



Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

Contents

Home Affairs
Israel

Relevant Legislation

Home Affairs

House of Commons Written Answers

Hamas

Scott Benton (Conservative) [76911] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, whether (a) Hamas and (b) Izz-al-Din Al-Qassem will continue to be subject to UK Terrorism and Terrorist Financing sanctions after the end of the transition period.

Nigel Adams: Hamas, including Izz Al-Din Al-Qassem, is subject to financial sanctions in the UK through the EU counter-terrorism sanctions regime CP931. Her Majesty's Government is transferring existing EU sanctions regimes into UK law through regulations made under the Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Act 2018, and the Secretary of State and the Treasury have made regulations providing for counter terrorism sanctions after the end of the transition period. We will look to carry over existing EU designations at the end of the transition period.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-20/76911/>

Hamas

Scott Benton (Conservative) [76912] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the implications for her policies of allegations that senior members of Hamas' Political Bureau are personally (a) designated terrorists by the US government and (b) subject to UK Terrorism and Terrorist Financing sanctions.

James Brokenshire: The Government and the security and intelligence agencies keep the threat from terrorist groups, including Hamas, under review. In March 2001, the Government proscribed the military wing of Hamas (Hamas Izz al-Din al-Qassem Brigades), as a terrorist organisation. It is criminal offence in the UK to be a member of the military wing. The investigation and prosecution for all criminal offences, including whether an actual offence has been committed, is a matter for the police and Crown Prosecution Service

The Terrorist Asset Freezing Act (TAFA) 2010 permits HM Treasury to designate an individual or entity for sanctions if they meet the statutory test. Currently there

are three individuals designated under TFA 2010 who are associated with Hamas. Hamas, including its military wing, is also subject to financial sanctions in the UK through the EU counter-terrorism sanctions regime CP931.

The Government does not routinely comment on intelligence matters. While we work closely with our international partners in the global fight against terrorism, any executive action must be underpinned by intelligence that satisfies the UK's criminal and statutory thresholds.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-20/76912/>

TOP

Israel

See the two House of Commons written answers on the subject of "Hamas" that have been included in the Home Affairs section above.

TOP

Relevant Legislation ** new or updated today

UK Parliament

Assisted Dying Bill

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

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