



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 and [click here](#) to be added to the mailing list.

**The deadline to register to vote in the General Election is
Tuesday 18 June.**

[Click here to register.](#)

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Written Answer

Migrant Workers: Rights and Protections

Paul Sweeney (Labour) [S6W-27834] To ask the Scottish Government what specific consideration it has given to rights and protections for migrant workers as part of efforts to make Scotland "a leading Fair Work Nation by 2025".

Reply from Kaukab Stewart: Migrant workers are essential contributors to our communities, public services, and vitally help address skills shortages.

Scotland's Fair Work Action Plan sets out actions to become a leading Fair Work Nation by 2025.

The Scottish Government have funded the Worker Support Centre since 2022 to provide free and confidential support to seasonal migrant workers so that more of them understand their workplace rights and how to exercise them. RSABI (founded as the Royal Scottish Agricultural Benevolent Institution) provides practical, emotional, and financial support to all people involved in the Scottish agricultural industry.

Control over employment and industrial relations legislation is currently reserved to the UK Parliament; while this remains the case, we will continue to use our Fair Work policy to drive up labour market standards for workers across the Scottish labour market.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-27834>

The Action Plan referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/fair-work-action-plan-becoming-leading-fair-work-nation-2025/>

Press Release

UK: Migrant workers must be protected from deception and exploitation say UN experts

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/06/uk-migrant-workers-must-be-protected-deception-and-exploitation-say-un>

New Publications

Visa holders living in the UK under the Ukraine Humanitarian Schemes, follow-up survey: 15 April to 22 April 2024

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/visaholdersenteringtheukundertheukrainehumanitarianschemesfollowupsurvey15aprilto22april2024>

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>

News: Rwanda Refugee Policy

Whitehall union challenges Rwanda law

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cv22k74m4y7o>

Refugees sent to Rwanda from remote UK island speak to BBC

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c511kkwej7jo>

Sudanese asylum seeker to make first legal challenge against Rwanda deportation in fresh blow to Rishi Sunak

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2024/06/05/sudanese-asylum-seeker-legal-challenge-high-court-rwanda/>

News: Channel Migrants

Migrant Channel crossings top 11,000 for year so far

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-office-stephen-kinnock-government-prime-minister-channel-b2558563.html>

Home Office confirms more than 40,000 crossed Channel after Sunak pledged to 'stop the boats'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/small-boats-asylum-seekers-sunak-election-b2557101.html>

Around 80 migrants including children rescued from Channel

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c9881g482n8o>

Baby among 84 migrants rescued after boat capsizes in Channel

<https://www.thetimes.com/uk/politics/article/migrants-english-channel-rescue-boat-baby-vh2280mq8>

News: Other Immigration and Asylum

Home Office faces new Windrush scandal after immigrants unlawfully denied proof of status

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2024/06/07/james-cleverly-immigration-high-court-windrush-proof-status/>

High court rules Home Office acted unlawfully over visa documents

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/article/2024/jun/08/high-court-rules-home-office-acted-unlawfully-immigration-documents>

Suicide attempts and self-harm: Life inside flagship asylum seeker site Wethersfield

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/asylum-seekers-wethersfield-government-b2554651.html>

Non-binary Saudi influencer denied asylum in UK because officials 'don't believe they are really LGBT+'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/saudi-arabia-lgbt-rights-asylum-b2556832.html>

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Community Relations

Scottish Parliament Motion

Maggie Chapman (Green) [S6M-13483] Gypsy Roma and Traveller History Month 2024 – That the Parliament recognises June 2024 as Gypsy Roma and Traveller History Month (GRTHM), an annual observance that began in 2008, which aims to celebrate the communities, histories and cultures of nomadic communities, including Romany Gypsy, Irish Traveller and Roma groups in Scotland and across the UK; believes that, in addition to celebration, GRTHM presents an opportunity to educate and raise awareness of the barriers and issues affecting traditionally nomadic communities; notes that the theme for

