



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

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

Please send information for inclusion in MEMO to [MEMO@scojec.org](mailto:MEMO@scojec.org) and [click here](#) to be added to the mailing list.

**The new UK Parliamentary Session began on 7 November 2023.**

## Immigration and Asylum

### Scottish Parliament Written Answer

#### ESOL

**Beatrice Wishart (Liberal Democrat) [S6W-22118]** To ask the Scottish Government what funding it currently provides for English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) classes for asylum seekers and refugees.

**Reply from Graeme Dey:** In 2021-22 the Scottish Government provided £22,709,353 to colleges for ESOL courses in Scotland and we are 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 asylum seekers to communicate, enter education, find employment, and access information on healthcare, housing and other services that they require.

In addition, through the Supporting New Scots Fund, the New Scots partnership awarded a total of £179,431.00 to nine organisations across Scotland to deliver ESOL provision for refugees.

Figures for 2022-23 will be available in January 2024.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-22118>

## UK Parliament, Ministerial Statement

**Inquiry into Channel incident of 24 November 2021**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/inquiry-into-channel-incident-of-24-november-2021>

## Press Releases

**Rural migration in an independent Scotland**

<https://www.gov.scot/news/rural-migration-in-an-independent-scotland/>

**House of Commons Library Briefing: UK immigration schemes for Afghan nationals**

<https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-9307/CBP-9307.docx>

**House of Commons Library Briefing: Accommodation and integration support for resettled Afghans**

<https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-9804/CBP-9804.pdf>

**Inflatable migrant boat report published**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/inflatable-migrant-boat-report-published>

**UK and Austria commit to work closer on illegal migration and terrorism**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-austria-commit-to-work-closer-on-illegal-migration-and-terrorism>

## New Publications

**The role of local authorities in refugee integration in Scotland**

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/role-local-authorities-refugee-integration-scotland/>

**House of Commons Library Briefing: The immigration health surcharge**

<https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-7274/CBP-7274.pdf>

**Report on the investigation into the flooding and partial sinking of an inflatable migrant boat resulting in the loss of at least 27 lives in the Dover Strait on 24 November 2021**

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/654b77e8e70413000dfc49f0/2023-07-MigrantBoatReport.pdf>

**Immigration downgrading: new evidence from UK panel data**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigrant-downgrading-new-evidence-from-uk-panel-data/immigration-downgrading-new-evidence-from-uk-panel-data-accessible>

**Joint statement on enhancing cooperation in the field of internal security, migration and transnational crime**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/joint-statement-on-security-migration-and-transnational-crime/joint-statement-on-enhancing-cooperation-in-the-field-of-internal-security-migration-and-transnational-crime>

**Updated: Migrants detected crossing the English Channel in small boats – last 7 days**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/migrants-detected-crossing-the-english-channel-in-small-boats/migrants-detected-crossing-the-english-channel-in-small-boats-last-7-days>

**Updated: 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>

**Updated: Diphtheria: cases among asylum seekers in England, monthly data tables**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/diphtheria-cases-among-asylum-seekers-in-england-2022/diphtheria-cases-among-asylum-seekers-in-england-weekly-data-tables>

## News

**Humza Yousaf accused of overestimating number of Ukrainian refugees living in Scotland**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2023/11/10/humza-yousaf-ukraine-refugees-scotland-first-minister/>

**Scotland 'lagging behind' on taking in immigrants says MSP**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/westminster/23908486.scotland-lagging-behind-taking-immigrants-says-msp/>

**The King wants refugees to 'feel more welcome', Sir Michael Palin says**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/michael-palin-charles-joanna-lumley-the-king-disasters-emergency-committee-b2444132.html>

**Inquiry into drowning of 27 Channel migrants**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/ministers-announce-inquiry-into-drowning-of-27-channel-migrants-nhxf7509v>

**Thousands of lone child asylum seekers left in limbo by Home Office, data shows**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/nov/07/thousands-of-lone-child-asylum-seekers-left-in-limbo-by-home-office-data-shows>

**Domestic-abuse victims fear deportation if they go to police**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-67357025>

