

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.*

Contents

[Immigration and Asylum](#)

[Race Relations](#)

[Equality](#)

[Racism and Religious Hatred](#)

[Other Holyrood](#)

[Other Westminster](#)

[New Publications](#)

[Other News](#)

[Bills in Progress](#)

[Consultations](#)

[Job Opportunities](#)

[Events/Conferences/Training](#)

[Useful Links](#)

Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month, and that the Scottish Parliament website has recently been redesigned, so that links published in previous issues of MEMO may no longer work. To find archive material on the Scottish Parliament website, copy the details from MEMO into the search facility at <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/help/searchadvanced.aspx>.

Please send information for inclusion in MEMO to MEMO@scojec.org and requests to be added to circulation to mail@bemis.org.uk

The Scottish Parliament is now in recess until 3 September, and the UK Parliament will be in recess from 17 July to 5 September. During this period MEMO will be issued on 23 July, 6 and 20 August, and 10 September.

Immigration and Asylum

Westminster Debate

UK Border Agency

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120704/debtext/120704-0002.htm#12070479000001>

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Immigration: Foreign University Students

Lord Hannay of Chiswick: To ask Her Majesty's Government what consideration they have given to the benefits to the United Kingdom of ceasing to classify foreign university students as economic migrants.

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): My Lords, the United Kingdom uses the internationally agreed definition of the migrant, which is someone who comes here for over 12 months. It is right that students staying for that period are counted because during their stay they are part of the resident population. It would damage public confidence in statistics to discount them.

Lord Hannay of Chiswick: ... The main reason he has given in replies to earlier questions-he has just given it again-for not changing our present practice of classifying students for policy purposes in the net migration figures is the existence of a UN guideline to the effect that anyone who stays for a year is a migrant. Can he confirm that the guideline does not have the force of international law, is therefore not binding on the British Government and, further, is not applied in the calculation of net migration figures for policy purposes by our main competitors in the higher education sector-the US, Canada and Australia? Is it not about time that the Government ceased to handicap the most rapidly growing and most promising invisible export sector we have?

Reply from Lord Henley: My Lords, I fail to understand what the noble Lord and Universities UK are getting at in their objections to us applying proper statistics as agreed by international convention, which is what we follow. If the noble Lord is suggesting that by changing the way we count the statistics, we will make life easier for universities, again I fail to understand him. I do not see why they are discouraging undergraduates from coming to this country. All we require of the students is that they show an ability to speak English and that they have an offer of a place at a university in the United Kingdom. The statistics simply do not come into it, so fiddling with them would discourage students because it would imply that probably the only subject they ought to come here to study would be statistics.

Lord Eden of Winton: Can my noble friend assure the House that nothing is being done now that would in any way damage or reduce the substantial economic benefit that bona fide foreign students bring to this country, in particular to our universities, colleges and academies where the English language is taught? It is important that this should continue unabated.

Reply from Lord Henley: My Lords, I totally agree with my noble friend, and we want to continue to encourage them to come here. I do not see why changing the statistics is going to discourage them. We have, in fact, seen an increase in the number of students who come to reputable and proper universities, and a reduction in the number of those who come to bogus colleges and schools, who come here not to learn but to work.

To continue reading the lengthy question and answer session see
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120703-0001.htm#120703121000464>

Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

Nicholas Soames: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many non-EU students were reported to her Department by educational institutions due to (a) poor attendance and (b) other concerns about their genuineness. [114868]

Reply from Damian Green: Tier 4 sponsors use the online Sponsor Management System to report on student activity. Sponsors select one of a number of categories when reporting.

The number of reports by sponsors using the category which most closely equates to poor attendance, "Student has missed 10 expected contacts without

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

permission", in each year from March 2010 to March 2012 are as follows:

	<i>Number</i>
2010	3,100
2011	17,100
2012	3,700
Total	23,900

These figures are taken from Management Information and sponsors may have reported any individual student on multiple occasions.

