

# 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

### Downing Street

#### **Prime Minister launches Big Society Awards**

The Prime Minister has launched a new award that will recognise some of the excellent examples of the Big Society in action taking place all around the country. ... Individuals, businesses, charities, community groups and other organisations are all eligible if they illustrate the Big Society in action.

These might be:

- People or groups who are bringing their community together and helping to give people more power to take decisions and shape their area
- People who are transforming our public services, staff setting up their own cooperatives, or new providers or frontline staff finding innovative ways to deliver better services to the public
- Or people who are giving their time and money to help others, the unsung heroes changing lives in every neighbourhood of the country.

People will be able to [submit nominations via a form on the website](#). ...

**To read the full press release see**

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/news/topstorynews/2010/11/big-society-awards-57376>

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## Israel

### UK Parliamentary Questions

#### **Israel: Human Rights**

**Bob Russell:** To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs if he will make representations to his EU counterparts to request that Israel complies with the provisions of the EU-Israel Association Agreement relating to human rights; and that no further moves be made to develop closer political and economic ties with Israel until the terms of the agreement have been satisfied. [25167]

**Alistair Burt:** We are in regular discussions with EU partners on a number of issues related to the Middle East peace process including the EU-Israel Association Agreement.

The UK has worked hard, with support from other member states, to ensure that the EU has regular discussions about human rights in Israel. This is in line with the

human rights elements of the EU-Israel Association Agreement.

The EU has made clear that any progress on this agreement must be seen in the context of progress in the wider peace process.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101119/text/101119w0002.htm#10111965000126>

### Hamas

**Robert Halfon:** To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what recent discussions he has had with his Palestinian Authority counterpart on levels of support for the Hamas political movement within Palestinian society. [24579]

**Alistair Burt:** Our consulate general in Jerusalem is in regular dialogue with the Palestinian Authority on a wide range of issues, including elections and internal political dynamics.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101119/text/101119w0002.htm#10111965000121>

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## Relevant Legislation \*\* New or updated

### UK Parliament

#### 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/fixedtermparliaments.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

#### Certification of Death Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/58-CertDeath/index.htm>

#### 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 4 days**

**Equality Duty: Detailed Proposals - Consultation on Public Sector Equality Duty Draft Regulations and Order (Scotland) (closes 26 November 2010)**

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/324431/0104438.pdf>

**The Future of the Citizenship Survey** (closing date 30 November 2010)  
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/communities/pdf/1756366.pdf>

**Charity Commission: Proposed withdrawal of paper forms for Annual Returns, Registration applications, and forthcoming Charitable Incorporated Organisations** (closes 2 December 2010)  
[http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/About\\_us/About\\_the\\_Commission/ols\\_consultation\\_intro.aspx](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/About_us/About_the_Commission/ols_consultation_intro.aspx)

**Equality Act 2010 - Performance of the Public Sector Equality Duties in Wales** (closes 17 December 2010)  
<http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/equality/equalityact2010/?lang=en>

**Equality and Human Rights Commission: Draft Code of Practice on Further and Higher Education** (closes 31 December 2010)  
[http://live.ehrc.precedenthost.co.uk/cgi-bin/generate.pl?page\\_id= sx0666i4b&save=screen](http://live.ehrc.precedenthost.co.uk/cgi-bin/generate.pl?page_id= sx0666i4b&save=screen)

**Charity Commission for England and Wales: Views on Future Strategy** (closes 14 January 2011)  
[http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/RSS/News/pr\\_strategic\\_review.aspx](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/RSS/News/pr_strategic_review.aspx)

**Improvements to Criminal Justice Statistics** (closing date 18 February 2011)  
<http://www.justice.gov.uk/consultations/statistics-cp171110.htm>

**National statistics, published by the Department of Health about the experience of black and minority ethnic patients**  
[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH\\_121762](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_121762)

**Prevent Review** (closing date not stated)  
<http://preventreview.homeoffice.gov.uk/>

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The Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC) is Scottish Charity SCO29438