

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

*MEMO is produced by the **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities** in partnership with **BEMIS - empowering Scotland's ethnic and cultural minority communities**. It provides an overview of information of interest to minority ethnic communities in Scotland, including parliamentary activity at Holyrood and Westminster, new publications, consultations, forthcoming conferences and news reports.*

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Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month.

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Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Question

Asylum Seekers

Dr Richard Simpson (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Lab): To ask the Scottish Executive whether it has discussed or will discuss with the UK Government the possibility of taking over health service provision at Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre. (S3W-37155)

Reply from Nicola Sturgeon: The Scottish Government is facilitating the discussions of UK Government with NHS Lanarkshire, in this reserved area, regarding the responsibility for the delivery of primary care services to the residents of Dungavel. Specialist healthcare is currently delivered by NHS Lanarkshire.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/Business/PQA/default.aspx?pq=S3W-37155>

Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

S3M-7374 Sandra White: Concern over Relocation of Asylum Seekers—That the Parliament notes with serious concern the decision by the UK Border Agency (UKBA) to terminate its accommodation contract with Glasgow City Council, which could lead to the forced relocation of over a thousand asylum seekers to anywhere in Scotland; criticises the UKBA for the apparent suddenness of its communication and lack of clarity contained

Immigration and Asylum Holyrood Parliamentary Motion (continued)

within, which is believed to have led to great uncertainty and anxiety not only among those in Glasgow but also the local integration networks and housing providers; believes that the UKBA policies that state that "whenever possible you will be given at least three to five days' notice of the move" and that "you will (only) be allowed to take two pieces of luggage per person to your new accommodation" are directly opposed to the basic rights that many have fought for and more aligned with the injustices that many have fought against, and would welcome alternative proposals being brought forward.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/business/motions/Default.aspx?motionid=20172>

House of Lords Grand Committee

Asylum (First List of Safe Countries) (Amendment) Order 2010

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101108-gc0001.htm#1011082000228>

Immigration (Biometric Registration) (Amendment) Regulations 2010

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101108-gc0001.htm#1011082000229>

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Migration

Lord Taylor of Warwick: To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their assessment of the impact of the immigration cap on cancer research.[HL3584]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Neville-Jones): The Government believe that Britain can benefit from migration but not uncontrolled migration. We have always been clear that we will continue to allow the brightest and the best to come to the UK, including the world class researchers who play such an important role in cancer research. Controlling migration is very much about attracting the best, and the two aims are not incompatible.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101110w0001.htm#10111057000458>

Immigration Controls

Alun Cairns: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what mechanisms are in place to ensure that the immigration cap does not adversely affect the capacity of companies to recruit staff from outside the EU with skills not available from the UK workforce; and if she will make a statement. [22227]

Reply from Damian Green: Under the current interim limit, we are monitoring each sponsoring employer's allocations closely and reviewing them as appropriate. Employers can request to sponsor additional migrant workers above their allocation. On 1 November, the UK Border Agency published refined criteria for handling these requests, to give employers greater certainty.

Regarding the full limit that will be introduced from next year, the Government carried out a full public consultation over the summer and are assessing the responses.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101109/text/101109w0001.htm#10110949000044>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Immigration Controls

David Blunkett: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department which (a) inter-company transfers and (b) student visas she plans to exempt from the proposed cap on levels of non-EU immigration; for what reasons the exemptions have been made; and if she will make a statement. [23120]

Reply from Damian Green: We will announce the operation of the immigration limit and precise details of how in future individual routes will work in due course. As the Prime Minister said last week, businesses have told us that intra-company transfers should not be part of the annual limit. We have listened carefully to the advice.

Our limit applies to economic routes. We are reviewing the non-economic immigration routes separately, including the student route. We will introduce new measures, where required, to minimise abuse of the student route and tighten the system further, in support of the aim of reducing net migration to tens of thousands rather than hundreds of thousands.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101111/text/101111w0003.htm#101118300010>

Immigration Controls: English Language

Andrew Turner: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what account her Department takes of the proficiency in English of the (a) spouses and (b) dependants of applicants for (i) British citizenship, (ii) leave to remain and (iii) asylum in determining the outcome of such applications. [22565]

Reply from Damian Green: Those applying for naturalisation as a British citizen are expected to demonstrate that they have sufficient knowledge of English and of life in the United Kingdom. Those applying for citizenship through registration routes, which include children under 18, do not have to meet this requirement.