The Sponsor Management System does not include a specific reporting category for concerns about genuineness.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120702/text/120702w0001.htm#12070233000022>

Immigration

Lord Morrow: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the UK Border Agency is monitored to ensure compliance with all statutory rules when interviewing potential illegal immigrants, particularly with regard to interviews of children and vulnerable adults, when a social worker or person of similar standing is required to be present.[HL1029]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): Oversight of the UK Border Agency's compliance with all statutory duties and operational policy, including those relating to children and vulnerable adults, is governed on various levels throughout the business. The Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration works to ensure independent scrutiny of the work of the UK Border Agency and the Border Force, providing confidence and assurance as to their effectiveness and efficiency.

The chief inspector is completely independent of the UK Border Agency and Border Force and reports directly to the Home Secretary. Full detail on the role of the chief inspector can be found at: <http://icinspector.independent.gov.uk/>.

Within the UK Border Agency there are various mechanisms for monitoring compliance. Both the UK Border Agency and Border Force conduct national assurance programmes, to ensure compliance with policies and processes against comprehensive quality assurance frameworks and operational guidance. Management assurance measures are also in place to check whether the standards are met. Expert advice and quality assurance on any case involving children, including those cases where vulnerable adults form part of a family unit is available through the safeguarding co-ordinators network and the Office of the Children's Champion within the UK Border Agency.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120702w0001.htm#12070218000360>

EU: Bulgaria and Romania

Lord Laird: To ask Her Majesty's Government under what circumstances the transitional restrictions currently applied to Bulgarian and Romanian nationals can be extended beyond 2013; and whether they will propose within the European Union that the transitional rules be reviewed and time extended.[HL1128]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): The Protocol to the Treaty on the Accession of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union provides that transitional measures on the freedom of movement of persons may be applied for a maximum period of seven years. The existing restrictions cannot, therefore, be extended beyond the end of 2013 under the terms of the treaty.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120702w0001.htm#12070218000351>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Asylum

Nic Dakin: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what steps she has taken to ensure that (a) failed asylum seekers and (b) refugees have access to adequate accommodation, food and other essential items whilst in the UK. [113575]

Reply from Damian Green: The support available to failed asylum seekers under section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 includes the provision of accommodation and a weekly allowance to obtain food and other essential items. Refugees can access the mainstream benefits system on the same terms as British citizens and other permanent residents.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120704/text/120704w0001.htm#120704103000037>

Asylum

Cathy Jamieson: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many legacy asylum cases for each country of origin remain unresolved; and when she expects these cases to be resolved. [113672]

Reply from Damian Green: The UK Border Agency provides regular updates to the Home Affairs Committee on the cases in its Case Assurance and Audit Committee. The latest update was sent to the Committee in May 2012.

The additional information you have requested about legacy asylum cases for each country of origin is not readily available or quality assured. However, the top 10 nationalities have been sourced from local management information; this is not a national statistic:

1. China
2. India
3. Pakistan
4. Afghanistan
5. Sri Lanka
6. Iraq
7. Nigeria
8. Turkey
9. Zimbabwe
10. Iran.

The Casework and Assurance Audit Unit will resolve these legacy cases as barriers are lifted.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120702/text/120702w0001.htm#12070233000014>

Asylum: Children

Nic Dakin: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what steps she is taking to ensure that children do not become destitute as a result of having financial support withdrawn in the event of a failed application for asylum. [113574]

Reply from Damian Green: Support is not withdrawn in the circumstances described. Asylum seekers with children are supported by the UK Border Agency under section 95 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. Eligibility to this support lasts until they leave the United Kingdom or they are granted leave to remain and can access the mainstream benefits system. Unaccompanied asylum seeking children are supported by local authorities irrespective of their immigration status.

