the impact of this across MoJ. In December 2020 HMPPS launched the Race Action Programme, which will increase the diversity of our workforce, address the risk of bias in our policies and tackle disparity in outcomes for prisoners, people on probation and children in our system.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-07-21/42158>

## Press Releases

**Ensuring “everyone in society counts and is counted”: the role of data in tackling inequality**

<https://research.senedd.wales/research-articles/ensuring-everyone-in-society-counts-and-is-counted-the-role-of-data-in-tackling-inequality/>

**New programme aimed to boost diversity in boardrooms**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-programme-aimed-to-boost-diversity-in-boardrooms>

## News

**Vaughan Gething: Trump and Brexit set Wales back on race**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-62650792>

**Ethnic minority workers more likely to be affected by cost of living crisis**

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2022/aug/25/ethnic-minority-workers-more-likely-to-be-affected-by-cost-of-living-crisis>

**Supreme Court picks trigger calls for reform over lack of diversity**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/supreme-court-picks-trigger-calls-for-reform-over-lack-of-diversity-d5g98bpmx>

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# Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

## Scottish Parliament Debate

### **Institutional Racism in Sport**

<https://archive2021.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=13875&i=125806#ScotParlOR>

## Press Release

### **Mock trial to raise awareness of race hate crime**

<https://www.copfs.gov.uk/about-copfs/news/mock-trial-at-glasgow-sheriff-court-to-highlight-race-hate-crime/>

## New Publication

### **Still Rigged: Racism in the UK Labour Market 2022**

<https://www.tuc.org.uk/sites/default/files/RacismIntheUKlabourmarket.pdf>

## News

### **Tories suspend Ipswich councillor over alleged Islamophobic tweets**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-suffolk-62623746>

### **Cabinet Office staff accused of bullying and racism in leaked report**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-62646412>

### **Bullying and racism are rife in Cabinet Office, says leaked report**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/bullying-and-racism-are-rife-in-cabinet-office-says-leaked-report-8k39jlv5p>

### **2 in 5 BME workers experience racism at work**

<https://www.tuc.org.uk/news/2-5-bme-workers-experience-racism-work-new-tuc-report>

### **More than 120,000 workers quit jobs because of racism, UK report suggests**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/workplace-racism-tuc-report-b2157409.html>

### **More than 120,000 workers quit jobs because of racism, UK study suggests**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/sep/01/more-than-120000-workers-quit-jobs-because-of-racism-uk-study-suggests>

### **Equality watchdog takes action to address discrimination in use of artificial intelligence**

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/news/equality-watchdog-takes-action-address-discrimination-use-artificial-intelligence>

### **Start-up denies using tech to turn call centre accents 'white'**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-62633188>

**Revealed: ‘disturbing’ race divide on cancer patients’ wait times in England**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2022/aug/28/black-asian-people-wait-longer-cancer-diagnosis-england-than-white-people>

**Facing the uncomfortable possibility that healthcare is discriminatory**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2022/aug/28/facing-the-uncomfortable-possibility-that-healthcare-is-discriminatory>

**The NHS has a racism problem – to deny this is putting both patients and staff at risk**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/nhs-racism-issue-staff-patient-welfare-b2162770.html>

**What would the Owami Davies case look like if she were a blonde white woman?**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2022/aug/24/owami-davies-blonde-white-woman-police-colour>

**Police have a history of not taking missing Black people like Owami Davies seriously**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/diane-abbott-owami-davies-missing-b2151139.html>

**Neo-Nazi uses codewords to spread hate on YouTube**  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/neo-nazi-uses-codewords-to-spread-hate-on-youtube-kqqs6lrkf>

**‘Britain’s most racist YouTuber’ has channel terminated**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2022/sep/01/britains-most-racist-youtuber-has-channel-terminated>

**Black cleaner wins payout over ‘cheeky monkey’ slur**  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/black-cleaner-wins-payout-over-cheeky-monkey-slur-0v7tjkc9>

**Journalist apologises for ‘coconut cabinet’ jibe**  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/journalist-apologises-for-coconut-cabinet-jibe-sbn305l33>

**Edinburgh Fringe in yellow face row as play branded ‘publicly licensed racism’**  
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/09/02/edinburgh-fringe-yellow-face-row-play-branded-publicly-licensed/>

