



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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Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Motion

Kevin Stewart (SNP) [S6M-13132] UK Immigration Restrictions and Impact on Students and Graduates – That the Parliament notes with concern the UK Government's reported decision to commission the Migration Advisory Committee to undertake a "rapid" review of the Graduate route visa, which allows students to remain in the UK for two years after graduation, or three years if they complete a PhD; understands that the review, which was announced on 11 March 2024, is due to report back by 14 May, and that the committee itself has warned that the timescales will "substantially limit the quality and quantity of evidence"; is concerned that introducing further restrictions on international students may have a devastating effect on the number of international students choosing to study in Scotland, with numbers reportedly already dropping significantly due to recent UK

Government immigration restrictions, such as the reported decision to end Dependant visas for postgraduate students, and believes that the only way for Scotland to get away from what it sees as the damaging policies and rhetoric of the current UK administration, and protect what it considers to be Scotland's reputation as an attractive, first-class destination for international students, is by securing control over immigration policy with independence.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/votes-and-motions/S6M-13132>

UK Parliament Debates

Immigration (Leave to Enter and Remain) (Amendment) Order 2024

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2024-05-07/debates/0520A122-4491-4B8D-ABB5-C812CC5C70A4/Immigration\(LeaveToEnterAndRemain\)\(Amendment\)Order2024](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2024-05-07/debates/0520A122-4491-4B8D-ABB5-C812CC5C70A4/Immigration(LeaveToEnterAndRemain)(Amendment)Order2024)

Inadmissible Asylum Seekers

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2024-05-09/debates/72A35985-E21A-415A-A04D-511B91F0D40A/InadmissibleAsylumSeekers>

Illegal Immigration: Costs

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2024-05-07/debates/64997110-88BF-4157-8177-D9687A25841B/IllegalImmigrationCosts>

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

Rwanda: Asylum

Neil Coyle (Labour) [23879] To ask the Deputy Foreign Secretary, what recent discussions he has had with his international counterparts on the Government's policy on deporting migrants to Rwanda; and whether any international counterparts have raised concerns about that policy.

Reply from Andrew Mitchell: FCDO Ministers and officials engage regularly with other governments and international organisations on a range of issues, including illegal migration. The recent passing of the Safety of Rwanda Act is an important step forward in the UK's innovative efforts to tackle illegal migration. As such, the policy has received widespread international attention. A number of other countries are also exploring similar models of relocating migrants to safe third countries to process their asylum claims. As the UK courts have confirmed, this approach is compliant with the UK's obligations under international law.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-26/23879>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Asylum: Rwanda

Stephen Kinnock (Labour) [24250] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, with reference to the speech entitled Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's statement on the plan to stop the boats, published by the Prime Minister's office on 22 April 2024, what the evidential basis is for the statement that the judiciary have identified 150 judges who could provide over 5,000 sitting days to deal with challenges to the removal of asylum seekers from the UK under the provisions of the Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Act 2024.

Stephen Kinnock (Labour) [24251] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what recent

discussions he has had with the (a) Lady Chief Justice and (b) Senior President of Tribunals on the deployment of judges to deal with cases specifically related to the Safety of Rwanda (Asylum and Immigration) Act 2024.

Reply from Mike Freer: The Illegal Migration Act 2023 (IMA) provides for First-tier Tribunal judges to be deployed to sit in the Upper Tribunal to hear IMA appeals. As the Lord Chancellor set out in his Written Ministerial Statement of 16 January 2024: “The judiciary have identified relevant judges, which could provide over 5,000 additional sitting days. The decision on whether to deploy additional judges temporarily to the Upper Tribunal, including when they sit and the courtrooms they use, is for the independent judiciary and will be taken by the relevant leadership judges at the time and in the interests of justice”.

It is standard practice not to comment on discussions between Ministers and the judiciary. However, the Ministry of Justice is working closely with the judiciary in preparation for implementation of the Illegal Migration Act and I refer you to the Lord Chancellor’s Written Ministerial Statement of 16 January 2024, which addressed the topic

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-statements/detail/2024-01-16/hcws188>

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-30/24250>
and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-30/24251>

The speech referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/prime-minister-rishi-sunaks-statement-on-the-plan-to-stop-the-boats-22-april-2024>

Detention Centres

Diana Johnson (Labour) [24211] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 26 April 2024 to Question 23168 on Asylum: Rwanda, what detention capacity the Home Office had on 24 April (a) 2023, (b) 2024, (c) 2021 and (d) 2020.

Reply from Michael Tomlinson: On 24 April 2020 the capacity of the immigration detention estate was c2300 immigration removal centre (IRC) beds (if all rooms and beds were in use). As a result of operational changes including the closure of Morton Hall IRC, detention capacity reduced to c1700 IRC beds on 24 April 2021, rising to c2158 IRC beds on 24 April 2023 and c2200 IRC beds on 24 April 2024, with more coming online in the coming months.