Nic Dakin: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether her Department monitors the numbers of all asylum-seeking and migrant children living in poverty. [113576]

Reply from Damian Green: There are no such monitoring arrangements. All

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

asylum seeking children have access to support if they need it. The support is provided by the UK Border Agency if they are with their parents or by local authorities if they are unaccompanied. Other migrant children have to satisfy the immigration rules in order to enter the United Kingdom, including requirements that their families can support them without recourse to public funds. The Children Acts also act as a safeguard in circumstances where the child's welfare is at risk.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120704/text/120704w0001.htm#120704103000038>

Westminster Early Day Motion

David Ward (335) Family immigration rules – That this House recognises the important economic and cultural benefits of immigration; notes that the Government's plans to increase the income threshold at which UK citizens can bring a spouse to the country to £18,600 (£27,200 with three children) will deprive many residents of towns like Bradford, where 21 per cent of households have incomes under £15,000 per year, of the right to a family life; believes that the right to a family life should not be contingent on earnings; further notes several reports from the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration which call into question the quality of decision making on family immigration cases; and therefore calls for the Government to review its plans both to increase the income threshold at which UK citizens can bring a spouse to the country to £18,600 (£27,200 with three children) and to remove the right of appeal against the refusal of family visitor visas.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2012-13/335>

Press Releases

Family settlement changes – online applications and new forms

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2012/july/13-forms>

Response to the Independent Chief Inspector's report

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2012/july/09-response-to-report>

Imprisoning migrants is not the answer, says UN expert

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

New Publications

Work of the UK Border Agency (August-December 2011)

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmselect/cmhaff/378/378.pdf>

Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee: Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldselect/ldsecleg/26/26.pdf>

Parochial and Cosmopolitan Britain: Examining the Social Divide in Reactions to Immigration

http://www.gmfus.org/wp-content/blogs.dir/1/files/mf/1337623670Ford_BritishImmigrationAttitudes_Apr12_web.pdf

Immigration and Asylum (continued) News

Glasgow City Council stands up for destitute asylum seekers

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/1751_glasgow_city_council_stands_up_for_destitute_asylum_seekers

PM set for immigration U-turn as loss of foreign students costs billions

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/National/article1077046.ece

Immigrants must learn National Anthem for new citizenship test

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/uk/immigrants-must-learn-national-anthem-for-new-citizenship-test-1-2387149>

Immigration backlog: New warning from watchdog

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-18715036>

UK Border Agency loses 150,000 migrants staying illegally

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/uk-border-agency-loses-150000-migrants-staying-illegally-7912816.html>

Thousands of immigrants missing, presumed illegal

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article3466503.ece>

[TOP](#)

Race Relations

News

Muslims are well-integrated in Britain – but no one seems to believe it

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2012/jul/03/muslims-integrated-britain>

Nationality? We're all British now

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article3468303.ece>

[TOP](#)

Equality

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Unemployment: Ethnic Groups

Stephen Timms: To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office what his most recent estimate is of the level of unemployment among young black men. [114804]

Reply from Nick Hurd : The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the authority to reply.

Letter from Stephen Penneck, dated July 2012:

Estimates of unemployment come from the Labour Force Survey (LFS). For the period January-March 2012 it is estimated that there were 28,000 unemployed men aged 16 to 24 inclusive who reported their ethnicity as Black. This is an unemployment rate of 50 per cent.

As with any sample survey, estimates from the LFS are subject to a margin of

Equality

Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

uncertainty. It is estimated that the true value is likely to lie between 18,000 and 38,000.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120703/text/120703w0003.htm#120703137000122>

Unemployment: Ethnic Groups

Stephen Timms: To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions what assessment he has made of the reasons for the high level of unemployment among young black men; and what steps he proposes to take to tackle this problem. [114805]

Reply from Chris Grayling: This Government is moving beyond defining people simply because they have ticked a box on a form. Our approach is to support people according to their individual needs and circumstances rather than segregate people according to ethnicity. That is why we have introduced personalised support, through the Work Programme, the Youth Contract and Get Britain Working Measures. The significantly increased flexibility that we have given to providers and Jobcentre Plus means that interventions can be tailored to address an individual's specific needs.