Those applying for settlement also need to demonstrate the knowledge of life requirement unless they are applying under a category for which this is not required.

A person can show that he or she meets this requirement by either passing a citizenship test, or attending a course which teaches English for Speakers of other Languages using citizenship-based materials. The proficiency in English of a person's spouse and dependents are not taken into account when considering an application, although if they wish to apply for citizenship in their own right they will need to demonstrate that they meet this requirement.

From 29 November 2010 we will require those applying to come to or stay in the UK as the spouse or partner of a British citizen or person settled here to meet an English language requirement.

For citizenship, settlement, and applying for entry as a spouse or partner there are exemptions to the language requirement, such as where the person has a mental or physical condition which would make it unreasonable to expect them to learn English or is aged 65 or over.

For spouses and dependants applying for leave to remain under the points based system routes, there is no English language requirement.

Similarly there is no English language requirement for spouses or dependants of refugees who want to join them in the UK.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101109/text/101109w0001.htm#10110949000045>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Asylum Seekers

Lord Laird: To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Neville-Jones on 21 October (WA 202), what are the annual figures for applicants granted asylum or turned down for asylum in each year since 2000 in each category mentioned; and how many non-principal applicants or dependencies were granted asylum in those years.[HL3252]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Neville-Jones): Regarding the annual figures for applicants granted asylum or turned down for asylum in each year since 2000, I refer the noble Lord to the Answer given on 22 October 2010 in col. WA 205. [see <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/dhansrd/text/101022w0001.htm#10102225000294>]

The numbers of dependants granted asylum in each year since 2000 are provided in the attached table and have been derived from Table 2.2 of the Control of Immigration Statistics: United Kingdom, 2009 referred to in the above Answer.

Applications (1) received for asylum in the UK, initial decisions and percentages, dependants only, 2000 to 2009											
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 (P)	Dependants
Dependants ⁽²⁾											
Applications received ⁽³⁾	18,555	20,525	18,950	10,640	6,665	5,130	4,715	4,870	5,380	6,185	
Initial decisions											
Total	23,720	34,955	19,910	15,430	9,370	5,815	4,545	4,890	4,400	6,670	
Granted asylum	1,765	3,310	2,720	1,515	595	530	465	950	1,055	1,400	
Granted exceptional leave to remain, humanitarian protection or discretionary leave ⁽⁴⁾	1,150	5,835	2,330	590	200	155	105	120	140	245	
Refused asylum, ELR, HP and DL	16,650	25,810	14,860	13,320	8,575	5,130	3,975	3,820	3,200	5,025	
Granted exceptional leave under backlog criteria ⁽⁵⁾⁽⁶⁾	3,720	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
Refused on non-compliance grounds under backlog criteria ⁽⁵⁾⁽⁷⁾	440	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	

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Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Percentages of initial decisions considered under normal procedures ⁽⁸⁾										
Total	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)
Granted asylum	(7)	(9)	(14)	(10)	(6)	(9)	(10)	(19)	(24)	(21)
Granted exceptional leave to remain, humanitarian protection or discretionary leave ⁽⁴⁾	(5)	(17)	(12)	(4)	(2)	(3)	(2)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Refused asylum, ELR, HP and DL	(70)	(74)	(75)	(86)	(92)	(88)	(87)	(78)	(73)	(75)
Granted exceptional leave under backlog criteria ⁽⁵⁾⁽⁶⁾	(16)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Refused on non-compliance grounds under backlog criteria ⁽⁵⁾⁽⁷⁾	(2)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

(1) Figures (other than percentages) rounded to the nearest 5 (- = 0, * = 1 or 2) and may not sum to the totals shown because of independent rounding.