Immigration detention capacity figures are not static and are subject to operational demands.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-30/24211>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-23/23168>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Asylum: Rwanda

Diana Johnson (Labour): [24418] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 26 April 2024 to Question 23168 on Asylum: Rwanda, how many immigration removal centres make up the detention capacity of around 2200 people; and if he will list those centres.

Diana Johnson (Labour): [24420] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many detention spaces are reserved for individuals seeking asylum who are designated for deportation to Rwanda.

Reply from Michael Tomlinson: The Home Office currently operates seven

immigration removal centres (IRCs) throughout the UK (six in England and one in Scotland); Harmondsworth and Colnbrook IRCs at Heathrow; Brook House and Tinsley House IRCs at Gatwick; Derwentside IRC in County Durham; Yarl's Wood IRC in Bedfordshire and Dungavel House IRC in South Lanarkshire, Scotland. As of 24 April, the Home Office has the capacity to detain around 2,200 people in IRCs, including those liable for removal to Rwanda.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-05-01/24418>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-05-01/24420>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-23/23168>

Asylum: Rwanda

Diana Johnson (Labour) [24421] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many individuals seeking asylum have been detained pending deportation to Rwanda.

Reply from Michael Tomlinson: To maintain the highest standards of accuracy, the Home Office prefers to refer to published data, as this has been subject to rigorous quality assurance under National Statistics protocols prior to publication. Information about those detained who are liable to be removed to Rwanda is not available in our published data

Published data on detentions and returns is available at the following link [Migration statistics](#).

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-05-01/24421>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Asylum: Rwanda

Rosena Allin-Khan (Labour) [24507] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much was spent on sending an asylum seeker to Rwanda on 30 April 2024.

Rosena Allin-Khan (Labour) [24508] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, on what grounds the asylum seeker sent to Rwanda on 30 April 2024 had claimed asylum.

Reply from Michael Tomlinson: Individuals who have no right to remain in the UK legally are being offered voluntary relocation to Rwanda under a new agreement with the Government of Rwanda. This will relocate individuals who have no right to work, rent or remain in the UK to relocate to Rwanda and allow them to build safe and prosperous lives there.

Individuals will receive £3,000 to support their relocation, paid to them on a card that can only be used in Rwanda.

This builds on our already widely used voluntary returns scheme, which saw more than 19,000 people return to their country-of-origin last year. We can also now facilitate relocation to Rwanda, providing an alternative for those whose country of origin is unsafe or those who would prefer not to return, but have no right to remain in the UK.

Under this Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Rwanda, individuals relocated voluntarily will have the same package of support for up to five years and access to integration programmes, so that they can study, undertake training, and work. Actual spend of the policy will be reported as part of the annual Home Office Reports and Accounts in the usual way.

It would not be appropriate to provide individual details of voluntary relocations that the Home Office has helped facilitate.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-05-01/24507>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-05-01/24508>

The Memorandum of Understanding referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/memorandum-of-understanding-mou-between-the-uk-and-rwanda>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers: Channel Migrants

The following two questions both received the same answer

Undocumented Migrants: English Channel

Diana Johnson (Labour) [24208] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many (a) women and (b) girls have arrived in the UK via small boats in each year since 2018.

Diana Johnson (Labour) [24209] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the level of risk to women and girls arriving in the UK via small boats of trafficking for sexual exploitation in 2024.

Reply from Michael Tomlinson: The Home Office publishes statistics on small boat arrivals to the UK in the '[Irregular migration to the UK statistics](#)' release. Data on small boat arrivals by year, sex and age group is published in table Irr_D01 of the '[Irregular migration to the UK detailed datasets](#)', with the latest data up to the end of December 2023.

Information on how to use the dataset can be found in the 'Notes' page of the workbook. Future irregular migration publication release dates can be found on the [research and statistics calendar](#).

No assessment has been made of the risk to woman and girls arriving in the UK via small boats to trafficking for sexual exploitation. However, all individuals arriving on small boats will be assessed on arrival, including assessments to identify vulnerability and safeguarding needs. Where there are indicators of modern slavery, the individual will be referred into the National Referral Mechanism (NRM). The NRM aims to lift victims out of situations of exploitation, provide them with a short period of intensive support and specialist care, and put them in a position where they can begin to rebuild their lives with increased resilience against future exploitation. In the last two years alone almost 30,000 people have had access to the protections of the NRM.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-30/24208>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-30/24209>

Undocumented Migrants: English Channel

Diana Johnson (Labour) [24625] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of (a) women and (b) men who have arrived in the UK by small boat in 2024 are receiving accommodation support.