**Police emboldening domestic abusers by reporting victims to immigration authorities, commissioner warns**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/police-domestic-abuse-victims-immigration-b2444511.html>

### **UK police report domestic abuse victims to immigration, shows data**

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2023/nov/09/police-report-domestic-abuse-victims-immigration-officers-when-they-ask-for-help-data>

### **Bibby Stockholm migrant barge 'to cost more per head than hotels' despite Home Office pledge to cut bill**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/bibby-stockholm-migrant-berge-home-office-b2443169.html>

### **Bibby Stockholm: number of asylum seekers to be housed on barge reduced**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/nov/07/bibby-stockholm-number-of-asylum-seekers-to-be-housed-on-berge-reduced>

### **Home Office barred charity over claims it encouraged asylum seeker 'complaints'**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/nov/10/home-office-barred-refugee-charity-for-encouraging-asylum-seeker-complaints>

### **Campaigners welcome free bus passes for asylum seekers announcement**

<https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/news/2023/articles/campaigners-welcome-free-bus-passes-for-asylum-seekers-announcement>

### **Afghan refugees in Lewis: Scotland is our home now**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/crqplgre2rvo>

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## **Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination**

### **Scottish Parliament Motion**

**Kenneth Gibson (SNP) [S6M-11207] 85th Anniversary of Kristallnacht Highlights Increasing Antisemitism** – That the Parliament commemorates the victims of Kristallnacht, also known as the Night of Broken Glass or the November Pogrom, a destructive campaign of violence against Jewish people and their communities, on its 85th anniversary; understands that, throughout the night of 9-10 November 1938, the Nazi Party and its collaborators targeted almost every synagogue and Jewish prayer room in Germany, with over 1,400 burned or badly damaged, 7,500 Jewish businesses across Germany and Austria vandalised, and at least 91 people murdered, with a further 30,000 Jewish men being arrested and taken to concentration camps, where many more died; further understands that this was followed by hundreds of suicides in the Jewish community and mass emigration; recognises the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany's relaunched campaign, #ItStartedWithWords, highlighting that the Holocaust did not start with camps, ghettos and deportations, but with words of hate; understands that this campaign is important, in light of what it sees as the growing prevalence of Holocaust denial, distortion and hate speech towards Jewish communities and individuals in many countries and online; notes with concern recent reports that more than 1,000 hate incidents have taken place across the UK against British Jews since the Hamas terrorist attacks on 7 October 2023, the highest 28-day total recorded since the Community Security Trust began tracking antisemitic attacks in 1984, and a 537% increase compared to the same period in 2022; recognises the resilience of Holocaust survivors who have taken part in this campaign and continue to highlight the barbaric actions that took place during the Second World War, particularly following what it sees as

the unacceptable rise in antisemitism throughout the last month, and continues to remember the six million Jewish people and others targeted due to ethnicity, religion, political beliefs and sexual orientation who were victims of Nazi persecution.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/votes-and-motions/S6M-11207>

## UK Parliament Early Day Motions

**Christine Jardine (Liberal Democrat) [26] Islamophobia Awareness Month** – That this House supports Islamophobia Awareness Month, which is taking place this November; recognises the incredible contributions that British Muslims make to our country; acknowledges that anti-Muslim sentiment is far too prevalent in our society; notes with concern that the horrifying Israel-Gaza conflict has led to a rise in Islamophobia in the UK, with Tell MAMA reporting a sevenfold increase of anti-Muslim incidents between 7 and 29 October compared to the same period last year; emphasises the importance of standing up to religious hatred in all its forms; and calls on the Government to ensure that public bodies have the resources and training they need to identify and prevent hate crimes.