(2) The figures for 2000 and 2001 figures are estimated. They include dependants who applied with the principal applicant and those who arrived subsequently but before the principal application was decided.

(3) May exclude some cases lodged at Local Enforcement Offices before March 2000.

(4) Humanitarian Protection (HP) and Discretionary Leave (DL) replaced Exceptional leave to Remain from 1 April 2003.

(5) Cases decided under measures aimed at reducing the pre 1996 asylum application backlog.

(6) Includes cases where asylum or exceptional leave has been granted under the backlog criteria.

(7) Includes some cases where the application was refused on substantive grounds.

(8) Percentages for cases considered under normal procedures and those within the backlog clearance exercise are calculated separately.

(P) Provisional figures.

: Not applicable.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101108w0001.htm#10110823001367>

People Trafficking

Lord Hunt of Kings Heath: To ask Her Majesty's Government what measures are in place to ensure that multi-agency child safeguarding teams operate at main United Kingdom ports to identify and respond to concerns about children and young people arriving in or leaving the United Kingdom.[HL2989]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Neville-Jones): The Government are committed to safeguarding children. Multi-agency arrangements for child safeguarding operate at all ports and UK border force staff receive training on how to identify safeguarding concerns, how to respond to such

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

situations and how to refer their concerns to the statutory agencies that have a child protection or child welfare role.

Lord Hylton: To ask Her Majesty's Government which local authorities provide an independent reviewer in all cases where it is suspected or alleged that a child has been trafficked.[HL3065]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Schools (Lord Hill of Oareford): Potentially trafficked children are likely to present to local authorities as unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC). They will be supported as looked-after children by local authorities, who are responsible for assessing their needs and supporting them. Each child will be allocated a social worker, who will draw up a care plan designed to meet their individual needs and which will be regularly reviewed. This will include an assessment of whether the child is likely to have been trafficked and an appropriate plan to minimise the risk of them going missing from care or engaging with traffickers. All looked-after children are allocated an Independent Reviewing Officer, whose role is to ensure that the child's views have been taken into account in the care plan and at review meetings.

Lord Patten: To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they will take to ensure that unaccompanied children who have been trafficked into the United Kingdom are given support during any court proceedings by a legal guardian or other representative.[HL3231]

Reply from Lord Hill of Oareford: Any child subject to care proceedings in a court is entitled to have a guardian and legal representation. However, unaccompanied children who are suspected of having been trafficked into the United Kingdom would not normally be involved in court proceedings. They would be accommodated as looked after children under Section 20 of the Children Act 1989 as they would have entered the country without an adult to take parental responsibility for them.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101108w0002.htm#10110823001398>

People Trafficking

Lord Hylton: To ask Her Majesty's Government what action they are taking to help those states that have not yet ratified the Palermo Convention against human trafficking to ratify and implement it.[HL3448]

Reply from The Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Neville-Jones): The UK remains fully committed to working with international partners to combat trafficking, and views the Convention against Transnational Organised Crime and the protocols thereto and the Council of Europe convention as the main instruments with which to do this.

The UK has publicly urged all states to ratify and implement these instruments with immediate effect, as they remain the principal focus of international efforts to combat human trafficking and we will continue to do so.

Lord Hylton: To ask Her Majesty's Government where the offices of the National Referral Mechanism and the UK Human Trafficking Centre are located; and whether they will insist on close co-operation between the two organisations and the Serious Organised Crime Agency.[HL3449]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Neville-Jones): The competent authorities responsible for making decisions under the national referral mechanism (NRM) are based within the UK Border Agency (UKBA) and the UK Human Trafficking Centre (UKHTC), which is part of the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA). There has been close co-operation between all agencies since the inception of the NRM in April 2009 and we shall ensure this continues.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

The NRM is an approach carried out by trained competent authorities in certain agencies and does not have separate offices.

Within UKBA the functions of the competent authority are carried out by trained caseworkers who are based in various offices in the UK as part of the regional organisation of the Border Agency. The UKHTC has been part of SOCA since 1 April 2010. SOCA has premises throughout the UK, specific details of which are not made public.