**Yorkshire racism case: Gary Ballance apologises to Azeem Rafiq for racist language**  
<https://www.bbc.com/sport/cricket/62678445>

**Gary Ballance meets Azeem Rafiq to apologise for ‘racist’ language**  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/gary-ballance-apologises-to-azeem-rafiq-for-racist-language-zh0wmjq6m>

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## Other Scottish Parliament and Government

### Press Releases

**A stronger and more resilient Scotland: the Programme for Government 2022 to 2023**

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/stronger-more-resilient-scotland-programme-government-2022-23/>

**Recorded Crime in Scotland: year ending June 2022**

<https://www.gov.scot/news/recorded-crime-in-scotland-year-ending-june-2022/>

**Winter vaccines programme begins**

<https://www.gov.scot/news/winter-vaccines-programme-begins/>

### New Publication

**Recorded Crime in Scotland: year ending June 2022**

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/recorded-crime-scotland-year-ending-june-2022/>

### News

**At-a-glance: Scotland's programme for government**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-62809001>

**Supreme Court allows SNP to intervene in indyref2 court case**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-62823549>

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## Other UK Parliament and Government

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

#### **Forced Marriage: Disadvantaged**

**Nadia Whittome (Labour)** [45681] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department has made an assessment of the potential relationship between deprivation and rates of forced marriage.

#### **Forced Marriage**

**Nadia Whittome (Labour)** [45683] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to help improve the recording of rates of forced marriage, including at a ward level.

Answer

**Reply from Amanda Solloway:** Forced marriage is an all too often hidden crime and we are determined to tackle it and give more victims the confidence to come forward.

The joint Home Office and Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's Forced Marriage Unit leads on the government's forced marriage policy, outreach and casework. It operates both inside the UK (where support is provided to any

individual) and overseas (where consular assistance is provided to British nationals, including dual nationals). The FMU publishes annual statistics of cases it has dealt with, including broken down by geographical area. The latest statistics published in 2021 show the FMU provided advice and support in 337 cases of actual or potential forced marriage, with 22% of these referrals coming from the London region.

Understanding the potential relationship between deprivation and rates of forced marriage is challenging. However, as committed to in the 2021 Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy, we are exploring options to better understand the prevalence of forced marriage in England and Wales.

We recognise the importance of cases being recorded accurately. That is why the Annual Data Requirement (ADR) for England and Wales now requires police forces to provide data returns to the Home Office on 'honour'-based abuse offences, including forced marriage. The Government publishes this data annually – the most recent data was published on 9 December 2021 and can be found at the following link: [Statistics on so called 'honour-based' abuse offences, England and Wales, 2020 to 2021](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/forced-marriage-unit-statistics-2020/forced-marriage-unit-statistics-2020).

In addition, we recently published updated multi-agency statutory guidance on forced marriage and the FMU undertakes regular outreach activities to professionals, including police officers, to raise awareness of forced marriage and how best to support victims. Through these activities, the FMU reached over 1,000 professionals in 2021.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/45681>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-09-02/45683>

*The Forced Marriage Unit statistics referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/forced-marriage-unit-statistics-2020/forced-marriage-unit-statistics-2020>

*The Strategy referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tackling-violence-against-women-and-girls-strategy/tackling-violence-against-women-and-girls-strategy>

## Press Release

**Ministerial Appointments: September 2022**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ministerial-appointments-september-2022>

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## Death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

### UK Parliament Debates

**Tributes to Her Late Majesty the Queen** (House of Commons)

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-09-09/debates/7E1BA553-600D-41B4-BAB9-849A02B254C3/TributesToHerLateMajestyTheQueen>

and

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-09-10/debates/D0C7D2F5-F624-4AA6-9218-657481335AED/TributesToHerLateMajestyTheQueen>

**Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II** (House of Lords)

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2022-09-09/debates/43B8ED56-13D6-4E5E-9D9A-AA8C5BA66E3E/HerLateMajestyQueenElizabethII>

and

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2022-09-09/debates/6BCCA83A-03BB-4D89-877A-FEA27493DF20/HerLateMajestyQueenElizabethII>

and

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2022-09-10/debates/1A292C36-9BBE-4B5A-9366-ADD0154812E5/HerLateMajestyQueenElizabethII>

and

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2022-09-10/debates/E581E877-23BE-482F-B3CA-0CE10CAD2BFE/HerLateMajestyQueenElizabethII>

## **Scotland First Minister's Statement**

### **Scotland First Minister's Tribute to Her Majesty The Queen**

Like everyone across Scotland, the United Kingdom, indeed the world, I feel a deep sense of sadness on the death of Her Majesty The Queen.