Stephen Timms: To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions what assessment he has made of the reasons for the high level of unemployment among women of Bangladeshi and Pakistani background; and what steps he plans to take to tackle this problem. [114807]

Reply from Chris Grayling: This Government is moving beyond defining people simply because they have ticked a box on a form. Our approach is to support people according to their individual needs and circumstances rather than segregate people according to ethnicity. That is why we have introduced personalised support, through the Work Programme, the Youth Contract and Get Britain Working Measures. The significantly increased flexibility that we have given to providers and Jobcentre Plus means that interventions can be tailored to address an individual's specific needs.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120702/text/120702w0002.htm#12070244000029>

Employment Schemes: Ethnic Groups

Stephen Timms: To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions what steps he plans to take to ensure that the Work Programme achieves equitable outcomes for black and minority ethnic participants. [114806]

Chris Grayling: Work Programme providers deliver personalised support, tailored to the individual needs of participants. The Department monitors the characteristics, including ethnicity, of participants referred to the Work Programme on an ongoing basis, and Work Programme providers are bound through the terms of their contract to prevent unlawful discrimination and promote equality of opportunity in respect of ethnicity.

Furthermore DWP has commissioned a consortium led by the Institute for Employment Studies (IES) to undertake an independent evaluation of the Work Programme. Evaluation work started in autumn 2011 and will conclude in 2014.

This evaluation will consider the effectiveness of the programme for different types of participants, including black and minority ethnic participants.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120702/text/120702w0002.htm#12070244000012>

New Enterprise Allowance: Ethnic Groups

Toby Perkins: To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions what steps he has

Equality

Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

taken to ensure that the new enterprise allowance attracts black or minority ethnic participants; and how he plans to monitor the success of those steps. [114861]

Reply from Chris Grayling: The new enterprise allowance is a voluntary scheme which is open to all jobseeker's allowance claimants from 26-weeks unemployment. All eligible claimants are informed about the scheme by Jobcentre Plus and, therefore, steps to attract specific groups are not required. Participants are self selecting and all claimants that express an interest are referred to a local mentoring partnership to have their business idea assessed. Take up of the scheme is reported each quarter via the official statistics published here:

http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/pwp/pwp_gbw_may12.pdf

Toby Perkins: To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions how many of the successful applicants for the new enterprise allowance are of black or minority ethnic origin. [114862]

Reply from Chris Grayling: These statistics are published and are available on the Department's website:

http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/pwp/pwp_gbw_may12.pdf

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120702/text/120702w0002.htm#12070244000019>

News

Graduates from ethnic minorities face an even harder time

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2012/jul/04/graduates-ethnic-minority>

[TOP](#)

Racism and Religious Hatred

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Religious Groups: Discrimination

Lord Janner of Braunstone: To ask Her Majesty's Government what action they are taking to ensure that minority faiths in the United Kingdom are protected against discrimination, especially by radical groups.[HL1050]

Reply from Baroness Verma: Under the Equality Act 2010, which this Government brought into force, there is protection against discrimination, harassment and victimisation for a range of characteristics, including religion or belief. These provisions apply equally to all religions and beliefs; there is no difference in the way that they protect those of minority faiths or those with no religion or belief. Specific criminal offences exist under Part three and Part 3A of the Public Order Act 1986 with regard to stirring up hatred on the grounds of race or religion. There are separate racially and religiously aggravated offences under Sections 28-32 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and Section 39 of the Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001. There are also powers to increase the sentence for any offence aggravated by hostility towards race and religion under Sections 145 and 146 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003. The courts have not hesitated to use their general powers to reflect aggravating and mitigating factors to increase or decrease the minimum term in individual cases.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120702w0001.htm#12070218000371>

Racism and Religious Hatred Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Racial Discrimination: EU Action

Kate Green: To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities what assessment she has made of the effect of the proposed repeal of the good relations duty in section 3 of the Equality Act 2006 on the UK's compliance with EU framework decision 2008/913/JHA on combating racism and xenophobia; and if she will make a statement. [114083]