2024 is "What does family mean to you?", which, it understands, explores the different shapes and forms that "family" can take, the relationships that people have with each other and the importance of family as a support network; highlights the work undertaken by the UK-wide organisation Friends, Families and Travellers (FFT), which, it understands, is currently drafting a Gypsy and Traveller Election Manifesto; notes the FFT's call for submissions from individuals with Romany, Irish Traveller, Roma, New Traveller, Boater or Showman backgrounds to ensure that the manifesto reflects the needs of the collective community, and wishes all involved every success in promoting inclusivity and acceptance both in 2024 and in the future.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/votes-and-motions/S6M-13483>

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Equality

New Publications

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA): Fundamental Rights Report 2024

https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2024-fundamental-rights-report-2024_en.pdf

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA): Opinions: Fundamental Rights Report 2024

https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2024-fundamental-rights-report-2024-opinions_en.pdf

TOP

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Oral Answers

Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 (Implementation)

Tess White (Conservative): [S6O-03531] To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the implementation of the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 since it came into force on 1 April 2024.

Reply from the Minister for Victims and Community Safety (Siobhian Brown):

The Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 sends a strong message to victims, perpetrators and communities that offences that are motivated by prejudice will not be tolerated. The act consolidates, maintains and extends protections that are aggravated by prejudice, as well as including stirring up of hatred offences for all characteristics covered in the hate crime legislative framework.

The offence of stirring up racial hatred has been in Scots law since 1986. We have worked closely with Police Scotland and other justice partners to ensure the 2021 act's effective implementation, and we will continue to do so.

Tess White: I have been liaising with Police Scotland about engagement with women's groups on the implications of the hate crime act for their lawful meetings. Disappointingly, Police Scotland has indicated to me that it will not participate in that vital engagement while it is in the process of developing longer-term policies around the 2021 act.

Does the minister or the cabinet secretary agree that input from women's groups should

influence the process and should not occur after it has concluded? Will the minister and the cabinet secretary make representations to Police Scotland to ensure that women's voices are heard?

Reply from Siobhian Brown: Yes, I agree. We have been told that Police Scotland will consult internally and externally.

Emma Roddick (SNP): Police Scotland data shows us that the volume of reports has consistently reduced week on week. Does the cabinet secretary believe that the early high numbers of reports were due to widespread misinformation about the 2021 act, including, unfortunately, from members in the chamber?

Reply from Siobhian Brown: Recent Police Scotland data shows that the volume of reports at week 7 has reduced by more than 99 per cent from the first week of the act's commencement. The fact that we have seen so many reports since implementation reinforces the importance of the hate crime act.

Although the commentary surrounding the act during its implementation included misrepresentation, it is important to remember that the act was passed by 82 members of the Parliament. People and communities who are at the sharp end of hatred in their daily lives, simply for being who they are, should rightly look to this Parliament to stand with them, which the Scottish Government will continue to do.

https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/official-report/search-what-was-said-in-parliament/meeting-of-parliament-05-06-2024?meeting=15912&iob=135796#orscontributions_M16183E409P745C2596464

Non-crime Hate Incidents (Recording)

Murdo Fraser (Conservative) [S6O-03528] To ask the Scottish Government what discussions it has had with Police Scotland in relation to its guidance on recording non-crime hate incidents.

Reply from the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs (Angela Constance): On 9 May 2024, Police Scotland published its interim guidance on responding to hate crime, which includes information on the recording and handling of non-crime hate incidents. Although the recording of non-crime hate incidents and the development of guidance are operational matters for Police Scotland, the chief constable and I discussed the matter when we met on 30 April.