Reply from Michael Tomlinson: Data on the number of supported asylum seekers in accommodation (including in contingency hotels and other contingency accommodation) is published in table Asy_D11 here: [Asylum and resettlement datasets](#). Data is published on a quarterly basis.

The Home Office does not publish a breakdown of statistics which disaggregates by method of arrival.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-05-02/24625>

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

British Nationality: Assessments

Duncan Baker (Conservative) [23961] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Knowledge of English Language requirement for citizenship, whether retesting is required after citizenship has been granted.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: With reference to the Knowledge of English Language requirement for citizenship, retesting is not required after citizenship has been granted.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-26/23961>

Windrush Compensation Scheme

Imran Hussain (Labour) [24487] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people received (a) less than £10,000, (b) £10,000-£20,000, (c) £20,000-£50,000, (d) £50,000-£100,000 and (e) more than £100,000 in each quarter since the Windrush Compensation scheme was launched.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: Information on the breakdown of full and final offers and payments made to Windrush Compensation Scheme claimants is published as part of the monthly Windrush Schemes Factsheet. The latest set of data on the schemes, which covers the period to the end of March 2024, is available here: [Windrush Compensation Schemes Factsheet](#).

The Windrush Compensation Scheme does not publish compensation award data in the payment or date range requested.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-05-01/24487>

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

Migrants: Children

Beth Winter (Labour) [24333] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment his Department has made of the impact of no recourse to public funds on (a) children from black and ethnic minority backgrounds and (b) children with British citizenship who have parents that were born outside the UK.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: The Home Office is committed to the continuous review of the NRPF policy and officials are working with a wide range of stakeholders, including other government departments, the devolved administrations, and third sector organisations to develop a greater understanding of how children are directly and indirectly affected by parents / carers being subject to an NRPF condition.

The Government published an overarching Equality Impact Assessment on the Compliant Environment measures, of which the No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) is part. The impact of the policy on children has been considered as part of this assessment: [Compliant environment: overarching equality impact assessment](#).

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-30/24333>

The following three questions all received the same answer

Immigration: Databases

John Hayes (Conservative) [24183] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have been affected by merged identities in the Person Centric Data Platform.

John Hayes (Conservative) [24184] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps he has taken to mitigate potential delays in visa application

processing for people affected by merged identities.

John Hayes (Conservative) [24185] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have been affected by merged identities created in the Identity Document Linking change.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: The Person Centric Data Platform (PCDP) holds millions of identities that have been submitted, or otherwise provided, in support of immigration applications.

The 'merged identities' issue affects around 0.02% of PCDP customer records; over 99.98% of records are not impacted by this issue. We have identified around 46,000 records with an identity issue, of which over 13,000 have already been resolved and we have a dedicated team working on the remainder.

The Home Office takes data security and accuracy very seriously. We continue proactive analysis to identify potentially erroneous records so that appropriate remedial work can be undertaken as quickly, and as carefully, as possible, and ideally before the individual is even aware.

Where customers identify an issue with their data, we encourage them to contact the UK Visas and Immigration Contact Centre so this can be investigated and resolved.

As part of the Identity Document Linking change, we pro-actively highlighted a small number of records which were sent for manual resolution through our existing processes. We expect that most of these records would have been corrected before the person themselves would become aware.

We do not hold information on how many people have contacted the Home Office due to a merged identity issue which is directly related to the document linking change.

We are not aware of any significant delays to visa application processing as a result of this issue. UKVI also have a triage process in place so that where there may be an outstanding application, cases can be escalated for immediate resolution.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-30/24183>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-30/24184>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-30/24185>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Visas: Gaza

Liz Saville Roberts (Plaid Cymru) [24270] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 12 December 2023 to Question 5799 on Visas: Gaza, if he will make an updated assessment of the potential merits of establishing a family reunification visa scheme for people in Gaza.

Liz Saville Roberts (Plaid Cymru) [24271] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent assessment he has made of the adequacy of routes available to people in Gaza to join families in the UK.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: We keep all existing pathways in response to events under review. Our position remains that at present, there are no plans to create a new visa scheme for family members of British citizens and settled migrants affected by the security situation and the Home Office is not currently considering establishing a separate route for Palestinians to come to the UK.

Since my response of 12 December for Gaza, we have extended eligibility for consular assistance. Under our extended eligibility policy, we are assisting UK visa holders to leave Gaza if they have an immediate family member currently living in the UK and hold valid permission to enter or remain in the UK for longer than six months. Immediate family members of British citizens, and those settled in the UK,

who wish to come and live in the UK, and do not have a current UK visa, can apply under one of the existing Family visa routes.

