



Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

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House of Commons Written Answers

The following two questions both received the same answer

Organs: Donors

Greg Knight (Conservative) [1294] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps his Department has taken to make the public fully aware of the implications of the Organ Donation (Deemed Consent) Act 2019; and if he will make a statement.

Greg Knight (Conservative) [1295] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what assessment his Department has made of the extent of awareness among the general public of the implications of the Organ Donation (Deemed Consent) Act 2019; and if he will make a statement.

Caroline Dinenege: The Organ Donation (Deemed Consent) Act 2019 introduces a new system of consent for organ and tissue donation in England, known as 'opt-out' or 'deemed consent'. The Government aims for the new consent arrangements to be introduced from spring 2020.

NHS Blood and Transplant launched a communication campaign on behalf of the Government in April 2019 to make the public fully aware of the new system of consent. Several platforms have been used since then to raise public awareness of the new system, more recently through TV and radio adverts, as well as public advertising with specific targeting of people with different backgrounds, faith and beliefs. NHS Blood and Transplant will continue to work with general practitioner (GP) practices, schools and black, Asian and minority ethnic communities to address barriers to organ donation.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-08/1294/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-08/1295/>

Welsh Assembly

Bill to introduce new name and lower voting age becomes an Act

... Llywydd of the Assembly, Elin Jones AM, announced the status of the new Senedd and Election (Wales) Act ... However ... the Act – which introduces a new name Senedd Cymru / Welsh Parliament and extends the voting franchise to foreign nationals and 16 and 17 year olds – will not come into force until early May 2020. ...

To read the full press release see

<https://www.assembly.wales/en/newhome/pages/newsitem.aspx?itemid=2065&assembly=5>

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Holocaust

House of Commons Oral Answer

Prime Minister's Questions

Andrew Percy (Conservative): At the end of this month, on the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, the nation will come together once again to mark Holocaust Memorial Day. The theme for this year is “Stand Together”. Does my right hon. Friend agree with the Holocaust Educational Trust, which says that, welcome though they are, signatures in books are not as valuable as action? Will he commit to more action to stamp out antisemitism and all intolerance in this country?

The Prime Minister: I will be commemorating Holocaust Memorial Day along with my hon. Friend and others. As he knows, this Government and this House—people across the House—want to do absolutely everything we can to stamp out the resurgence of antisemitism. As someone who is now 55 years old, I find it absolutely incredible that antisemitism is rising again in this country in the 21st century. It is a disgrace, and we must stamp it out.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-15/debates/F262C685-F555-49BB-84CF-B102C1569BE1/Engagements#contribution-6B649F28-9632-45F7-9B36-E79D13DE5B49>

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Relevant Legislation ** new or updated today

UK Parliament

Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/divorcedissolutionandseparation.html>

** European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/europeanunionwithdrawalagreement.html>

Committee Stage, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-15/debates/4D00993A-2CE7-4DDF-AE44-AE73456A7B96/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-15/debates/4D00993A-2CE7-4DDF-AE44-AE73456A7B96/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

and

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-15/debates/DEE80FF8-97FE-4961-97E1-7EC69CFE4DEC/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-15/debates/DEE80FF8-97FE-4961-97E1-7EC69CFE4DEC/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

Scottish Parliament

Civil Partnership (Scotland) Bill

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/112997.aspx>

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Consultations

** new or updated today

**** closes tomorrow**

Equality Act 2010: Commencing the socio-economic duty (Welsh Government)

(closing date 17 January 2020)

<https://gov.wales/equality-act-2010-commencing-socio-economic-duty>

Civil Partnership (Scotland) Bill (closing date 31 January 2020)

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/113449.aspx>

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