Murdo Fraser: I am aware that, following concerns that I and others raised about the lawfulness of Police Scotland's policy on recording non-crime hate incidents, it has now changed its policy to bring it into line with the Miller judgment. Police Scotland appears to have done so from 1 April, but it took it another five weeks to update its policy and tell anyone that it was changing. Only then was its website updated. Although that change is welcome, what will happen to all the non-crime hate incidents that were recorded under the old policy, which Police Scotland has tacitly accepted was unlawful?

Reply from Angela Constance: I reassure Mr Fraser that I have discussed the matter not only with the chief constable; I have also taken the opportunity to discuss it at length with Martyn Evans, the chair of the Scottish Police Authority board, because the SPA has a crucial role in scrutinising Police Scotland operational matters.

Obviously, I take very seriously concerns that are expressed in the chamber. I do not think that Police Scotland would have the same interpretation of what is lawful or unlawful as Mr Fraser has articulated but, given that the detail of the policy is firmly located in an operational space, I will ask the chief constable or the chair of the SPA to reply directly to Mr Fraser on that point.

https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/official-report/search-what-was-said-in-parliament/meeting-of-parliament-05-06-2024?meeting=15912&iob=135796#orscontributions_M1735E440P776C2596448

The interim guidance referred to above can be read at
<https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/fthlal1q/interim-guidance-responding-to-hate.docx>

Scottish Parliament Written Answers

Hate Crime: Lothian

Miles Briggs (Conservative) [S6W-27806] To ask the Scottish Government what proportion of hate crime charges or hate crime aggravations have been recorded in Lothian region, to date, under the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021.

Reply from Ruth Charteris: Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) uses a live, operational database to manage the processing of reports submitted to Procurators Fiscal by the police and other reporting agencies throughout Scotland. It is designed to meet business needs in the processing of criminal cases, rather than for statistical purposes and the information within it is structured accordingly. Information provided is at date of extract and may therefore be subject to change as data and systems are updated for operational reasons.

From 1 April to 28 May 2024, 170 hate crime charges and 615 charges with one or more hate crime aggravations in terms of the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 have been reported to COPFS for the whole of Scotland. The total, therefore, is 785 charges.

From 1 April to 28 May 2024, 33 hate crime charges and 98 charges with one or more hate crime aggravations in terms of the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 have been reported to COPFS in the Lothian region. For the purposes of this answer, the 'Lothian region' been restricted to charges reported to COPFS from the Edinburgh and Livingston Sheriff Court Districts. The total 131 hate crime charges and aggravations for Lothian region represents 16.7% of the total for the whole of Scotland.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-27806>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Non-Crime Hate Incidents: Recording

Miles Briggs (Conservative) [S6W-27429] To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to the third supplementary to question S6O-03335 by Angela Constance on 24 April 2024, whether it can confirm if any non-crime hate incidents recorded by Police Scotland under the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 will appear in any (a) disclosure and barring service check, (b) security clearance check, including a developed vetting check and (c) database check by (i) a serving officer or civil employee of Police Scotland and (ii) an employee of Disclosure Scotland, including an informal inquiry carried out with regard to current or potential employment.

Miles Briggs (Conservative) [S6W-27430] To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on whether the recording of non-crime hate incidents under the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 could have a material effect on an individual's employment or otherwise personal circumstances.

Reply from Siobhian Brown: In the Interim guidance published for officers on the recording of Non-Crime Hate Incidents - Police Scotland published by Police Scotland on 9 May 2024, it explains that the alleged perpetrator would usually be recorded as the 'other party' (unless in exceptional circumstances where there is real risk of harm or future criminal offence). When asked at the Scottish Police Authority Board Meeting on Thursday 23 May 2024 if detail on the 'other party' would appear on a Disclosure check, Deputy Chief Constable Alan Spiers provided reassurance that it would not.

In rare cases, Disclosure Scotland may receive other relevant information (ORI) from relevant police forces (including forces in England, Wales and Northern Ireland) when someone applies to join the PVG scheme, the ongoing monitoring of scheme members, or for an enhanced disclosure check.