Reply from Lynne Featherstone: The Equality and Human Rights Commission's duty to promote understanding of the importance of good relations between groups is contained in section 10 of the Equality Act 2006. The repeal of section 10 will not impact on the UK's compliance with EU Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA on combating racism and xenophobia. The UK fulfils its obligations under the Framework Decision through the criminal law, principally the provisions on incitement to racial hatred contained in the Public Order Act 1986. Further, the Equality and Human Rights Commission's most valuable work in the area of good relations can continue to be carried out under its existing equality and human rights duties at section 8 and section 9 of the Equality Act 2006, so the separate good relations duty set out in section 10 is unnecessary.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120702/text/120702w0004.htm#1207039000028>

Press Releases

States must address racist attacks during sporting events

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=42388&Cr=discrimination&Cr1=>

States must tackle racist attacks by extremist groups, from political to sporting arenas

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=12316&LangID=E>

News

Flat adverts that may be breaking the law

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-18588612>

Church of England votes to ban clergy from discriminatory political parties

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/jul/07/church-of-england-discriminatory-parties>

Church closer to banning BNP clergy

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/church-closer-to-banning-bnp-clergy-7922296.html>

Race watchdog's lawyer accuses it of racism

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/Society/article1077028.ece

Who, if not you? How you can intervene when witnessing racist assaults

<http://www.enargywebzine.eu/spip.php?article205&lang=en>

[TOP](#)

Other Holyrood

Press Releases

Scottish Government details process for referendum

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/07/process-for-referendum03072012>

Scottish Government appoint referendum expert

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/07/sq-appoint-referendum-expert05072012>

Radical overhaul of criminal justice

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/07/carlowayconsultation03072012>

[TOP](#)

Other Westminster

Debate

Female Genital Mutilation

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120705/debtext/120705-0004.htm#12070562000006>

Press Release

Protecting girls from female genital mutilation

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/female-genital-mutilation-help>

[TOP](#)

New Publications

Scotland's Census 2011: Outputs Prospectus Scotland

<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/files2/the-census/progress-reports/census-2011-outputs-prospectus.pdf>

Public trust and confidence in charities

http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/Library/about_us/ptc_ipsos_mori_2012.pdf

[TOP](#)

Other News

Scottish law watchdog gives warning on 'pay-more-get-more' justice

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/scotland/scottish-law-watchdog-gives-warning-on-pay-more-get-more-justice-1-2387506>

EU adopts Strategic Framework on Human Rights and Democracy

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=PESC/12/285&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

[TOP](#)

Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Holyrood

Freedom of Information (Amendment) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/51531.aspx>

Police and Fire Reform Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/45701.aspx>

Social Care (Self-directed Support) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/48001.aspx>

Welfare Reform (Further Provision) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/48804.aspx>

Westminster

Draft Communications Data Bill

Draft Bill as published

<http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm83/8359/8359.pdf>

**** Crime and Courts Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-13/crimeandcourts.html>

Committee Stage, House of Lords

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120702-0001.htm#12070212000549>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120702-0002.htm#12070228000160>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120704-0001.htm#12070480000503>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120704-0002.htm#120704109000061>

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2012-2013/0004/amend/ml004-vi.htm>

Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Further Provisions and Support for Victims) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-13/humantraffickingandexploitationfurtherprovisionsandsupportforvictims.html>

[TOP](#)

Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Where Gypsy/Travellers Live (closing date 13 July 2012)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/49027.aspx>

Consultations (continued)

**** closes next week!**

Making Justice Work for Victims and Witnesses (closing date 20 July 2012)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0039/00393452.pdf>

Responsible officers in the new health architecture: Amendments to the Medical Profession (Responsible Officers) 2010 Regulations (closing date 25 July 2012)

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_133601

Scottish Civil Justice Council and Criminal Legal Assistance Bill (closing date 27 July 2012)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/50802.aspx>

Equality Act 2010: employer liability for harassment of employees by third parties (closing date 7 August 2012)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/about-us/consultations/third-party-harassment/consultation-document?view=Binary>