<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/61505>

**Patricia Gibson (SNP) [33] 85th anniversary of Kristallnacht and antisemitism** – That this House commemorates the victims of Kristallnacht (Night of Broken Glass), a destructive campaign of violence against Jewish people, on its 85th anniversary; understands that, throughout the night of 9-10 November 1938, the Nazi Party targeted synagogues and Jewish prayer rooms across Germany, with over 1,400 burned or badly damaged, 7,500 Jewish businesses across Germany and Austria vandalised, and at least 91 people murdered, with a further 30,000 Jewish men being arrested and taken to concentration camps, where many more died; further understands that this was followed by hundreds of suicides in the Jewish community and mass emigration; recognises the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany's relaunched campaign, ItStartedWithWords, highlighting that the Holocaust did not start with camps, ghettos and deportations, but with words of hate; understands this campaign's importance in view of the growing prevalence of Holocaust denial and hate speech towards Jews; notes concerning reports that more than 1,000 anti-Semitic incidents have taken place across the UK since Hamas terrorist attacks on 7 October 2023, the highest 28-day total recorded since the Community Security Trust began tracking attacks in 1984, and a 537% increase over the same period in 2022; recognises the resilience of Holocaust survivors who continue to highlight the barbaric actions that took place during the Second World War, particularly following the unacceptable rise in antisemitism recently; and continues to remember the 6 million Jewish people and others targeted due to ethnicity, religion, political beliefs and sexual orientation who were victims of Nazi persecution.

<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/61513>

## New Publication

**Study on preventing and combating hate speech in times of crisis**

<https://rm.coe.int/-study-on-preventing-and-combating-hate-speech-in-times-of-crisis/1680ad393b>

## News

### **NHS chiefs told to cut woke roles as diversity tsars still cost £13m a year**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2023/11/11/nhs-chief-told-stop-promoting-woke-ideology-13-million-year/>

### **Bob Stewart: £4,500 raised for MP guilty of racist abuse**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/bob-stewart-4-500-raised-for-mp-guilty-of-racist-abuse-std98m627>

### **Antisemitism should be treated with same abhorrence as other racism – Dowden**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/oliver-dowden-antisemitism-black-lives-matter-united-states-mark-rowley-b2441985.html>

### **‘I was terrified’: Islamophobic incidents up by 600% in UK since Hamas attack**

<https://tellmamauk.org/i-was-terrified-islamophobic-incidents-up-by-600-in-uk-since-hamas-attack/>

### **Antisemitic Incidents – 10 November Update**

<https://cst.org.uk/news/blog/2023/11/10/antisemitic-incidents-10-november-update>

### **Charities report rise in antisemitism and Islamophobia at schools in England**

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2023/nov/09/charities-report-rise-in-antisemitism-and-islamophobia-at-schools-in-england>

### **Islamophobia Awareness Month: Prevent, prejudice and precariousness**

<https://www.runnymedetrust.org/blog/islamophobia-awareness-month-prevent-prejudice-and-precariousness>

### **Former Met Police officer convicted of sending racist message**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/met-metropolitan-police-city-of-london-hampshire-rishi-sunak-b2442528.html>

### **Jewish media outlets unite to combat antisemitism**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/jewish-israel-hamas-london-gas-b2444231.html>

### **The online hate, conspiracies and misinformation driving a new wave of antisemitism**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/books/antisemitism-israel-hamas-war-b2445199.html>

### **‘Torrent of anti-Semitism’ at UCL must be investigated, say 500 alumni**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2023/11/08/torrent-anti-semitism-ucl-must-be-investigated-say-alumni/>

### **Right-wing supremacist sentenced over plot to kill worshipping Muslims while disguised as armed police officer**

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/cps/news/right-wing-supremacist-sentenced-over-plot-kill-worshipping-muslims-while-disguised-armed>

### **Teenager found guilty of plotting mosque terror attack ‘has converted to Islam’**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/teenager-islam-leeds-crown-court-lexus-telegram-b2445379.html>

## Lloyd's of London to pay £52m over historical slavery links

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2023/11/08/lloyds-london-agrees-pay-52m-significant-role-slave-trade/>

## Children told 'read woke' as schools study books that claim white people invented racism

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2023/11/11/children-told-read-woke-schools-scotland-study-racism/>

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## Other Scottish Parliament and Government

### First Minister

#### Diwali message from the First Minister [video]

<https://twitter.com/ScotGovFM/status/1722918909387354545>

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## Other UK Parliament and Government

### Opening of the new parliamentary session

#### The King's Speech 2023

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-kings-speech-2023>

#### The King's Speech 2023: Background Briefing Notes

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/654a21952f045e001214dcd7/The\\_King\\_s\\_Speech\\_background\\_briefing\\_notes.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/654a21952f045e001214dcd7/The_King_s_Speech_background_briefing_notes.pdf)

The King's Speech sets out 21 Bills for the coming session:

- **Animal Welfare (Kept Animals) Bill**

*England, Scotland, and Wales*

The Bill is intended to strengthen animal welfare, including banning live exports, ensuring high welfare standards in UK slaughterhouses, and preventing export to countries with lower welfare slaughterhouse conditions.