On behalf of the people of Scotland, I offer my sincere and heartfelt condolences to The King, The Queen Consort and to the entire Royal Family.

There will be many opportunities, in the coming days, to reflect fully on The Queen's extraordinary life and service.

For more than 70 years, Queen Elizabeth has been the great constant in our national life. She has inspired us, on occasion comforted us and always personified values we hold dear. Throughout her reign she performed her duties with exceptional wisdom, dedication and fidelity.

Scotland loved, respected and admired her.

And by all accounts, Her Majesty was rarely happier than when she was here in Scotland at her beloved Balmoral –

a fact I have been privileged to observe personally.

I hope it will be a source of comfort to her family that she spent her final days in a place that she loved so much.

This is a moment of acute loss and profound sadness, it also a moment of enormous significance.

The passing of Queen Elizabeth marks the end of an era.

Our nation is in mourning.

My heart and my thoughts – and I know those of people across Scotland – are with the Royal Family at this deeply sad moment.

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/tribute-majesty-queen/>

## **Prime Minister's Statement**

### **Prime Minister's statement on the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II**

We are all devastated by the news we have just heard from Balmoral.

The death of Her Majesty The Queen is a huge shock to the nation and to the world.

Queen Elizabeth II was the rock on which modern Britain was built.

Our country has grown and flourished under her reign.

Britain is the great country it is today because of her.

She ascended the throne just after the Second World War.

She championed the development of the Commonwealth - from a small group of seven countries to a family of 56 nations spanning every continent of the world.

We are now a modern, thriving, dynamic nation.

Through thick and thin, Queen Elizabeth II provided us with the stability and the strength that we needed.

She was the very spirit of Great Britain – and that spirit will endure.

She has been our longest-ever reigning monarch.

It is an extraordinary achievement to have presided with such dignity and grace for 70 years.

Her life of service stretched beyond most of our living memories.

In return, she was loved and admired by the people in the United Kingdom and all around the world.

She has been a personal inspiration to me and to many Britons. Her devotion to duty is an example to us all.

Earlier this week, at 96, she remained determined to carry out her duties as she appointed me as her 15th Prime Minister.

Throughout her life she has visited more than 100 countries and she has touched the lives of millions around the world.

In the difficult days ahead, we will come together with our friends across the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth and the world to celebrate her extraordinary lifetime of service.

It is a day of great loss, but Queen Elizabeth II leaves a great legacy.

Today the Crown passes - as it has done for more than a thousand years - to our new monarch, our new head of state:

His Majesty King Charles III.

With the King's family, we mourn the loss of his mother.

And as we mourn, we must come together as a people to support him.

To help him bear the awesome responsibility that he now carries for us all.

We offer him our loyalty and devotion just as his mother devoted so much to so many for so long.

And with the passing of the second Elizabethan age, we usher in a new era in the magnificent history of our great country,

– exactly as Her Majesty would have wished –

by saying the words...

God save the King.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/prime-ministers-statement-on-the-death-of-her-majesty-queen-elizabeth-ii>

## **Scottish Government Press Releases**

**Her Majesty The Queen**

<https://www.gov.scot/news/her-majesty-the-queen-1/>

**Accession of The King: Public Proclamation events in Edinburgh**

<https://www.gov.scot/news/accession-of-the-king/>

## **UK Government Press Release**

**Bank holiday announced for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's State Funeral on Monday 19 September**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/bank-holiday-announced-for-her-majesty-queen-elizabeth-iis-state-funeral-on-monday-19-september>

## News

### **Obituary: Queen Elizabeth II**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-61605149>

### **Queen Elizabeth II: A life in pictures**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-61645231>

### **First Minister Nicola Sturgeon leads Scottish tributes to Queen**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-62842317>

### **Holyrood Presiding Officer pays tribute to Queen**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/21252536.holyrood-presiding-officer-pays-tribute-queen/>

### **Queen Elizabeth II: Coffin to travel by road from Balmoral to Edinburgh**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-62862148>