Lord Hylton: To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their response to the report of the report by the Anti Trafficking Monitoring Group Wrong kind of victim; and whether they will ensure that victims of trafficking have access to legal advice and redress.[HL3450]

Reply from Baroness Neville-Jones: The coalition Government do not agree with many of the findings in the Anti Trafficking Monitoring Group report Wrong Kind of Victim?, but we are considering its recommendations as part of our ongoing review of the national referral mechanism and will be acting where necessary. Identified victims of trafficking are entitled to and receive advice and information regarding their legal rights and assistance to enable their rights and interests to be presented and considered at appropriate stages of criminal justice proceedings against traffickers. There are various means by which redress can be sought. This includes prosecutors requesting compensation orders upon a conviction and through the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme. Victims can also seek redress from the offender through the civil courts.

Lord Hylton: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will ensure that children trafficked into Britain for exploitation in cannabis growing are not prosecuted, and do not escape from local authority care placements.[HL3451]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Neville-Jones): When police find children in cannabis farms they should follow Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) guidance which advises that such children should be assessed on a case by case basis to ascertain whether they may have been trafficked. Where circumstances give rise to reasonable suspicion that they are being exploited or abused, a child welfare response should be taken. No decision to progress charges against these children should be made until all relevant assessments have been undertaken.

Published guidance by the Crown Prosecution Service requires prosecutors to consider not prosecuting trafficked victims in circumstances where they committed the offence under duress, or where they were coerced into committing the offence as a direct consequence of their trafficking situation. However, there must be consideration of the extent to which the victim was compelled to undertake the unlawful activity.

Where the information concerning coercion is less certain, further details should be sought from the police and youth offender teams, so that the public interest in continuing a prosecution can be considered carefully.

Where the risks of harm to a trafficked child are serious, the accommodation for the child should minimise the risks of traffickers being able to re-involve the child in exploitative activities.

Essential safeguards should be observed in all settings in which looked after children are placed. These include carers understanding the safeguarding needs of each child; be appropriately trained and supervised; be alert to children's vulnerabilities and risks of harm and know how to implement safeguarding procedures.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101110w0001.htm#10111057000466>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Children: Human Trafficking

Peter Bone: To ask the Secretary of State for Education what account his Department takes of the requirements of the Council of Europe Convention on Human Trafficking in determining the level of support provided to guardians of child victims of human trafficking. [21739]

Reply from Tim Loughton: Responsibility for the care, protection and accommodation of child trafficking victims rests with local authorities under their duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children, and in accordance with the Council of Europe Convention on Human Trafficking. Separated and vulnerable children from abroad have the same entitlements as UK born or resident children.

Where a child is assessed as trafficked and becomes looked after by a local authority, a social worker will be responsible for putting in place an individualised care plan covering the full range of the child's needs. The social worker will also make an assessment of the type of placement which best matches the needs of the child, including the need to safeguard them from contact with traffickers.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101109/text/101109w0004.htm#10110976000043>

Press Releases

November limit is reached for Tier 1 (General) applications from abroad

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2010/nov/25-limit-reached-tier1-nov>

People on the move: safeguarding the rights of migrants

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/PeopleOnTheMove.aspx>

New publication

Models of Integration through Religion, activation, Cultural Learning and Exchange

http://www.ccme.be/fileadmin/filer/ccme/70_DOWNLOADS/20_Publications/2010-06-Guide_English_final.pdf

News

Fury and fear over removal of asylum seekers

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/fury-and-fear-over-removal-of-asylum-seekers-1.1067398>

Asylum seeker dispersal is set to start in days

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/politics/asylum-seeker-dispersal-is-set-to-start-in-days-1.1068015>

People seeking asylum face further uncertainty

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/796_people_seeking_asylum_face_further_uncertainty

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Taking over the asylum

<http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/editor-s-picks/taking-over-the-asylum-1.1067576>

Peers call for children to be released from immigration centres

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/nov/12/peers-children-released-immigration-centres>

Plans to end detention of children in immigration removal centres delayed

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/nov/08/detention-children-immigration-removal-centres>