UKVI is working closely with the FCDO in supporting family members of British nationals to exit from Gaza who require a visa, signposting the necessary steps and expediting appointments at the Visa Application Centre.

Any application for a UK visa will be assessed against the requirements of the Immigration Rules and our suitability requirements. Consideration will be given to compelling, compassionate and exceptional circumstances raised and may be taken into account where certain requirements are not met.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-30/24270>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-30/24271>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-12-07/5799>

Visas: Palestinians

Catherine West (Labour) [24090] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether it is his policy to create a UK visa scheme for Palestinian (a) families displaced in Gaza and (b) orphans from Gaza.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: The Home Office is not currently considering establishing a separate route for Palestinians to come to the UK. In any humanitarian situation, the UK must consider its response in the round. Palestinians who wish to join family members in the UK must do so via the existing range of routes available.

Immediate family members of British citizens, and those settled in the UK, who wish to come and live in the UK and do not have a current UK visa can apply under one of the existing family visa routes. UKVI is working closely with the FCDO in supporting family members of British nationals to exit from Gaza who require a visa, signposting the necessary steps and expediting appointments at the Visa Application Centre.

Any application for a UK visa will be assessed against the requirements of the Immigration Rules and our suitability requirements. Consideration will be given to compelling, compassionate and exceptional circumstances raised and may be taken into account where certain requirements are not met.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-29/24090>

Undocumented Migrants

Andrew Jenkyns (Conservative) [24496] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent assessment he has made of the impact of illegal immigration on (a) society and (b) the economy.

Reply from Michael Tomlinson: Illegal immigration reduces our capability and capacity to help those who most need our support. It puts lives in danger by placing vulnerable people into the hands of smugglers. It also puts intolerable pressure on public services and local communities and corrodes public confidence in the system.

An example of the impact of illegal migration is that the asylum system is now costing the British taxpayer over £4 billion a year.

Our landmark Rwanda deal was a recognition of these facts, and we will continue to work to deliver it to break the business model of the smuggling gangs and deter those coming to the UK illegally.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-05-01/24496>

Undocumented Migrants: Employment

Stephen Farry (Alliance) [21354] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many people have been convicted of illegal working since the introduction of that offence.

Reply from Gareth Bacon: The Ministry of Justice holds data on convictions for illegal working covering the period requested and this can be viewed in the [Outcomes by Offence tool: June 2023](#).

The offence 'illegal working' can be found using the following HO code; 19464. This can be accessed by navigating to the 'Prosecutions and convictions' tab and using the *HO Offence Code* filter to select the above offence in the Outcomes by Offence data tool.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-12/21354>

The following five questions all received the same answer

Asylum: Hotels

Kirsty Blackman (SNP) [23870] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will make an estimate of the cost to the public purse of transporting asylum seekers in taxis between (a) contingency and (b) bridging hotels in each of the last 12 months.

Asylum: Scotland

Kirsty Blackman (SNP) [23871] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will make an estimate of the number of taxis that have taken asylum seekers between (a) contingency and (b) bridging hotel accommodation from (i) Glasgow to (ii) Aberdeen in each of the last 12 months.

Kirsty Blackman (SNP) [23872] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will make an estimate of the number of taxis that have taken asylum seekers between (a) contingency and (b) bridging hotel accommodation from (i) Aberdeen to (ii) Glasgow in each of the last 12 months.

Kirsty Blackman (SNP) [23877] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will make an estimate of the cost to the public purse of transporting asylum seekers in taxis to (a) contingency and (b) bridging hotels from (i) Glasgow to (ii) Aberdeen in each of the last 12 months.

Kirsty Blackman (SNP) [23878] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will make an estimate of the cost to the public purse of transporting asylum seekers in taxis to (a) contingency and (b) bridging hotels from (i) Aberdeen to (ii) Glasgow in each of the last 12 months.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: Bridging hotel accommodation was previously used to temporarily house Afghans resettling in the UK and has not been used to accommodate asylum seekers. As of 31 August 2023, we have successfully ended the use of bridging hotels for legally resettled Afghans.

Costs are considered to be commercially confidential, therefore the Home Office does not publish this information. The total expenditure on asylum is published in the Home Office Annual Report and Accounts, available at HO annual reports and accounts - GOV.UK.

The AASC Requirements below gives a detailed breakdown of all of the services to be undertaken by our accommodation providers and to the standards we expect. Full details of our polices:

[http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2018-1112/AASC -
Schedule 2 - Statement of Requirements.pdf](http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2018-1112/AASC_-_Schedule_2_-_Statement_of_Requirements.pdf)

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-26/23870>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-26/23871>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-26/23872>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-26/23877>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-26/23878>

The following four questions all received the same answer

Asylum: Aberdeen

Kirsty Blackman (SNP) [23873] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will make an estimate of the number of asylum seekers that have been transferred from (a) contingency and (b) bridging hotel accommodation in Aberdeen to similar accommodation in England in each of the last 12 months.

