

Political Affairs Brief

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

SCoJeC

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Home Affairs

Home Office

Radical reforms for police announced

A radical new programme of reform to change the face of policing and re-establish the link between the police and the public, tackle organised crime and protect our borders was unveiled by the Home Secretary today. ...

Key elements of the new strategy include:

- first election of police and crime commissioners to hold police forces to account and strengthen the bond between the police and the public in May 2012
- a powerful new National Crime Agency to lead the fight against organised crime and strengthen our border security;
- greater collaboration between police forces to increase public protection and drive savings
- phasing out the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA)
- cutting bureaucracy, removing restrictive health and safety procedures and freeing up officers' time; and
- a clear role for everyone, including members of the public, in cutting crime through beat meetings, neighbourhood watch schemes and voluntary groups. ...

To read the full press release see

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/press-releases/radical-reforms-police>

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Israel

United Nations

New media can promote Middle East understanding – senior UN official

New media has helped to foster understanding in the Middle East, the top United Nations communications official said today, spotlighting the role of Facebook, Twitter and other tools in furthering dialogue. ... Mr. Akasaka said it is “very interesting” that Israeli and Palestinian military officials are exchanging information about the current situation, as well as their daily lives, through new media. He also voiced hope that it would help to reduce stereotypes creating fear and uncertainty about the future in the Middle East by boosting communication. ... “I encourage young Israelis and Palestinians to use these new tools to spread positive messages that will encourage a culture of peace, coexistence and better understanding between their people,” ...

To read the full press release see

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=35419&Cr=palestin&Cr1=>

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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/cm201011/cmbills/057/amend/psc0572607m.113-119.html>

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>

Fixed Term Parliaments Bill

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

Identity Documents Bill

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

Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/parliamentaryvotingsystemandconstituencies.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

**** Policing in the 21st century: reconnecting police and the people**

(closing date 20 September 2010)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/consultations/policing-21st-century/>

Taking action on rights, support and protection of victims of crime and violence

(closing date 30 September 2010)

http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/news/consulting_public/news_consulting_0053_en.htm

Data protection legislative framework (closes 6 October 2010)

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/dpa-call-evidence-02-07-2010.pdf>

Guidance on Concessionary Schemes for Surface Water Drainage Charges

Applies in England only (closes 22 October 2010)

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/surface-charges/index.htm>

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