Home Office delays child migrant detention pledge

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/nov/08/end-child-migrant-detention-delay>

An immigration cap insults NHS workers

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/joepublic/2010/nov/10/nhs-health>

Migrants send home three times more money than countries receive in development aid, says World Bank

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/poverty-matters/2010/nov/10/migrants-send-money-home-aid>

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Equality

Holyrood Parliamentary Question

Equality Strategy

Johann Lamont (Glasgow Pollok) (Lab): To ask the Scottish Executive what discussions it has had with the Equality and Human Rights Commission in Scotland regarding changes to the role of the organisation proposed by the UK Government. (S3W-37133)

Reply from Alex Neil: The future role and function of the Equality and Human Rights Commission is a reserved matter. Officials from the UK Government Equality Office have been in contact with Scottish Government officials and I am writing to Lynne Featherstone MP, Minister for Equalities, to emphasise the importance of consultation on any proposed changes.

Scottish Government officials are in regular contact with the Equality and Human Rights Commission in Scotland, and the announcement of changes to the future role and function of the Equality and Human Rights Commission in Scotland has been raised.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/Business/PQA/default.aspx?pg=S3W-37133>

News

I question the value of the Powerlist – and yet it makes a vital point

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/nov/14/afua-hirsch-value-black-powerlist>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Westminster Parliamentary Question

Crime: Race and Criminal Justice Statistics

Lord Avebury: To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord McNally on 22 October (WA 205), what the obstacle is to police forces identifying racially and religiously aggravated offences separately; and whether they will ensure that in future those data are of sufficient quality to be published in the annual Statistics on Race and the Criminal Justice System.[HL3367]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Neville-Jones):

Police forces record crimes in accordance with the law and the provisions set out in the Home Office Counting Rules for Recorded Crime (HOCR). The relevant legislation (the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as added to by the Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001) created a single offence of racial or religious aggravation. Police recorded crime statistics currently include racially and religiously aggravated offences as set out in law. The Home Office plans to require forces to submit more detailed information on these and other notifiable offences from April 2011 which will provide additional data to show the split between the racial and religious elements.

Police data on racially or religiously aggravated offences have been published in the *Race and the Criminal Justice System* report since 2002 and tables showing the figures for individual police force areas have been published since 2003.

Once new proposals by the Home Office are in place, The Ministry of Justice's chief statistician will be responsible for any decision concerning the inclusion of these new data in subsequent reports dependent on their quality.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101110w0001.htm#10111057000435>

Press Release

Understanding the Holocaust through human rights education

http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/PR-holocaust-education_EN.pdf

New publication

Excursion to the past – teaching for the future: Handbook for teachers

http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/Handbook-teachers-holocaust-education_EN.pdf

News

Sheriff defers sentence for "disgusting and repulsive" comments

http://www.scojec.org/news/2010/10/xi_sandia.html

Guilty plea to racist hate on Scotsman site

<http://www.thejc.com/news/uk-news/41037/guilty-plea-racist-hate-scotsman-site>

Racists' hate campaign is making our lives a misery

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/Racists39-hate-campaign-is-making.6616962.jp>

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

Racist gang's glass attack raises fears of pub owners

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/Racist-gang39s-glass-attack-raises.6618291.jp>

'Mistreated' Travellers seek official apology

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/news/39Mistreated39-Travellers-seek-official-apology.6619818.jp>

Tory councillor arrested over Alibhai-Brown 'stoning' tweet

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/2010/nov/11/tory-councillor-tweet-yasmin-alibhai-brown-arrested>

Yasmin Alibhai-Brown: He has validated the haters who think it is OK to threaten me

<http://www.independent.co.uk/opinion/commentators/yasmin-alibhai-brown/yasmin-alibhaibrown-he-has-validated-the-haters-who-think-it-is-ok-to-threaten-me-2131893.html>

BNP leader Nick Griffin accused of lying over party's constitution

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2010/nov/08/nick-griffin-high-court-bnp>

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Other Holyrood

Press Release

Time and staff costs of FOI

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2010/11/12143737>

New publication

Scottish Government Freedom of Information Costing Exercise 2009-2010

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/933/0107309.pdf>

News

Scottish Parliament revenue powers set to increase

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-11750347>

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Other Westminster

Early Day Motion

Barry Gardiner (987) National Sewa Day - That this House congratulates all participants involved in organising the first National Sewa Day on 21 November 2010 as a cross-community, multi-faith initiative for social action to tackle hardship and conserve the environment; and pays tribute to Britain's Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist and Jain communities for leading by the power of their example in a practical way to benefit their fellow citizens.