Kirsty Blackman (SNP) [23874] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will make an estimate of the number of asylum seekers that have been transferred from (a) contingency and (b) bridging hotel accommodation in England to similar accommodation in Aberdeen in each of the last 12 months.

Kirsty Blackman (SNP) [23875] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many and what proportion of offers for dispersal accommodation for asylum seekers in Aberdeen have been made to asylum seekers staying in (a) contingency and (b) bridging hotel accommodation in Scotland in each of the last 12 months.

Kirsty Blackman (SNP) [23876] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many vacant places there are in asylum seeker (a) contingency and (b) bridging hotels in Aberdeen.

Reply from Tom Pursglove; Bridging hotel accommodation was previously used to temporarily house Afghans resettling in the UK and has not been used to accommodate asylum seekers. As of 31 August 2023, we have successfully ended the use of bridging hotels for legally resettled Afghans.

Asylum accommodation is offered on a no choice basis. Asylum seekers receiving asylum support may be accommodated in any area of the UK where the Home Office has a supply of accommodation available and ready to use.

Data on the number of supported asylum seekers in accommodation (including in contingency hotels and other contingency accommodation) is published in table Asy_D11 here: [Asylum and resettlement datasets](#). Data is published on a quarterly basis.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-26/23873>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-26/23874>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-26/23875>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-26/23876>

Asylum: Children

Alex Cunningham (Labour) [24035] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether his Department has made an assessment of the potential merits of introducing time limits on asylum cases for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: The Home Office takes our duty of care towards children and young people extremely seriously and we prioritise applications from children and young people.

The Home Office does not currently have a target time for processing applications for asylum, but is committed to ensuring claims are considered without unnecessary delay. We have already made progress in prioritising claims with acute vulnerability and those in receipt of the greatest level of support, including Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children.

Introducing a service standard for asylum claims is a complex consideration which

needs to be balanced between the requirements of operational efficiency, the needs of service users and the integrity of asylum control measures, including the implementation of the Illegal Migration Act. A project to review these considerations, along with scope and potential implementation timescales, will be undertaken. Once the project is completed, a final decision will be taken on any potential asylum claim service standards.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-29/24035>

Asylum: Hotels

Catherine West (Labour) [24273] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many hotels that were previously used to provide accommodation for asylum seekers and subsequently closed by his Department have subsequently been reopened for that purpose.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: The Home Office has been clear that the use of hotels is a temporary and necessary measure to ensure we meet our statutory obligation to accommodate destitute asylum seekers.

Since October 2023, none of the 150 hotels that have ceased to be used for accommodating asylum seekers have been re-contracted or re-used by the Home Office for this purpose.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-30/24273>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Homelessness: Refugees

The Lord Bishop of Southwark [HL4118] To ask His Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the recent Refugee Council report *Keys to the City 2024: ending refugee homelessness in London* and its finding that in the two years to September 2023, there was a 239 per cent increase in refugees requiring homelessness support from local authorities after being evicted from Home Office asylum accommodation.

Reply from Lord Sharpe of Epsom: We recognise the number of individuals moving on from the asylum support system is placing pressure on local authorities. The Home Office and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities are working closely on this and have been regularly engaging with local authorities to ensure they are supported. There are a number of improvements in train to ensure local authorities receive early notification of those leaving Home Office asylum accommodation to enable effective planning.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-25/hl4118>

The report referred to above can be read at

<https://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Keys-to-the-City-2024-Ending-refugee-homelessness-in-London.pdf>

Press Release

Home Secretary delivering on promises to tackle immigration

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-delivering-on-promises-to-tackle-immigration>

New Publications

Independent Thematic Review of the Impartiality of BBC Content on Migration

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/aboutthebbc/documents/thematic-review-migration.pdf>

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>

News: Rwanda Refugee Policy

Rwanda flights set to take off in six weeks

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/keir-starmer-would-scrap-rwanda-flights-scheme-straight-away-685k73jl8>

Home Office faces legal challenge over risk of lone children being sent to Rwanda

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/article/2024/may/12/home-office-legal-challenge-lone-children-rwanda>

Rwanda won't guarantee how many migrants it will take from UK

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-68961058>

Rwanda 'cannot guarantee how many migrants it will take' from UK

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/rwanda-cannot-guarantee-migrants-uk-8qwffj253>

Rising protests among UK asylum seekers held for deportation to Rwanda

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/article/2024/may/09/protests-hunger-strikes-rise-detainees-deportations-gatwick-heathrow-uk-to-rwanda>