### **Death of Queen Elizabeth: Coffin to lie in Edinburgh**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/21239856.death-queen-elizabeth-coffin-lie-edinburgh/>

### **'We have lost not just our monarch but the matriarch of our nation' Tributes paid to Queen Elizabeth II following her death**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/people/we-have-lost-not-just-our-monarch-but-the-matriarch-of-our-nation-tributes-paid-to-queen-elizabeth-ii-following-her-death-3837051>

### **King Charles III, the new monarch**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-59135132>

### **King Charles III to attend Scottish Parliament for first time as monarch**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/national/king-charles-iii-to-attend-scottish-parliament-for-first-time-as-monarch-3839156>

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## New Publication

### **COVID-19 Vaccine Experience and Hesitancy Within African, Caribbean, and Black (ACB) Communities In Scotland**

<https://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/COVID-19-Vaccine-Experience-Research-Report.pdf>

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## Other News

### **Scotland's Covid contact tracing staff lacked training - watchdog**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-62765825>

**Recorded crime across Scotland falls after drop in Covid offences**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-62723850>

**Edinburgh to apologise for role in slave trade**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-62724230>

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## **Bills in Progress** \*\* new or updated this week

### **Scottish Parliament**

**Gender Recognition Reform (Scotland) Bill**

<https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/bills/gender-recognition-reform-scotland-bill>

### **UK Parliament**

**Asylum Seekers (Accommodation Eviction Procedures) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3257>

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

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3263>

**Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) (No.2) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3304>

**Bill of Rights Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3227>

**Housing Standards (Refugees and Asylum Seekers) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3264>

**Human Trafficking (Child Protection) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3248>

**Human Trafficking (Sentencing) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3249>

**Illegal Immigration (Offences) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3282>

**\*\* Online Safety Bill**

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

Notice of amendments

[https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0121/amend/onlinesafety\\_rm\\_rep\\_0907.pdf](https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0121/amend/onlinesafety_rm_rep_0907.pdf)

**Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill**

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

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## Consultations

\*\* new or updated this week

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

**Clandestine Entrant Civil Penalty Scheme** (closing date 12 September 2022)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/clandestine-entrant-civil-penalty-scheme>

**\*\* closes this week**

**Family migration** (closing date 15 September 2022)

<https://committees.parliament.uk/call-for-evidence/2706/>

**Equality Evidence Strategy 2023-25** (closing date 23 September 2022)

<https://tinyurl.com/mpunv6cw>

**Equity in medical devices** (closing date 6 October 2022)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/equity-in-medical-devices-independent-review-call-for-evidence>

**Race & Inclusion in Art Education** (closing date 31 October 2022)

[https://assets.website-files.com/61488e50132da098d2dd729b/62c6bf3339659acfccfb61c2\\_Visualise-Race%20and%20Inclusion%20in%20Art%20Education.pdf](https://assets.website-files.com/61488e50132da098d2dd729b/62c6bf3339659acfccfb61c2_Visualise-Race%20and%20Inclusion%20in%20Art%20Education.pdf)

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## Job Opportunities

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

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## Events, Conferences, and Training

\*\* new or updated this week

**\*\* this week!**

**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 interactions and relationships. Participants will consider ways to become more aware of readings as they form, and more cautious about their accuracy, and will also discuss tools for more authentic conversations. For information see

<https://tinyurl.com/m63kxvrm> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto: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 bi-lingual 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>

### **Lifecycle of a charity - day to day running**

5 October 2022 (online, 1.00–2.00)

SCVO webinar looking at what you need to know to run a charity successfully and sustainably, including key events such as moving into premises, taking on staff and entering into contracts. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/mtcnh6a2>

### **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. The course 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/2p88vnps> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

### **Lifecycle of a charity – the trustee journey**

9 November 2022 (online, 1.00–2.00)

SCVO webinar looking at what excellence looks like for a trustee, and what key skills you need to have, including how to develop and build those skills and what you need to know legally and practically. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/222y9myy>

### **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. The course will 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](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

### **Lifecycle of a charity - when is the right time to wind up?**

7 December 2022 (online, 1.00–2.00)

SCVO webinar looking at how to recognise when it's the right time to wind up and dissolve a charity. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2kvfvd7>

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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** 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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