<http://edmi.parliament.uk/EDMi/EDMDetails.aspx?EDMID=41976&SESSION=905>

Press Releases

Home Secretary announces Prevent review

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/press-releases/prevent-review>

Review of the Prevent strategy

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/counter-terrorism/review-of-prevent-strategy/>

New publication

'Transparency' website

<http://transparency.number10.gov.uk/>

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Other News

Lloyds launches rival to its own charity arm after cash row

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/scotland/Lloyds-launches-rival-to-its.6622855.jp>

Buddhist college for Glasgow

<http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/buddhist-college-for-glasgow-1.1066647>

Islam Channel censored by Ofcom

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/2010/nov/08/islam-channel-ofcom>

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Bills in Progress ** New or updated this week

Holyrood

Certification of Death Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/58-CertDeath/index.htm>

End of Life Assistance Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/38-EndLifeAssist/index.htm>

Forced Marriage etc. (Protection and Jurisdiction) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/53-forcedMarriage/index.htm>

Bills in Progress

Holyrood (continued)

Local Electoral Administration Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/57-LocalElecAdmin/index.htm>

** Palliative Care Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/50-PalliativeCare/index.htm>

Stage 1 evidence from Glasgow and Shetland Island Councils, Scottish Council on Deafness, the NHS, and the Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/hs/or-10/he10-3202.htm#Col3647>

Public Records Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/56-PublicRecords/index.htm>

Bills in Progress

Westminster

Face Coverings (Regulation) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/facecoveringsregulation.html>

** Fixed Term Parliaments Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/fixedtermparliaments.html>

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/064/amend/pbc0640911a.1159-1160.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/064/amend/pbc0641011a.1161-1163.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/064/amend/pbc0641111a.1165-1168.html>

House of Lords Reform Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/houseoflordsreformhl.html>

Human Trafficking (Border Control) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/humantraffickingbordercontrol.html>

** Identity Documents Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/identitydocuments.html>

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldbills/019/amend/am019-ra.htm>

Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/parliamentaryvotingsystemandconstituencies.html>

Return of Asylum Seekers (Applications from Certain Countries) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/returnofasylumseekersapplicationsfromcertaincountries.html>

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Consultations

(closing date)

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Certification of Death (Scotland) Bill (closes 18 November 2010)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/hs/inquiries/CertificationOfDeathBill/CallForEvidence.htm>

The Forced Marriage (Protection and Jurisdiction) (Scotland) Bill (25 November 2010)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/equal/inquiries/Call.htm>

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations (SCIO) Draft Regulations Discussion Paper (26 November 2010)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/48453/0105742.pdf>

Equality Duty: Detailed Proposals - Consultation on Public Sector Equality Duty Draft Regulations and Order (26 November 2010)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/324431/0104438.pdf>

The Future of the Citizenship Survey (30 November 2010)

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/communities/pdf/1756366.pdf>

Shaping Bereavement Care (2 December 2010)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/327965/0105922.pdf>

Equality and Human Rights Commission: Draft Code of Practice on Further and Higher Education (31 December 2010)

http://live.ehrc.precedenthost.co.uk/cgi-bin/generate.pl?page_id= sx0666i4b&save=screen

**** UK Extradition Arrangements** (31 December 2010)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/views-extradition>

Charity Commission for England and Wales: Views on Future Strategy

(14 January 2011)

http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/RSS/News/pr_strategic_review.aspx

Introducing fee charges for appeals in the Immigration and Asylum Chambers of the First-Tier Tribunal and the Upper Tribunal (21 January 2010)