Equality Act 2010: repeal of two enforcement provisions (closing date 7 August 2012)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/about-us/consultations/equality-act-wider-enforcement/consultation-document?view=Binary>

Freedom of Information (Amendment) Bill (closing date 8 August 2012)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/52148.aspx>

**** Rules on the entry and residence of non-EU national researchers, students, school pupils, unremunerated trainees and volunteers in the EU** (closing date 23 August 2012)

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-is-new/public-consultation/2012/consulting_0024_en.htm

**** Draft Communications Data Bill** (closing date 23 August 2012)

<http://www.parliament.uk/documents/joint-committees/communications-data/commsdataCfE.pdf>

**** Ethnic minority female unemployment** (closing date 3 September 2012)

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/projects-and-publications/parliament/appg-2/appg-inquiry.html>

Runnymede Equality Survey (closing date 7 September 2012)

<http://rminsight.co.uk/surveys/runnymede/>

Your rights, your future (closing date 9 September 2012)

<http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=EUCitizenship3&lang=en>

**** Integration index** (closing date 10 September 2012)

<https://www.survey.bris.ac.uk/bham/refugeeintegration/>

Investing In and Paying for Your Water Services from 2015 (closing date 11 September 2012)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0039/00395226.pdf>

**** A Scotland for Children: A Consultation on the Children and Young People Bill**

(closing date 25 September 2012)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0039/00396537.pdf>

Consultations (continued)

**** Reforming Scots Criminal Law and Practice: The Carloway Report** (closing date 5 October 2012)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0039/00396483.pdf>

Here to Stay: People with learning disabilities from ethnic minority communities including new migrants (no closing date given)

<http://www.snapsurveys.com/sw/h/surveypreview.asp?k=132127029508>

Facing Facts: EU project to improve monitoring and recording of hate crimes and incidents throughout the European Union (no closing date given)

http://www.ceji.org/facingfacts/?page_id=158

**** Future rules on the entry and residence of non-EU national researchers, students, school pupils, unremunerated trainees and volunteers in the EU** (no closing date given)

<http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=Immigration2012>

[TOP](#)

Job Opportunities

[Click here](#) to find out about job opportunities

[TOP](#)

Events/Conferences/Training

**** new or updated this week**

**** this week!**

2014 Commonwealth Games Committee

12 July 2012 in Glasgow (12.00 – 1.30)

The 2014 games committee is very keen to do more outreach with Scotland's Minority Ethnic communities, particularly in terms of legacy and participation in the games. For details contact Humza Yousaf MSP humza.yousaf.msp@scottish.parliament.uk or Rachel Heydecker rachel.heydecker@scottish.parliament.uk

**** next week!**

The needs and experiences of refugee women

20 July 2012 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide an understanding of fundamental issues affecting women seeking asylum in Scotland. It is appropriate for those working in social work, housing, welfare, education, employment, health, community development or the justice system. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/7osl6r5>.

An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees

24 July 2012 in Glasgow (9.15 – 4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council training to identify fundamental issues facing asylum seekers and refugees today, and highlighting current legislation and entitlements. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/burro73> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Festival of Politics

17 – 25 August 2012 at the Scottish Parliament

http://www.festivalofpolitics.org.uk/pdf/2012_Festival_of_Politics_Programme.pdf

Scottish Irish Conversation on Sectarianism

17 August 2012 at the Scottish Parliament (10.00 – 11.00)

Festival of Politics discussion to exchange knowledge between community leaders, academics and policy makers. For information see

<http://www.festivalofpolitics.org.uk/65.htm>

Singin I'm No a Billy He's a Tim

17 August 2012 at the Scottish Parliament (6.30 – 8.00)

Festival of Politics performance exploring play exploring bigotry and ethnic identity. For information see <http://www.festivalofpolitics.org.uk/56.htm>

The Essentials of Asylum: understanding what causes refugees to flee and the process of seeking protection

21 August 2012 in Glasgow (9.15 – 1.00)

Scottish Refugee Council course for those who work with people seeking asylum and refugees to provide an introduction to core issues affecting those seeking sanctuary in Scotland. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/bmb7pll>.