Keir Starmer vows to scrap Rwanda asylum scheme 'straight away'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-68984778>

Labour government would halt Rwanda deportations from day one, Starmer says

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/article/2024/may/10/labour-government-would-stop-rwanda-deportation-flights-starmer-says>

Only a quarter think Rwanda scheme will work

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/05/11/only-a-quarter-of-voters-think-rwanda-scheme-will-work/>

The Rwanda scheme is a gamble – we must tackle the boats like terrorism

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/05/09/rwanda-scheme-is-a-gamble-must-tackle-boats-like-terrorism/>

Solidarity with those affected by Rwanda Act

<https://scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/rwanda-news-asylum-uk-scotland-raids/>

News: Ukraine

'We're not allowed to bring our baby from Ukraine': Refugees refused after sudden UK rule change

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/homes-for-ukraine-scheme-refugees-sunak-changes-b2538499.html>

News: Other Immigration and Asylum

ECHR will not stop us tackling illegal migration, says Justice Secretary

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/05/09/echr-wont-stop-us-tackling-illegal-migration-says-justice/>

Unknown whether thousands of missing migrants could pose threat – Cleverly

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/rwanda-james-cleverly-people-home-office-home-secretary-b2543203.html>

Robert Jenrick says migrants can't integrate unless numbers fall

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/call-to-curb-migration-by-splitting-up-incapable-home-office-n3nhkzcsn>

BBC migration coverage: Review finds no consistent bias but risks to impartiality

<https://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-68970447>

BBC reporters 'fear being called racist or woke' on migration

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/bbc-journalists-fear-being-called-racist-in-migration-reports-0wqx8p27n>

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Community Relations

New Publication

Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month Resources

<https://www.gypsy-traveller.org/grthm/>

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Equality

News

Lack of diversity and equality in business is costing the economy

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/lack-of-diversity-and-equality-in-business-is-costing-the-economy-626h6n66t>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Written Answer

UK State Report: UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
Jackie Baillie (Labour) [S6W-27101] To ask the Scottish Government how it engaged with (a) black and minority ethnic people in Scotland, (b) race equality groups and (c) National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) in the drafting of Scotland's input to the 2023 UK state report to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Reply from Emma Roddick: We routinely engage with a range of stakeholders in our work across Scottish Government, including work to implement the recommendations and observations of the Committee.

The UK's State Report covers the measures that have been adopted, by Government, relating to the rights described in the Convention, and on the progress made in upholding them. Scottish Government did not engage with these groups for the specific purpose of providing our updates to the UK Government for inclusion in their State Report, due to the nature of the reporting process.

Scotland is determined to play our part in eradicating racism, inequality and injustice – and in building a better, fairer world. Specifically, the Race Equality Framework demonstrates our commitment to eliminating racism – our Vision for a fairer Scotland is that by 2030 Scotland is a place where people are healthier, happier and treated with respect, and where opportunities, wealth and power are spread more equally.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-27101>

The UK State Report 2023, referred to above, can be read at <https://tinyurl.com/cn3j58hp>

New Publications

Letter from the Crown Prosecution Service to the Justice Select Committee on prosecuting hate crime and offences that occur during protests:

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/cps/news/letter-justice-select-committee-prosecuting-hate-crime-and-offences-occur-during-protests>

Antisemitism Worldwide Report for 2023

https://cst.tau.ac.il/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/AntisemitismWorldwide_2023_Final.pdf

News

Alcohol Hate Stats Spark Charity Campaign

<https://www.nilbymouth.org/post/alcohol-hate-stats-spark-charity-campaign>

Institutional racism is a stain on our police force – we can't ignore it any longer

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/editorials/britain-institutional-racism-discrimination-met-police-b2539982.html>

Students accused of peddling 'dangerous' idea that Jews 'don't count'

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2024/05/11/students-accused-dangerous-idea-jews-dont-count/>

British universities ‘could become unsafe for Jewish students’

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/05/09/uk-universities-could-unsafe-jewish-students-gillian-keegan/>

Universities must take action to ensure Jewish not harassed during Gaza protests, No 10 says

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/university-protests-jewish-antisemitism-gaza-israel-b2540916.html>

Rishi Sunak: Hateful antisemitism has no place in universities

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/rishi-sunak-hateful-antisemitism-no-place-universities-w7dwz06xv>

Universities face sanctions if they fail to stop ‘campus antisemitism’

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/university-leaders-summoned-to-no-10-to-address-pro-palestinian-protests-7mzwxwr5q>

Righteous fury over Gaza must allow empathy for fearful Jewish students

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/article/2024/may/12/gaza-campus-sit-ins-fearful-jewish-students>

Hostile glares, eye rolls — what it’s like to be a Jewish student now

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/first-person-hostile-glares-eye-rolls-what-its-like-to-be-a-jewish-student-35lfgt2c0>