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/consultations/fee-charges-appeals-consultation-211010.htm>

**** Prevent Review** (closing date not stated)

<http://preventreview.homeoffice.gov.uk/>

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Job Opportunities

[Click here](#) to find out about job opportunities advertised in MEMO+ Recruitment

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Asylum law, beyond the first tier tribunal

23 November 2010 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council legal seminar for immigration advisers, solicitors and advocates to examine representation of asylum claims to the Upper Tribunal and Court of Session. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see [http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/745 asylum law beyond the first tier tribunal](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/745_asylum_law_beyond_the_first_tier_tribunal)

EHRC dialogue session with minority ethnic communities

24 November 2010 in Dumfries (11.30 – 2.00)

As part of its strategy to empower grass root community groups and organisations, BEMIS is arranging sessions to stimulate dialogue and direct engagement between the EHRC and local community groups. For information contact Tanveer Parnez 0141 548 8047/ tanveer.parniez@bemis.org.uk

Working with Interpreters

25 November 2010 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course for those who work with non-English speaking service users, including asylum seekers and refugees, who need a comprehensive understanding of how to work with interpreters. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=94>

Scottish Interfaith Week

28 November – 5 December 2010

The theme for Scottish Interfaith Week 2010 is *Faith in Action*. Details of events will be posted at <http://www.scottishinterfaithcouncil.org/22.html> as they become available.

**** Beyond Religion and Belief - Addressing Sectarianism in the Workplace in Scotland**

30 November 2010 in Glasgow (1.45 – 3.45)

Nil by Mouth launch of a unique workplace scheme created to help build positive cultures in Scotland's workplaces. For information contact Lisa Campbell 0141 225 8008 / mail@nilbymouth.org

UKBA asylum support - the essentials

30 November 2010 in Glasgow

3 February 2010 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course for people supporting those going through the asylum process. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see [http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/325 ukba formerly nass asylum support - the essentials](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/325_ukba_formerly_nass_asylum_support_-_the_essentials)

Youth Interfaith Connect Conference

2 December 2010 (10.00 – 3.00)

ACPOS conference for young people to discuss issues such as the impact of faith in Scotland today, the impact of religious and sectarian hate crime on our communities, the role of the media in representing faith communities, religious education in schools, identity faith and belief, and faith and social action. For information contact Fiach OBroin-Molloy 01786 456000 / 07769 920 462 or see <http://www.interfaithconnect.org/> and discussion forum <http://www.interfaithconnect.org/forum/>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Equality Act 2010: What does it mean for you?

2 December 2010 in Stirling

19 January 2011 in Edinburgh

17 February 2011 in Inverness

Equality and Human Rights Commission conferences to provide information about how the Act works and how to use it, what discrimination means and who is protected. For information contact David Reilly David.Reilly@equalityhumanrights.com / 0141 228 5967 or see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/11ii_ehrc.pdf

**** Race Equality in Scotland**

2 December at the Scottish Parliament 2010 (6.00 – 8.00)

Runnymede event to mark 10 years since the Commission on the Future of Multi-Ethnic Britain published its landmark report "The Future of Multi-Ethnic Britain". For information contact Vicki Butler Vicki@runnymedetrust.org

Demands, Challenges, Opportunities: the changing third sector-public policy relationship

3 December 2010 in Edinburgh

SCVO Third Sector Research Conference to bring together Scottish Government, local government, third sector and academic researchers, to showcase their work and discuss a range of findings of relevance to public policy in Scotland. For information see <http://microsites.scvo.org.uk/scvo/SCVOEvents/ViewSCVOEvents.aspx?al=t&EID=1176&from=EventHome> or contact Helen Swatton 0141 225 8019 / helen.swatton@scvo.org

**** Amina Muslim Women's Centre Conference**

4 December 2010 (10.30 – 4.30)

Conference to celebrate and empower Muslim women. For information contact Amina 0141 585 8026 / info@mwrc.org.uk.

Home Sweet Home?