- **Arbitration Bill**

*England, Wales, and Northern Ireland*

The Bill is intended to modernise the law on arbitration, including clarifying the law governing arbitration agreements, empowering arbitrators to expedite decisions on issues that have no real prospect of success, and introducing a statutory duty on arbitrators to disclose circumstances which might give rise to justifiable doubts about their impartiality.

- **Automated Vehicles Bill**

*England and Wales*

The Bill is intended to enable the safe deployment of self-driving vehicles, including setting rigorous safety standards, ensuring clear legal liability, and protecting the consumer.

- **Criminal Justice Bill**  
*England and Wales. Some provisions will also apply in Scotland and Northern Ireland*  
 The Bill is intended to reform the criminal justice system and give the police the powers necessary to keep people safe, including tackling violence against women and girls, cracking down on the crimes and anti-social behaviour, and ensuring that criminals spend longer in prison.
- **Data Protection and Digital Information Bill**  
*UK-wide*  
 The Bill is intended to maintain high standards of data protection while improving data access and reducing burdens on businesses and researchers. It will include improving data delivery, establishing a framework for secure digital verification services, and strengthening and modernising regulation.
- **Digital Markets, Competition and Consumers Bill**  
*UK-wide*  
 The Bill is intended to introduce a new regulatory regime in digital markets, and tackle consumer rip-offs and bad business practices.
- **Draft Rail Reform Bill**  
*UK-wide*  
 The Bill is intended to facilitate punctual and reliable services, simpler tickets, and a modern and innovative railway.
- **Economic Activities of Public Bodies (Overseas Matters) Bill**  
*UK-wide*  
 The Bill is intended to ensure that the UK has a consistent foreign policy, and that public bodies do not pursue their own foreign policy agendas.
- **Football Governance Bill**  
*England and Wales*  
 The Bill is intended to establish an Independent Football Regulator to address issues of financial sustainability and ensure fans' voices are listened to.
- **Holocaust Memorial Bill**  
*England and Wales*  
 The Bill is intended to ensure the Holocaust is never forgotten and antisemitism is driven out of our society. The barbaric attack by Hamas on Israeli civilians on 7 October 2023 and the rise in antisemitism in the days and weeks after serves as a reminder that we must never give up doing so. It will include enabling the building of the planned Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre next to the Houses of Parliament.
- **Investigatory Powers (Amendment) Bill**  
*UK-wide*  
 The Bill is intended to give the security and intelligence services the powers they need to respond to threats to national security, and strengthen independent judicial oversight.
- **Leasehold and Freehold Bill**  
*England and Wales*



The Bill is intended to reform the housing market by making it cheaper and easier for leaseholders to purchase their freehold.

- **Media Bill**

*UK-wide*

The Bill is intended to ensure that viewers and listeners across the UK can continue to access public service television and radio content as technology changes. It will include removal of a threat to the freedom of the press, better protection for children by applying similar standards for TV to the streaming giants, and providing greater access to subtitles, audio description, and signed interpretation.

- **Offshore Petroleum Licensing Bill**

*UK-wide*

The Bill is intended to strengthen the United Kingdom's energy security, and reduce reliance on volatile international energy markets and hostile foreign regimes.

- **Pedicabs (London) Bill**

*England and Wales (but will apply only in Greater London)*

The Bill is intended to deal with the issue of unlicensed pedicabs in London.

- **Renters (Reform) Bill**

*England and Wales*

The Bill is intended to provide greater security and certainty of quality accommodation for renters, while helping landlords get their property back swiftly when needed, such as evicting anti-social tenants or those repeatedly in rent arrears.

