



# Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

## Contents

Home Affairs  
Israel

Relevant Legislation  
Consultations

## Home Affairs

### House of Commons Written Answer

#### Religious Buildings: Security

**Stephen Doughty (Labour Co-op) [309]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much funding her Department has allocated to improving security at places of worship in the South Wales Police area in the last 12 months.

**Kit Malthouse:** The Places of Worship Protective Security Fund (POW) is a key commitment in the Hate Crime Action Plan published in 2016. The Scheme provides funding to places of worship that have been victims of or are vulnerable to hate crime attacks for physical protective measures such as alarms, fencing and access control. The scheme is currently in its fourth year of funding, and successful applicants for this scheme will be announced in due course. There was only one application from Wales in Year 3. However, the criteria were set across all applications and this application did not meet the minimum requirements to receive funding.

Over the first three years of the scheme we provided £1.5m funding for over 130 grants and have £1.6m committed for this financial year (2019/20). There was not any funding allocated under the POW scheme in the South Wales Police area in year three (2018/19). However, the scheme is open to places of worship across England and Wales, and we will continue to promote the scheme across Wales for future rounds of funding.

Following the attacks in Christchurch, we supported Faith Associates to deliver security training prior to and during Ramadan. They delivered 22 workshops across England and Wales, and distributed advice and guidance to over 2,000 mosques, madrassahs and community centres.

The Jewish Community Protective Security Grant was introduced in 2015 following a series of terrorist attacks against Jews and Jewish locations across Europe. In 2018-19 a grant of £13.4m was provided to fund additional protective security measures, primarily guarding, at Jewish state, free and independent schools, colleges, nurseries and some other Jewish community sites, including synagogues. A grant of £14m is to be provided in 2019-20. We do not keep a breakdown of funding by region.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-12-20/309/>

Information about the Places of Worship Protective Security Fund, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/places-of-worship-security-funding-scheme>

Information about the Jewish Community Protective Security Grant, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-office-grants-14-million-funding-for-security-at-jewish-institutions>

The Action Plan referred to above can be read at

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/543679/Action\\_Against\\_Hate\\_-\\_UK\\_Government\\_s\\_Plan\\_to\\_Tackle\\_Hate\\_Crime\\_2016.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/543679/Action_Against_Hate_-_UK_Government_s_Plan_to_Tackle_Hate_Crime_2016.pdf)

and its “two years on” update at

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/748175/Hate\\_crime\\_refresh\\_2018\\_FINAL\\_WEB.PDF](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/748175/Hate_crime_refresh_2018_FINAL_WEB.PDF)

TOP

## Israel

### House of Commons Written Answer

#### Hamas

**Brendan Clarke-Smith (Conservative)** [58078] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what criteria the Government uses to distinguish between the political and military wings of Hamas in relation to the proscribing of organisations.

**James Brokenshire:** The elements of Hamas which meet the criteria for proscription under section 3 of the Terrorism Act 2000 are listed in Schedule 2 to that Act. The relevant entry proscribes “Hamas Izz al-Din al-Qassem Brigades (Hamas IDQ)”. Those parts of Hamas which do not fall within the Schedule 2 entry are not proscribed.

Hamas IDQ, the military wing of Hamas, was proscribed in March 2001. The political wing of Hamas is not proscribed as it is considered that there is a clear distinction between Hamas’s military and political wings.

In distinguishing between the political and military wings for the purposes of proscription, the Government's aim is to proscribe only those parts of Hamas which are directly concerned in terrorism.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-06-10/58078/>

TOP

## Relevant Legislation \*\* new or updated today

### UK Parliament

#### Assisted Dying Bill

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

## **Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Bill**

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

## **Education (Assemblies) Bill**

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

## **Genocide Determination Bill**

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

## **Marriage Act 1949 (Amendment) Bill**

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/marriageact1949amendment.html>

## **Marriage and Civil Partnership (Minimum Age) Bill**

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

## **Scottish Parliament**

### **Civil Partnership (Scotland) Bill**

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

### **Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Bill**

<https://beta.parliament.scot/bills/hate-crime-and-public-order-scotland-bill>

### **Post-mortem Examinations (Defence Time Limit) (Scotland) Bill**

<https://beta.parliament.scot/bills/post-mortem-examinations-defence-time-limit-scotland-bill>

[TOP](#)

## **Consultations**

\*\* new or updated today

**\*\* closes in 7 days**

**Protecting places of worship** (closing date 28 June 2020)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/protecting-places-of-worship-consultation>

**Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Bill** (closing date 24 July 2020)

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/115038.aspx>

**Legislative proposals for religion, values and ethics [Wales]** (closing date 28 July 2020)

<https://gov.wales/legislative-proposals-religion-values-and-ethics>

[TOP](#)

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