10 December 2010 in Falkirk (9.30 – 1.00)

Seminar to explore particular issues faced by black and minority ethnic (BME) women and children. These include – Forced Marriage; Honour Violence; FGM; Domestic Abuse; No Recourse to Public Funds. For information contact Alicia Kirkwood Alicia.kirkwood@falkirk.gov.uk or see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/10x_home.doc

An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees

17 December 2010 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to explore immigration terminology, main refugee nationalities, why people flee and factors affecting migration, the Refugee Convention - its history and interpretation, the UK asylum process and current implementation in Scotland, how to develop culturally sensitive services, and issues facing practitioners and possible solutions; best practice for support and advocacy. For information contact Jamie Spurway jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 248 9799 or see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/553_an_introduction_to_working_with_asylum_seekers_and_refugees

**** Scottish Refugee Council AGM**

14 January 2010 in Edinburgh (2.00)

Keynote speaker Shami Chakrabarti, Director of Liberty. The year 2011 marks the 60th anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Status of Refugees, and the theme of the AGM will be to recognise the importance of this international agreement which has saved thousands if not hundreds of thousands of lives over the years. For information contact Graeme Corbett Graeme.Corbett@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk /0141 223 7930

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** Working with Interpreters**

20 January 2011 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course for those who work with non-English speaking service users, including asylum seekers and refugees, who need a comprehensive understanding of how to work with interpreters. For information see

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=94> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 248 9799

Violence Against Women Faith, Culture and Practice Training

23 February 2011 in Stirling(10.00 – 4.00)

Amina training to explore the faith and cultural dimensions associated with the perpetration of violence against women in the Muslim and other Communities. For information contact pdu@stirling.gov.uk / 01786 442 562.

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Useful Links

Scottish Parliament <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/home.htm>

Scottish Government <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Home>

Westminster Parliament <http://www.parliament.uk/>

Directgov (links to UK Government Departments)

http://www.direct.gov.uk/DI1/Directories/AToZOfCentralGovernment/fs/en?CONTENT_ID=10013528&chk=8b2gQw

European Parliament <http://www.europarl.eu.int/parliament/public.do?language=en>

One Scotland Many Cultures <http://www.scotlandagainstracism.com/>

Scottish Refugee Council www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Scottish Inter Faith Council <http://www.scottishinterfaithcouncil.org/>

Equality and Human Rights Commission <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/>
Scotland Helpline 0845 604 5510

Scottish Human Rights Commission <http://scottishhumanrights.com/>

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

SCVO <http://www.scvo.org.uk/scvo/Home/Home.aspx>

Volunteer Development Scotland www.vds.org.uk

Social Economy Scotland <http://www.socialeconomyscotland.info/content/index.asp>

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) <http://www.oscr.org.uk/Index.stm>

Central Registered Body for Scotland (CRBS) <http://www.crbs.org.uk/>

Useful Links (continued)

Disclosure Scotland <http://www.disclosurescotland.co.uk/>

BBC News24 <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/default.stm>

BBC Parliament online

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/bbc_parliament/default.stm

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The **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC)** is the representative body of all the Jewish communities in Scotland. It advances public understanding about the Jewish religion, culture and community, and also works in partnership with other organisations to promote good relations and understanding among community groups and to promote equality. (Scottish Charity SC029438) <http://www.scojec.org/>



BEMIS is the Scottish national Ethnic Minorities led umbrella body, supporting, empowering, and building the capacity of minority third sector community organisations. As a strategic partner with Government, it is proactive in influencing the development of race equality policy in Scotland, and helps develop and progress multicultural Scotland, active citizenship, democracy, and Human Rights Education at the Scottish, UK, and European levels. <http://www.bemis.org.uk/index.html>



The **Scottish Government** is committed to promoting equality of opportunity and social justice for all those who live in Scotland. **One Scotland** is the Scottish Government campaign designed to tackle racism. It aims to raise awareness of racist attitudes, highlight its negative impact and recognise the valuable contributions that other cultures have made to our society – and make Scotland no place for racism. <http://www.scotlandagainstracism.com/>