



# Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

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## Home Affairs

### House of Lords, Prorogation

*Parliament has been prorogued. The Queen's Speech will take place on Tuesday 10 May.*

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2022-04-28/debates/3D83158B-F9BD-4CB5-AEAD-4B81274170DF/ProrogationHerMajesty'SSpeech>

### House of Commons Written Answer

#### **Spotify: Antisemitism**

**Rupa Huq (Labour)** [160538] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, what steps she is taking with Spotify to help ensure that anti-Semitic content on that platform is swiftly removed.

**Chris Philp:** Antisemitism has absolutely no place in our society. The UK is taking robust action to tackle harmful online content, including antisemitism. Tech companies may already be held liable for illegal third party content that they host if they are aware of it and fail to remove it expeditiously. Tech companies that publish illegal content are already liable for it.

We also introduced the Online Safety Bill to Parliament on 17 March 2022 and it passed its second reading in the House of Commons on 19 April.

The Bill will give online companies, such as Spotify, new duties of care for user-generated content that they host on their service. Companies will have duties to prevent the proliferation of illegal content, including illegal hate speech, on their platform, and ensure that children who use their services are not exposed to harmful or inappropriate content. They will also be required to have effective and accessible mechanisms for users and affected persons to easily report concerns and seek redress.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-04-26/160538>

**TOP**

# Holocaust

## House of Lords Written Answers

### **National Holocaust Memorial Centre and Learning Service**

**Baroness Deech (Crossbench)** [HL7852] To ask Her Majesty's Government what value for money assessments they conducted on the proposed UK Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre (1) before £50 million was committed to the project, and (2) before that sum was increased to £75 million; what criteria were used in each case to assess the effectiveness and value for money of the proposal; and whether they will place copies of these assessments in the Library of the House.

**Lord Greenhalgh:** Value for money has been assessed in the business case in line with Green Book guidance.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-04-22/hl7852>

### **Victoria Tower Gardens**

**Baroness Deech (Crossbench)** [HL7853] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they took between October 2015 and June 2019 to ascertain whether there were any restrictions on the use of Victoria Tower Gardens.

**Lord Greenhalgh:** Professional advisers carried out checks as part of the normal planning process, including searching land registry.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-04-22/hl7853>

### **National Holocaust Memorial Centre and Learning Service**

**Baroness Deech (Crossbench)** [HL7854] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will publish the legal advice they have received since July 2019 concerning the impact of the London County Council (Improvements) Act 1900 on the proposal for the UK Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre.

**Lord Greenhalgh:** No.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-04-22/hl7854>

### **National Holocaust Memorial Centre and Learning Service**

**Baroness Deech (Crossbench)** [HL7855] To ask Her Majesty's Government how much, to date, has been spent on the proposed UK Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre; and what further sums have been committed under contracts for the design, project management, site preparation and construction of the Centre.

**Lord Greenhalgh:** Costs are regularly reviewed and updated figures will be published in due course in line with the Government Major Projects Portfolio reporting process. Additional costs resulting from the delay due to the High Court judgement are being assessed.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-04-22/hl7855>

### **National Holocaust Memorial Centre and Learning Service**

**Baroness Deech (Crossbench)** [HL7856] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will (1) publish a list of the elements of the capital and running costs of the proposed UK Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre which are commercially confidential, with the reasons in each case, (2) indicate what steps are required before each aspect ceases to be commercially confidential, and (3) provide their assessment of which aspects will remain confidential at the time of the next Government Major Projects Portfolio report.

**Lord Greenhalgh:** These costs will be determined through competitive tender and releasing details could affect our ability to achieve best value for money. The costs will be published at the appropriate time in line with the Government Major Projects Portfolio reporting process.

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

### UK Parliament

#### **\*\* Assisted Dying Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2875>

The 2021-2022 session of Parliament has prorogued and this Bill will make no further progress.

#### **\*\* Education (Assemblies) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2878>

The 2021-2022 session of Parliament has prorogued and this Bill will make no further progress.

#### **Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2862>

#### **\*\* Israel Arms Trade (Prohibition) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3025>

The 2021-2022 session of Parliament has prorogued and this Bill will make no further progress.

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

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3017>

The 2021-2022 session of Parliament has prorogued and this Bill will make no further progress.

#### **\*\* Nationality and Borders Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3023>

Royal Assent Received

#### **Online Safety Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3137>

#### **\*\* Palestine Statehood (Recognition) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2942>

The 2021-2022 session of Parliament has prorogued and this Bill will make no further progress.

## Consultations \*\* new or updated today

#### **Independent Review of Social Cohesion and Resilience** (closing date 2 June 2022)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/independent-review-of-social-cohesion-and-resilience-call-for-evidence/independent-review-of-social-cohesion-and-resilience-call-for-evidence>