ORI is used across the UK, with the UK Government having their own guidance to the police for the handling and processing of non-crime hate incidents in relation to disclosure checks. ORI about the applicant or scheme member can only be provided where the chief officer of a relevant police force reasonably believes it is relevant for the specific purpose of the disclosure and ought to be included on the disclosure certificate. The inclusion of any information Scottish police may hold on an individual is a decision for Police Scotland to make with regard to the statutory Guidance for the Chief Constable of Police Scotland.

Disclosure Scotland staff do not have access to the database on which non-crime hate incidents are recorded.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-27429>

and

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-27430>

The answer referred to above can be read at

https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/official-report/search-what-was-said-in-parliament/meeting-of-parliament-24-04-2024?meeting=15814&iob=134985#orscontributions_M1735E440P776C2579338

The Interim Guidance referred to above can be read at

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/fthlal1q/interim-guidance-responding-to-hate.docx>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Non-Crime Hate Incidents: Recording

Miles Briggs (Conservative) [S6W-27431] To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the recently published Police Scotland interim guidance on the recording of non-crime hate incidents (NCHIs), whether any process, such as arbitration, exists that would allow a person to appeal a decision that an incident has met the threshold for being recorded as a NCHI, or whether a person's only recourse would be to pursue a civil action in order to seek to have the NCHI expunged from the record.

Miles Briggs (Conservative) [S6W-27656] To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the recently published Police Scotland interim guidance on the recording of non-crime hate incidents (NCHIs), which states that a report would happen in "exceptional circumstances", what are defined as "exceptional circumstances" in which a party allegedly at fault in a reported incident could have their details recorded.

Reply from Siobhian Brown: The recording of non-crime hate incidents (NCHIs) is an operational matter for Police Scotland. This preserves the operational independence of Scotland's criminal justice system and keeps it free from political interference.

You may wish to contact Police Scotland directly regarding any questions you have in relation to these procedures.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-27431>

and

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-27656>

The Interim Guidance referred to above can be read at

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/fthlal1q/interim-guidance-responding-to-hate.docx>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Non-Crime Hate Incidents: Recording

Miles Briggs (Conservative) [S6W-27432] To ask the Scottish Government what data destruction methods and processes Police Scotland would employ to delete any recorded non-crime hate incident where it had been found not to have met the threshold for being so recorded.

Miles Briggs (Conservative) [S6W-27657] To ask the Scottish Government in what system Police Scotland is currently mandated to record non-crime hate incidents; whether this is a distinctly different system to the system for recording arrest records or formal charges, and, if this is not the case, whether there are strict Chinese wall protocols in place to mitigate the risk of deliberate or accidental disclosure.

Reply from Siobhian Brown: Methods and processes with respect to handling of data on non-crime hate incidents recorded by Police Scotland, is an operational matter for Police Scotland.

You may wish to contact Police Scotland directly regarding any questions you have in relation to these procedures.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-27432>

and

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-27657>

Non-Crime Hate Incidents: Liability for Public Knowledge

Miles Briggs (Conservative) [S6W-27433] To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on whether (a) it and (b) Police Scotland could be liable for any material effect to a Scottish resident's circumstances if it was found that any negligence or malice on the part of a public servant had led to public knowledge of a recorded non-crime hate incident.

Siobhian Brown: Any investigation into whether there has been any material effect to a Scottish resident's circumstances due to alleged negligence or malice on the part of a public servant leading to public knowledge of a recorded non-crime hate incident, and related issues of potential liability, would be dealt with on a case by case basis.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-27433>

Non-Crime Hate Incidents: Reporting Requirements

Miles Briggs (Conservative) [S6W-27659] To ask the Scottish Government what reporting requirements Police Scotland has to the Scottish Government or other publicly funded bodies regarding the rate and nature of non-crime hate incidents.