- **Sentencing Bill**

*England and Wales*

The Bill is intended to ensure tougher sentences for the most serious offenders and increase the confidence of victims. It will include mandating courts to impose a Whole Life Order in cases for which a Whole Life Order is currently the starting point, ensuring rapists, and those convicted of the most serious sexual offences serve every day of their custodial term behind bars, and introducing a presumption in favour of a suspended sentence for custodial sentences of twelve months or fewer.

- **Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill**

*UK-wide*

The Bill is intended to improve the safety and security of public venues and keep the public safe from terrorism, including requiring certain venues to fulfil necessary but proportionate steps according to their capacity to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack and reduce harm. The duties that premises will have will depend on the size of the venue. Premises and events with a capacity of 800 or above will be in the enhanced tier, while premises with a capacity of 100 to 799 will be in the standard tier.

Before the Bill is introduced, the Government will hold a consultation on the standard tier to ensure the Bill's measures strike the right balance between public protection and avoiding undue burdens on smaller premises such as village halls, churches and other community venues.

- **Tobacco and Vapes Bill**

*England and Wales*

The Bill is intended to tackle the single biggest entirely preventable cause of ill-health, disability and death: smoking, and will to create a smokefree generation by restricting the sale of tobacco so that children currently aged fourteen or younger can never be sold cigarettes, and to restrict the sale and marketing of e-cigarettes to children.

- **Trade (Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for TransPacific Partnership) Bill**

*UK-wide*

The Bill is intended to promote trade and investment with countries in the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for TransPacific Partnership. The UK is the first European member of the Partnership.

- **Victims and Prisoners Bill**

*England and Wales*

The Bill is intended to improve the experience of the criminal justice system for victims and restore confidence. It includes introducing an Independent Public Advocate (IPA) which will work on behalf of victims of major incidents, reforming the parole system, and creating an automatic suspension of parental responsibility from a person who is convicted of murder or voluntary manslaughter of the other person with whom they share parental responsibility (“Jade’s Law”).

## Prime Minister

### **The Prime Minister's message for Diwali 2023**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-prime-ministers-message-for-diwali-2023>

## Press Release

### **Hard-hitting measures to eradicate toxic police culture must come before wider change possible, Home Affairs Committee warns**

<https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/83/home-affairs-committee/news/198334/hardhitting-measures-to-eradicate-toxic-police-culture-must-come-before-wider-change-possible-home-affairs-committee-warns/>

## New Publications

### **House of Commons Home Affairs Committee Report: Policing priorities**

<https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/42000/documents/208864/default/>

### **Quality of ethnicity data in health-related administrative data sources, England: November 2023**

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/understandingthequalityofethnicitydatarecordedinhealthrelatedadministrativedatasourcesupto2022comparedwithcensus2021inengland>

## News

**Key points: What was in this year's King's Speech?**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-67300230>

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## Cost of Living

### Scottish Government Website

#### Help during the cost of living crisis

Most households are concerned about the cost of living, with worries about issues such as rent and mortgages, food and utility bills, energy costs, and debt.

In response, the Scottish Government has launched a new website that provides information to help people access support with

- Energy and Bills
- Benefits and Income
- Children and Families
- Debt and Money
- Health and Wellbeing

Your local council might be able to help if you need urgent help with money, food or fuel – contact the council for information.

<https://costofliving.campaign.gov.scot/>

## News

**Homeless people in tents have made a 'lifestyle choice', says Braverman**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2023/11/04/suella-braverman-ban-rough-sleepers-use-tents/>

**Food banks Scotland: Trussell Trust hands out almost 130,000 parcels**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/23909018.food-banks-scotland-trussell-trust-hands-almost-130-000-parcels/>

**Energy bills will be cheaper 'within next ten years', says Tory MP Andrea Leadsom**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/tv/news/cost-of-living-bills-andrea-leadsom-b2443916.html>

**UK 'in violation of international law' over poverty levels, says UN envoy**

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2023/nov/05/uk-poverty-levels-simply-not-acceptable-says-un-envoy-olivier-de-schutter>

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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>

#### **Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill**

<https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/bills/police-ethics-conduct-and-scrutiny-scotland-bill>

