



Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

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House of Lords Written Answer

Oluwole Ilesanmi

Lord Pearson of Rannoch (UKIP) [HL15359] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 3 April (HL Deb, col 170), whether they are aware of the circumstances of the arrest of Pastor Olu; whether any action is being taken against the police who arrested him; if so, what; and what assessment they have made of the implications for free speech of his arrest.

Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government does not prevent individuals from following their religious beliefs or cultural traditions provided that they do so within the law. The diversity of modern Britain is one of our strengths and many British people of different faiths follow religious codes and practices.

The right to freedom of expression is a vital part of a democratic society. It is a long-standing tradition in this country that people are free to share their views with others.

Decisions on arrests are an operational matter for the police working within the provisions of the legal framework set by Parliament.

Decisions on whether to investigate individual officers for a potential breach of the standards of professional behaviour are a matter for the force.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-04-25/HL15359/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2019-04-03/debates/299EB537-AA1D-4E8E-AFFE-9367D20FAE76/FreedomOfExpression#contribution-0F85C822-7481-483A-B311-CAE66B91AC8F>

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Israel

House of Lords Written Answer

Imports: Israeli Settlements

Baroness Tonge (Non-affiliated) [HL15422] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Fairhead on 16 April (HL15128), who decides which postcodes should be included in the list to be hosted on gov.uk; and whether those postcodes are checked for accuracy to ensure that products are labelled correctly.

Viscount Younger of Leckie: In line with the Government's approach of ensuring continuity as we leave the EU, the list of postcodes hosted on gov.uk will replicate – at the point at which the EU-Israel agreements cease to apply to the UK and, thus, the UK-Israel agreement is brought into force – the EU's list of postcodes. This list is currently available on the EU Commission's website:

https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/sites/taxation/files/technical_arrangement_postal_codes_2018_en.pdf.

As referenced in my Written Answer on 16 April (HL15128), tariff preferences and labelling requirements will be implemented by UK customs authorities.

Technical Arrangement Postal Codes

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-04-29/HL15422/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-04-08/HL15128/>

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Other Relevant Information

Faith Matters

The (Democratic) Football Lads Alliance: a Far Right Antechamber?

<https://www.faith-matters.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/dfla.pdf>

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Relevant Legislation ** new or updated today

UK Parliament

Holocaust (Return of Cultural Objects) (Amendment) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/holocaustreturnofculturalobjectsamendment.html>

International Development Assistance (Palestinian National Authority Schools) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/internationaldevelopmentassistancepalestiniannationalauthoritieschools.html>

Marriage Act 1949 (Amendment) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/marriageact1949amendment.html>

Online Forums Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/onlineforums.html>

Palestinian Statehood (Recognition) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/palestinianstatehoodrecognition.html>

Scottish Parliament

Human Tissue (Authorisation) (Scotland) Bill

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/108681.aspx>

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Consultations

** new or updated today

Online Harms White Paper (closing date 1 July 2019)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/online-harms-white-paper>

Opt-out organ donation: organs and tissues excluded from the new system (closing date 22 July 2019)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/opt-out-organ-donation-organs-and-tissues-excluded-from-the-new-system>

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The Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC) is Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC029438