Reply from Siobhian Brown: There are no reporting requirements on the rate and nature of non-crime hate incidents from Police Scotland to the Scottish Government. The Scottish Government is not aware of reporting requirements to any other public body.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-27659>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Hate Crime Advisor/Champion

Miles Briggs (Conservative) [S6W-27665] To ask the Scottish Government how it differentiates between a "hate crime advisor" and a "hate crime champion", and whether people who are designated as such (a) are all sworn constables and (b) have formal legal training.

Miles Briggs (Conservative) [S6W-27666] To ask the Scottish Government whether it (a) requires and (b) conducts formal security clearances for anyone designated as a (i) "hate crime advisor" and (ii) "hate crime champion", as set out in the document, Interim Guidance - Responding to Hate.

Reply from Siobhian Brown: The designation of a Hate Crime Advisor and Hate Crime Champion is an operational decision for Police Scotland, and the Scottish Government does not hold this information.

You may wish to contact Police Scotland directly regarding any questions you have in relation to these procedures.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-27665>

and

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-27666>

The Interim Guidance referred to above can be read at

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/fthlal1q/interim-guidance-responding-to-hate.docx>

Non-Crime Hate Incidents: Scottish Government

Miles Briggs (Conservative) [S6W-27678] To ask the Scottish Government whether it has been the subject of any civil action in Scottish courts by a person in relation to them having a non-crime hate incident recorded against them; if so, how many such cases are currently in process, and how many cases that have concluded resulted in a ruling in favour of the person bringing the action.

Reply from Siobhian Brown: The Scottish Government has not been the subject of any civil action in Scottish courts by a person in relation to them having a non-crime hate incident recorded against them.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-27678>

News

Labour drops legal action over anti-Semitism report leak

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/06/06/labour-drops-legal-action-anti-semitism-report-leakers/>

Labour drops lawsuit against ex-staffers accused of leaking antisemitism report

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/article/2024/jun/06/labour-drops-lawsuit-against-ex-staffers-accused-of-leaking-antisemitism-report>

Greens investigate claims of anti-Semitism among candidates

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/06/07/greens-investigate-claims-of-anti-semitism-among-candidates/>

Number of students flagged for extremist views rises by half

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/article/2024/jun/05/number-students-flagged-extremist-views-rises-half>

Oxford Union called institutionally racist by its own committees

<https://www.thetimes.com/uk/education/article/oxford-union-is-institutionally-racist-president-elect-says-rt8jh5lqc>

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General Election

**The deadline to register to vote in the General Election is
Tuesday 18 June.**

[Click here to register](#)

**The deadline to apply for a postal vote is
Wednesday 19 June.**

[Click here to apply](#)

**The deadline to apply for a proxy vote is
Wednesday 26 June.**

[Click here to apply](#)

**[Click here](#)
to find out which candidates
will be contesting the election in your area.**

Press Release

State Opening of Parliament to take place on 17 July 2024

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/state-opening-of-parliament-to-take-place-on-17-july-2024>

New Publication

**Scottish Parliament Information Centre Briefing: UK General Election 2024 –
Constituencies and Candidates**

<https://spice-spotlight.scot/2024/06/07/uk-general-election-2024-constituencies-and-candidates/>

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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>

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Consultations ** new or updated this week

Review of Charity Regulation (closing date 22 July 2024)

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

**** Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill** (closing date 16 August 2024)

https://yourviews.parliament.scot/health/assisted-dying-for-terminally-ill-adults-bill/consult_view/

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

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

Cyber Security Survey (closing date not stated)

<https://online1.snapsurveys.com/interview/680a646c-5811-47f4-8958-588f1c794eca>

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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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Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

New Scots Portraits

11-29 June 2024 (Glasgow, 9.00–5.00)

With New Scots putting down roots in communities across the country, this uplifting collection of portraits by Angela Catlin shows the resilience, pride and hope of people building new lives, from the Isle of Lewis to the Scottish Borders. For information see