Antisemitism on Britain’s campuses: ‘I have a sickening feeling in my stomach because I never truly feel safe’

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/palastine-protest-israel-british-universities-antisemitism-b2542064.html>

Anti-Jewish incidents soared after October 7 attack, says study

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/anti-jewish-incidents-soared-after-october-7-attack-says-study-72z388zw9>

The racism I experience as a doctor puts the NHS to shame

<https://www.independentco.uk/voices/nhs-discrimination-doctors-bame-asian-racism-b2543662.html>

HMD 2025 Theme: For a Better Future

<https://www.hmd.org.uk/what-is-holocaust-memorial-day/this-years-theme/>

80 Candles for 80 Years

<https://www.hmd.org.uk/80-candles-for-80-years/>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Personal Statement

Personal Statement: Humza Yousaf

https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/official-report/search-what-was-said-in-parliament/meeting-of-parliament-07-05-2024?meeting=15840&iob=135233#orscontributions_M4941E408P744C2583887

Nomination of the First Minister

Nomination of John Swinney as First Minister of Scotland

https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/official-report/search-what-was-said-in-parliament/meeting-of-parliament-07-05-2024?meeting=15840&iob=135234#orscontributions_M4934E351P846C2583889

Scottish Parliament Written Answer

Police Scotland: Investigation of Crime

Jamie Greene (Conservative) [S6W-26498] To ask the Scottish Government, in light of Police Scotland's decision not to investigate every crime, what its response is to reported comments by Police Scotland that criminals could be handed a "tactical advantage" if police guidance on what crimes will no longer be investigated by officers is published.

Reply from Angela Constance: Every call received by Police Scotland is individually assessed using the THRIVE model – Threat, Harm, Risk, Investigative opportunity, Vulnerability and Engagement. Every crime report is different and it is simply not the case that certain specific crimes will no longer be investigated as part of the Proportionate Response to Crime pilot in the North East.

As part of their evaluation of the pilot that was undertaken in the North East, Police Scotland published a number of real life examples that highlighted the diversity in the range of calls received and how they were assessed and responded to. I would particularly draw the member's attention to the examples where, while the crime appeared to be relatively minor, there were investigative opportunities, meaning that the incident was passed to local policing.

It is important to remember that the pilot's evaluation shows that only 5% of crime reports were recorded and filed for no further enquiry. The evaluation states that this freed up 2,657 police officer hours which were therefore used to investigate crimes where there are lines of inquiry.

On the basis that Police Scotland are clearly not going to disclose details of their operational tactics, I am fully supportive of their approach.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-26498>

Press Releases

Humza Yousaf steps down as First Minister

<https://www.gov.scot/news/humza-yousaf-steps-down-as-first-minister/>

New First Minister nominated

<https://www.gov.scot/news/new-first-minister-nominated/>

John Swinney MSP accepts nomination as First Minister of Scotland

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/john-swinney-msp-accepts-nomination-first-minister-scotland/>

Deputy First Minister stands down

<https://www.gov.scot/news/deputy-first-minister-stands-down/>

New Deputy First Minister appointed

<https://www.gov.scot/news/new-deputy-first-minister-appointed/>

New Scottish Cabinet

<https://www.gov.scot/news/new-scottish-cabinet-1/>

New Publications

A new First Minister and a new Scottish Government

<https://spice-spotlight.scot/2024/05/08/a-new-first-minister-and-a-new-scottish-government/>

The path to a new First Minister

<https://spice-spotlight.scot/2024/05/07/the-path-to-a-new-first-minister/>

News

At-a-glance: The new Scottish cabinet

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cx7dx43x7gno>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

K Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Sham Marriage

John Hayes (Conservative) [24180] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps he is taking to stop sham marriages and civil partnerships.

Reply from Michael Tomlinson: The Government takes abuse of the spouse and partner immigration routes very seriously and is clear that family migration must be based on a genuine and subsisting marriage or relationship.

The Home Office focuses its efforts on disrupting facilitators as well as prosecuting individuals involved in sham marriages and civil partnerships and will consider refusal or cancellation of permission to stay, or removal, following any determination that a relationship is a sham.

The marriage referral and investigation scheme, introduced across the UK under the Immigration Act 2014, requires that all proposed marriages and civil partnerships where one or both parties could gain an immigration advantage from it are referred to the Home Office. Under this scheme, where we have reasonable grounds to suspect a sham relationship, the marriage notice period will be extended to allow for further investigation, and for enforcement or casework action to be taken

where appropriate.