Who are 'Jock Tamson's Bairns'? – Attitudes Towards Migration in Scotland

24 August 2012 at the Scottish Parliament (10.30 – 11.30)

Festival of Politics debate Scottish about attitudes to immigration, and whether they support the claims of Scotland to be a more welcoming country. For information see

<http://www.festivalofpolitics.org.uk/146.htm>

Making the Law Work for You – How Would You Improve the Justice System?

24 August 2012 at the Scottish Parliament (1.00 – 2.00)

Festival of Politics discussion about mediation and arbitration, improving our system of human rights, the benefits of legal aid and making the law 'less legal'. For information see <http://www.festivalofpolitics.org.uk/135.htm>

NGOs Against Modern-Day Slavery

24 August 2012 at the Scottish Parliament (2.30 – 3.30)

Festival of Politics discussion about the role of artists in preventing and combating human trafficking as modern-day slavery. For information see

<http://www.festivalofpolitics.org.uk/148.htm>

Working with Interpreters

31 August 2012 in Glasgow (9.15 – 1.00)

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. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/1574_working_with_interpreters

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** Risk management and financial controls**

20 September 2012 in Inverness (9.30 – 12.00)

9 October 2012 in Dumfries (1.30 – 4.00)

Oban (date to be confirmed)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator training to look at risk management and financial controls within Scottish charities, focusing on different types of fraud, and methods to prevent and tackle fraud. For information see <http://www.scvo.org.uk/oscr/oscr-outreach-risk-management-and-financial-controls/>

**** Completing the new OSCR Returns**

20 September 2012 in Inverness (1.30 – 4.00)

24 September 2012 in Dundee (9.30 – 12.00)

9 October 2012 in Dumfries (9.30 – 12.00)

6 November 2012 in Edinburgh (1.30 – 4.00)

8 November 2012 in Glasgow (1.30 – 4.00)

Oban (date to be confirmed)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator training to look at the ways in which charities report to OSCR, and will include an introduction to OSCR Online. OSCR Online offers online reporting options for charities, giving them greater control in the submission of accounts and other information to OSCR. For information see <http://www.scvo.org.uk/oscr/oscr-outreach-completing-oscr-returns/>

**** Thinking about the future, including conversions to SCIO**

24 September 2012 in Dundee (1.30 – 4.00)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator training to cover planning ahead within the life of a charity, and explain consent, notification, charity reorganisation and converting to the new Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) structure. For information see <http://www.scvo.org.uk/oscr/oscr-outreach-thinking-about-the-future/>

**** East European Roma – Cultural Awareness Training**

17 October 2012 in Nottingham

Roma Support Group training to include an introduction to Roma culture and traditions, language and history. Reference will be made to the differences between Romanian, Polish and Czech Roma. This will provide the backdrop to practically oriented sessions which will look at barriers to accessing services, and more effective ways to engage with Roma families. For information see http://www.ccclimited.org.uk/roma_17_10_12.html

**** Becoming a charity and choosing the right legal form**

6 November 2012 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 12.00)

8 November 2012 in Glasgow (9.30 – 12.00)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator training to take an in depth look at the pros and cons of registering as a charity, and explain the various legal forms available, including the new Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) structure. For information see <http://www.scvo.org.uk/oscr/oscr-outreach-becoming-a-charity/>

[TOP](#)

Useful Links

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

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

Useful Links (continued)

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.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/>

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

Public Sector Equality Duty Guidance

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/scotland/public-sector-equality-duty/non-statutory-guidance-for-scottish-public-authorities/>

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

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

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

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

[TOP](#)



*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 Charitable Incorporated Organisation 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/>

The copyright of each article belongs to the publisher on whose website it appears, and it may only be copied or reproduced in accordance with the relevant terms and conditions. Full details of these, and the publisher's contact information, are available on each website.