<https://tinyurl.com/243y2x3j>

**** this week!**

Refugee Festival Scotland

14-23 June 2024 (Scotland-wide)

Refugee Festival Scotland is an arts and community festival which takes place every year in the lead up to World Refugee Day, on 20 June. Each event helps to shine a light on the cultural richness and diversity of our communities. It is a celebration of the food and drink, music and poetry, art, dance, language and ideas that people bring with them when they settle in Scotland. For the full programme of events see

<https://www.refugeefestivalscotland.co.uk/events/>

**** this week!**

Beyond the Words

14 June 2024 (Glasgow, 6.00–7.30)

Documentary filmmaker Maryam Haddadi will be screening and discussing a video art piece commissioned by Refugee Festival Scotland. *Beyond the Words* explores Iranian women's individual mental health and collective identity. It seeks to uncover the world that exists behind simple words, words shared by women in conversations as well as words found in the media. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with Ling Lee. For information see

<https://tinyurl.com/4xew8ckx>

**** this week!**

Strong together

15 June 2024 (Motherwell, 2.00–5.00)

This Refugee Festival Scotland event will bring the local community and Refugees together sharing experience of their past and present life. For information see

<https://tinyurl.com/ypyv5zv6>

**** this week!**

Refugee Festival at V&A

16-22 June 2024 (Dundee, 10.00–5.00)

Immerse yourself in a celebration of diversity at V&A Dundee during the Scottish Refugee Festival, where you will be able to experience an enriching blend of cultures, traditions and diverse ways of life. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/msyn9cxf>

Building Peace Together

17–23 June 2024 (Dalgety, 9.30–3.00)

Refugee Festival Scotland photography exhibition from Ukraine, taken by the church's Ukrainian Group, walk the Peace Labyrinth, and light a candle. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/4uzske5f>

Garnethill Refugee Trail: Guided Walk

18 June 2024 (Glasgow, 2.00–4.00)

Scottish Jewish Heritage Centre guided walk for Refugee Festival Scotland to explore some of the places around the Garnethill area which are connected with Jewish refugees from Nazi Europe – from the flats in which refugee artists lived, to the hostels where children from the Kindertransport stayed. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/4nnpfsnc>

Child Migrant Voices in Modern Britain

18 June 2024 (Glasgow, 5.30–9.00)

A Refugee Festival Scotland evening of short films about children who migrated to Britain from El Salvador, linked with readings by people with lived experience of child migration. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y8n44jtb>

Surviving Translation

18 June 2024 (Glasgow, 6.00–8.00)

Refugee Festival Scotland documentary screening and panel discussion with contributors and director. This documentary is looking at mistranslation of female immigrants and irreversible consequences that it can have. It focuses on women who have lived through traumatic experiences in their home countries or during their difficult journeys to the UK. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yck2n5mw>

Through my eyes: the person behind my 'status'

19 June 2024 (Glasgow, 11.00–3.00)

Meet the people behind the mask of 'other' that has been placed upon us. Refugee Festival Scotland collection of artwork – photography, textiles and spray painting – that translates our experiences, perspectives and dreams, along with our stories in order to introduce ourselves and give you a glimpse into our lives. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/45m4yhuf>

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 working with interpreters

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>

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>

Scottish Interfaith Week

11 to 18 November 2024 (Scotland-wide)

Celebrating 20 years of Scottish Interfaith Week, and encouraging people to discover and learn about the lives of others as an effective way to challenge prejudice and misunderstanding. For information see <https://scottishinterfaithweek.org/>

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Useful Links

Scottish Parliament <http://www.parliament.scot/>

Scottish Government <https://www.gov.scot/>

UK Parliament <http://www.parliament.uk/>

GovUK (links to UK Government Departments) <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations>

One Scotland <http://onescotland.org/>

Scottish Refugee Council <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk>

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
Empowering Scotland's Ethnic and
Cultural Minority Communities

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



*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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