Part 9 of the Immigration Rules provides specific grounds for the refusal or cancellation of permission to enter or stay on the basis of any involvement in a sham marriage or sham civil partnership, providing a more robust and consistent framework against which immigration applications are assessed, and reflecting the seriousness of this type of abuse.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-30/24180>

Sham Marriage

John Hayes (Conservative) [24181] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate he has made of the number of applications to stay in the UK that are made on the basis of a sham marriage or civil partnership.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: The number of applications to stay in the UK that are made on the basis of a sham marriage or civil partnership does not form part of any current transparency data or migration statistics and is not published. The transparency data does, however, include a range of processing data and the latest data can be found at:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data#uk-visas-and-immigration

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-30/24181>

Sham Marriage: Prosecutions

John Hayes (Conservative) [24182] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have been prosecuted in relation to sham marriages or civil partnerships that have taken place for the purpose of remaining in the UK since 2019.

Reply from Michael Tomlinson: Between 14 November 2018 to 1 May 2024, 11 individuals who have entered into sham marriages or civil partnerships, or facilitated those arrangements, have been convicted by Home Office Criminal and Financial Investigation teams.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2024-04-30/24182>

Press Release

Planned Roma Holocaust memorial in Newcastle: Lord Pickles' statement

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/planned-roma-holocaust-memorial-in-newcastle-lord-pickles-statement>

New Publication

Forced Marriage Unit statistics 2023

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/forced-marriage-unit-statistics-2023/forced-marriage-unit-statistics-2023>

News

'Extreme' protest groups face ban under proposal

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c2qv7425gvwo>

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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

UK exits recession with fastest growth in two years

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-68983741>

UK economy is improving but people may not notice

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-68989270>

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Other New Publication

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator: Sector Overview Report, Quarter 4, 2023

<https://www.oscr.org.uk/media/4763/2023-4-sector-overview-report.pdf>

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Other News

PVG fee proposal for volunteers seen as a potential ‘tax on volunteering’

<https://www.volunteerscotland.net/news/policy-blog/pvg-fee-proposal-for-volunteers-seen-as-a-potential-tax-on-volunteering>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill

<https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/bills/assisted-dying-for-terminally-ill-adults-scotland-bill>

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

Asylum Application (Entry to the United Kingdom) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3530>

Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3627>

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

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

Family Visas (Minimum Income) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3684>

Housing Standards (Refugees and Asylum Seekers) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3618/stages>

Illegal Immigration (Offences) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3649>

Immigration and Nationality Fees (Exemption for NHS Clinical Staff) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3660>

Scottish Law Officers (Devolution) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3665>

Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Draft Bill

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

Workforce Information (Ethnicity) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3522>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Charity banking challenges survey 2024 (closing date 15 May 2024)

<https://www.oscr.org.uk/news/have-your-say-charity-banking-challenges-survey-2024/>

Disclosure Scotland fees: discounting, waivers and accredited bodies

(closing date 28 May 2024)

<https://consult.gov.scot/disclosure-scotland/fees-discounting-waivers-and-accredited-bodies/>

Review of Charity Regulation (closing date 22 July 2024)

<https://consult.gov.scot/third-sector/review-of-charity-regulation/>

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

Faithful Welcome

Application deadline not stated

Faith in Community Scotland, and Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees funding of up to £500 to support Scotland's faith communities to welcome refugees and asylum seekers and enable them to be an integral part of community life, wherever they are coming from and whatever the reason. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/bdd5kr6n>

Cost-of-Living Support Scotland

Closing date: 21 August 2024

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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**** this week!**

Rights of Refugees and Asylum Seekers

13 May 2024 (Glasgow, 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>

**** this week!**

Introduction to working with interpreters

14 May 2024 (online, 9.30–1.00)

31 July 2024 (online, 9.30–1.00)

Scottish Refugee Council course to enable you to understand the roles and responsibilities of interpreters and service providers, understand the rights of the client – confidentiality, professional boundaries, advocacy and advice, know what to consider when planning for an interpreted session, and feel confident to manage the interpreting dynamic as a service provider. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/mrxbdyc5>

**** this week!**

Rights and Entitlements of EEA Nationals

15 May 2024 (Glasgow, 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>

No Recourse To Public Funds

22 May 2024 (Glasgow (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>

Introduction to refugees: asylum and resettlement

18 July 2024 (online, 9.30–1.00)

Scottish Refugee Council course to help you understand relevant legal definitions and processes including the UK asylum process, learn about the rights and entitlements of asylum seekers and refugees, and identify sources of support that empower people to live fully integrated lives. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/sbmevc64>

Introduction to supporting refugee integration

10 September 2024 (online, 9.30–1.00)

Scottish Refugee Council course to help you understand the key principles of a rights-based refugee-led approach to integration, the underpinning principles of the Scottish integration framework and effective integration planning. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2p9p9jdx>

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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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