### UK Parliament

#### **\*\* The Equality Act 2010 (Amendment) Regulations 2023 [Draft]**

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2023/9780348253191/contents>

Explanatory Memorandum

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/654b4cc8e2e16a000d42ab50/retained\\_eu\\_law\\_explanatory\\_memorandum\\_the\\_equality\\_act\\_2010\\_regulations\\_2023.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/654b4cc8e2e16a000d42ab50/retained_eu_law_explanatory_memorandum_the_equality_act_2010_regulations_2023.pdf)

Equality and Human rights Commission press release

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/equality-act-2010-amendment-regulations-2023>

#### **Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Draft Bill**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/terrorism-protection-of-premises-draft-bill-overarching-documents>

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## Consultations \*\* new or updated this week

#### **Delivery of relationships, sexual health and parenthood (RSHP) education in Scottish schools - draft statutory guidance** (closing date 23 November 2023)

<https://consult.gov.scot/learning-directorate/teaching-guidance-for-relationships-sexual-health/>

#### **Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill** (closing date 8 December 2023)

<https://yourviews.parliament.scot/justice/police-ethics-conduct-and-scrutiny-bill/>

#### **Abortion Services (Safe Access Zones) (Scotland) Bill** (closing date 20 December 2023)

[https://yourviews.parliament.scot/health/abortion-services-saz-bill/consult\\_view/](https://yourviews.parliament.scot/health/abortion-services-saz-bill/consult_view/)

#### **Democracy Matters** (closing date 28 February 2024)

<https://consult.gov.scot/local-government-and-communities/democracy-matters/>

#### **Your Police 2023-2024** (closing date 31 March 2023)

<https://consult.scotland.police.uk/strategy-insight-and-innovation/your-police-2023-2024/>

#### **ITV/Tell MAMA survey on mosque safety in the UK** (closing date not stated)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/V7V5B6L>

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## Job Opportunities

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

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## Funding Opportunities

\*\* new or updated this week

### **Democracy Matters Community Engagement Fund 2023/24**

*Closing date: 26 January 2024*

Scottish Government funding of up to £300 (possibility of higher funding to assist with accessibility) to support organisations and groups to host conversations and gather the views of people across Scotland on how we can create a system of inclusive local democracy. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/4ds8r9h2>

### **Cost-of-Living Support Scotland**

*Application deadline not stated*

National Lottery funding from £10,001 to £75,000 for projects to help support individuals, families and communities currently experiencing hardship as a result of the cost-of-living increases. The programme aims to fund activity that reduces the impact of, or prevents financial insecurity so that people have more resilience and are more able to identify ways to deal with the impact of increased cost of living in their lives, are able to shape activity in their community to address the increased cost-of-living, and have more access to support and services that will help them to deal with the increased cost of living. For information and to apply see

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/cost-of-living-support-fund>

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## Events, Conferences, and Training

\*\* new or updated this week

**\*\* this week!**

### **Scottish Interfaith Week**

12–19 November 2023 (Scotland-wide)

Scottish Interfaith Week provides an opportunity for interfaith groups, faith communities, schools, organisations and local communities across the country to celebrate Scotland's religious diversity, bringing people together to promote dialogue, understanding and co-operation between Scotland's diverse religious communities and cultures. For the full programme of events see <https://scottishinterfaithweek.org/event>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Funding and Fundraising - A Human Rights and Equalities First Approach**

14 November 2023 (online, 1.00–4.00)

THRE course for anyone working in Scotland's third sector who is involved in funding and fundraising and is interested in learning why and how to take a human rights and equalities approach. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/bdesue5r>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Governance - A Human Rights and Equalities First Approach**

15 November 2023 (online, 10.00–12.30)

THRE course for people who have a say, or give advice and support, on how boards or committees are run to provide tools to integrate human rights and equalities into the work of boards and committees. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/24kezby3>

**\*\* this week!**

**Interfaith Interactions: Online Dialogue on Community**

15 November 2023 (online, 7.00–8.15)

Interfaith Scotland online dialogue event for Scottish Interfaith Week featuring speakers from three different spiritual communities on the Scottish Interfaith Week theme of 'Community'. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yd7bs5e2>

