

Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

Contents

Home Affairs
Israel

Relevant Legislation
Consultations

Home Affairs

HM Treasury

‘Shameful’ tactics in funeral plan sales to be stamped out

New plans to regulate the pre-paid funeral sector will ensure the market is competitive and bring to an end the high pressure and misleading tactics in the sale of these plans. ... The regulation of the sector will now be overseen by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). It will design a new, robust framework to bring regulation in line with other financial products, such as insurance, and ensure that providers are clear and fair in their treatment of customers. This will also offer people access to the Financial Ombudsman Service, enhancing consumer protection. ... [The proposals will:]

- ensure all pre-paid funeral plan providers are subject to the same robust standards
- enhance the oversight of all the providers operating in this sector
- make sure consumers can adequately dispute claims when things go wrong ...

To read the full press release see

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/shameful-tactics-in-funeral-plan-sales-to-be-stamped-out>

Consultation: Regulation of pre-paid funeral plans (closing date 25 August 2019)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/regulation-of-pre-paid-funeral-plans-consultation-on-a-policy-proposal>

Court of Appeal

Between Kuteh, and Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust

The Court of Appeal upheld the dismissal of a nurse for “gross misconduct as a result of her initiating inappropriate conversations about religion with patients” including having told a patient that “the only way he could get to the Lord was through Jesus”, and confirmed that her dismissal was not in contravention of Article 9 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

To read the full judgement see

<https://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWCA/Civ/2019/818.html>

TOP

House of Lords Written Answer

UNRWA: Finance

Lord Judd (Labour) [HL15801] To ask Her Majesty's Government what action they are taking to ensure that aid programmes of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and the UN system in general have long-term sustainability.

Baroness Sugg: The UK supports a two-state solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict and the UK Government believe that the only way to achieve a lasting solution for refugees is a negotiated solution to the conflict.

In the interim, the UK is a leading donor to UNRWA and will provide up to £80m over the next two years. This will help to provide essential services, including healthcare and education, for millions of Palestinian refugees living in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Gaza and the West Bank.

The Government has also acted to ensure the long-term sustainability of the UN system in general by supporting the Secretary General's reform agenda, including the Funding Compact which is being discussed at ECOSOC in New York in late May.

The UK is committed to getting the best value for the UK taxpayers' money in our aid programmes. We work closely with our UN partners to ensure programmes deliver the best development outcomes and value for money.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-05-16/HL15801/>

TOP

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>

TOP

Consultations

** new or updated today

Scottish Human Rights Commission Draft Strategic Plan (closing date 28 June 2019)

<http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/media/1860/strategic-plan-consultation-vfinal-eh.docx>

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>

**** Regulation of pre-paid funeral plans** (closing date 25 August 2019)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/regulation-of-pre-paid-funeral-plans-consultation-on-a-policy-proposal>

TOP

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