

Political Affairs Brief

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community
Scottish Council of Jewish Communities
SCoJeC

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Papal visit details announced

Lord Patten of Barnes, the Prime Minister's Special Representative for the Papal visit, and the Archbishop of Westminster Vincent Nichols, Head of the Catholic Church in England and Wales, have announced further details of Pope Benedict XVI's visit. ...

Pope Benedict will meet The Queen at the Palace of Holyrood House in Edinburgh, as well as making a major speech in Westminster Hall to an audience of civil society and members of both Houses of Parliament. During the visit, there will also be bilateral discussions between senior Ministers of the British government and the Holy See. On the pastoral side, the centrepiece of the visit will be a mass of Beatification of Cardinal Newman - the penultimate step before papal recognition of sainthood. ...

To read the full press release see

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/news/latest-news/?view=News&id=22481675>

For more information see the official Papal visit website

<http://www.thepapalvisit.org.uk/>

Government Equality Office

Equality Act 2010: What do I need to know?

Series of summary guides to key changes in the law as a result of the Equality Act.

http://www.equalities.gov.uk/equality_act_2010/equality_act_2010_what_do_i_n.aspx

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Holocaust

Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation

United States Contributes \$15 Million to Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton announced in Cracow on Saturday that the United States will support the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation to the amount of \$15 million (€12.2 million), bringing pledges to the Foundation to around €80 million—two-thirds of the required total of €120 million—in less than a year and a half since it was established. ... Contributions will be deposited in a special Perpetual Fund. The income from the Fund

will finance a permanent long-term plan to preserve the authentic remains of the Nazi German Auschwitz concentration and extermination camp. ... "The United States strongly encourages other nations who have not already done so to follow suit and to contribute to the Auschwitz-Birkenau fund. In 2009 alone, more than 1.3 million people from around the world visited the museum and memorial. The preservation and continuation of Auschwitz Memorial is essential so that future generations can see for themselves why the world must never again allow a place of such hatred to scar the soul of humankind"—said Hillary Clinton. ...

To read the full press release see

http://en.auschwitz.org.pl/m/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=786&Itemid=7

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Relevant Legislation ** New or updated

UK Parliament

**** Academies Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/academieshl.html>

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldbills/010/amend/ml010-i.htm>

Daylight Saving Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/daylightsaving.html>

Face Coverings (Regulation) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/facecoveringsregulation.html>

Identity Documents Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/identitydocuments.html>

Scottish Parliament

End of Life Assistance Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/38-EndLifeAssist/index.htm>

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Consultations ** new or updated

**** closes in 3 days**

Identity Documents Bill (Committee consideration to be completed by 8 July)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/news/2010/06/identity-documents-bill-committee-issues-call-for-evidence/>

**** closes in 8 days**

Equality Act: obtaining information in potential discrimination and equality of term cases (closes 13 July 2010)

http://www.equalities.gov.uk/news/new_streamlined_procedure_for.aspx

Amendments to the Anti-Terrorism Crime and Security Act 2001 (closes 15 July 2010)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/cons-2010-pathogens-toxins/consultation-paper2835.pdf?view=Binary>

Welsh Assembly Review of Standing Orders (closes 16 July 2010)

http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-committees/bus-committees-other-committees/bus-committees-third-bc-home/bus-committees-third-bc-comm/bc3_inq_so.htm

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