**\*\* this week!**

**Faith Communities and Climate Justice**

16 November 2023 (online, 6.15–7.30)

Scottish Interfaith Week event. Conversation and dialogue with Bishop Ian Paton, Convener of the Scottish Episcopal Church Provincial Environment Group. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2p86nb8a>

**\*\* this week!**

**Mapping Out Glasgow's Faith Communities**

19 November 2023 (Glasgow, 1.30–4.00)

St Mungo Museum of Religious Life and Art family activity for Scottish Interfaith Week to plot some of Glasgow's places of worship on a big map and collage of the city and have a go at some arts and crafts. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/268vvvmc>

**PANEL Workshop: A Human Rights and Equalities First Approach in Practice**

20 November 2023 (online, 10.00–1.00)

THRE course for people who already know a bit about human rights and equalities and want to know how to apply them to their role and/or organisation. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/dn5dkdud>

**Why We Speak? An Interview with Second Generation Speaker Lu Lawrence**

24 November 2023 (online, 10.00–11.30)

Holocaust Educational Trust event for secondary schools. Lu Lawrence will speak about her late father, Holocaust survivor Zigi Shipper who spoke to hundreds of schools sharing the message "do not hate". For information see <https://tinyurl.com/bdd48buf>

**Meet Your Neighbour: Walking Together Visiting Places of Worship in Glasgow**

25 November 2023 (Glasgow, 2.00–6.00)

Scottish Interfaith Week event. Interfaith Scotland walking tour to visit neighbouring places of worship in the West End of Glasgow. At each place of worship we will be told a story before moving on, finishing at the Gurdwara in Berkeley Street to enjoy Langar (vegetarian meal) together. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/vfbf32cc>

**The Basics: A Human Rights and Equalities First Approach**

27 and 28 November 2023 (online, 2.00–4.00)

THRE 2-day course for people who are just starting out and want to learn the fundamentals or who know a bit about human rights and equalities and want to know more or are just curious about what a human rights and equalities first approach might be. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/bdhtkyd9>

**Marking 85 years the start of the Kindertransport**

1 December 2023 (online, 10.00–11.30)

Holocaust Educational Trust event for primary schools to mark 85 years since the arrival of the first Kindertransport in the UK. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/6e854fnx>

### **Exploring the Holocaust: UK-wide Residential Course**

9-13 February 2024 (Leicester)

#### **Application deadline 11 December 2023**

Holocaust Educational Trust course for teachers and trainees to advance knowledge and inform classroom practice about the context of the Holocaust, Wartime persecution and murder, and Reactions to the Holocaust. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/46u8fdx7>

### **Scottish Jewish Heritage Centre School's Holocaust Memorial Day Event 2024**

23 January 2024 (Glasgow, 10.00–1.30)

Scottish Jewish Heritage Centre event for secondary school pupils, providing an opportunity to hear people whose parents were survivors of the Holocaust, and who made a life in Scotland. For information see <https://sjhc.org.uk/news/hmd2024/>

### **Rights and Entitlements of EEA Nationals**

14 February 2024 (online, 10.00–12.30)

PAIH course to find out about fundamental issues of housing, homelessness and welfare entitlements of EEA nationals and look at how service users might prepare themselves for an economy in recession and cost of living spiralling. For information see <https://www.paih.org/what-we-do/migrants-rights-courses>

### **Rights of Refugees and Asylum Seekers**

15 February 2024 (online, 10.00–12.30)

PAIH course explore how the asylum system works from the perspective of a claimant and the process involved in making a claim for asylum. The course also explores the journeys and barriers faced by both refugees and asylum seekers reaching and building a new life in Scotland and their respective entitlement to services. For information see <https://www.paih.org/what-we-do/migrants-rights-courses>

### **No Recourse To Public Funds**

21 February 2024 (online, 10.00–12.30)

PAIH course to help frontline workers identify a tenant's current status, clarify what this means in terms of access to public funds and plan effective support where difficulties arise. For information see <https://www.paih.org/what-we-do/migrants-rights-courses>

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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>

**New Scots** <https://newscots.scot/>

**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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