

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, and that the Scottish and UK Parliament and Government websites been redesigned, so that links published in back issues of MEMO may no longer work. To find archive material on these websites, copy details from MEMO into the relevant search facility.

Please send information for inclusion in MEMO to MEMO@scojec.org and [click here](#) to be added to the mailing list.

The UK Parliament has been [prorogued](#), and will not sit again until after the General Election that will take place on 8 June 2017.

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-05410 John Mason: Scotland's Population Reaches New High – That the Parliament welcomes the figures released by the National Records of Scotland, which show Scotland's population reaching a new record of 5,404,700; understands that this shows an increase of 31,700 over the year to June 2016; further understands that this increase is in large part down to migration, with 31,700 more people moving to Scotland rather than leaving; notes that migration from the rest of the UK was 5,900 higher than from overseas, however, 20,000 more people left Scotland to live in the rest of the UK when compared to those moving overseas, leading to a net gain of 22,900 from overseas and 8,800 from the rest of the UK; believes that these positive figures show that Scotland is a highly desirable country to live in, and considers that this highlights the need for

Scotland to continue to be a welcoming outward looking country that is able to attract people here to live and work.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-05410>

Scottish Parliament Equalities and Human Rights Committee

Inquiry into Destitution, Asylum and Insecure Immigration Status

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10894&i=99696#ScotParlOR>

UK Parliament, Ministerial Statement

Immigration

The Minister of State for Immigration (Robert Goodwill): In 2016, the UK granted asylum or another form of leave to over 8,000 children. By the end of 2016, the UK had resettled more than 5,000 people under the Syrian Vulnerable Persons' Resettlement Scheme and the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme, as part of our commitment to taking 23,000 people by 2020. Our resettlement schemes allow children to be resettled with their family members, thereby discouraging them from making perilous journeys to Europe alone. In 2016, we transferred over 900 unaccompanied asylum-seeking children from within Europe to the UK, including more than 750 from France as part of the UK's comprehensive support for the Calais camp clearance. And over 200 children have already arrived in the UK under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016. The UK has pledged over £2.3 billion in aid in response to the events in Syria and the region - our largest ever humanitarian response to a single crisis. Within Europe, the UK has also established a £10 million Refugee Children's Fund to support the needs of vulnerable refugee and migrant children arriving in Europe. The fund includes targeted support to meet the specific needs of unaccompanied and separated children.

In my Written Ministerial Statement of 8 February 2017 I announced that, following consultation with local authorities, the Government would transfer the specified number of 350 unaccompanied children from Europe to the UK under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016.

The Government has very recently become aware that, due to an administrative error as part of collating the figures, one region pledged 130 places which were not accounted for in setting the specified number. As part of the consultation local authorities were asked to let their Strategic Migration Partnerships know how many places they could offer, and then the Strategic Migration Partnerships provided the regional number to the Home Office. The Home Office continued to work with the Strategic Migration Partnerships throughout the consultation process, and believed that two regions in England had not provided responses after the consultation closed. Both of these regions had already stepped up to take a number of children from over-burdened councils elsewhere in the country so it was assumed they would continue to support the national transfer scheme as and when they could, but were not able to provide specific numbers which the Home Office could then allocate to section 67 cases. The Home Office recently discovered that one of the regions had sent a return and we are now including their pledges in the specified number for the purposes of section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016.

In order to ensure the specified number of children to be transferred is a true reflection of the responses to that consultation, I am today announcing that, in accordance with section 67 of the Immigration Act, the Government is increasing the specified number from 350 to 480. As outlined in my original statement, the specified number includes over 200 children already transferred from France as part of the Calais camp clearance. It does not include children transferred to the UK pursuant to the family reunion criteria of the Dublin III Regulation.

The Government remains fully committed to the implementation of our commitment under section 67 to transfer unaccompanied children to the UK from Europe and no eligible child has been refused transfer to the UK as a result of this error. The Home Secretary has written to her counterparts in France, Greece and Italy and we are working closely with Member States, as well as the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and NGO partners so we can identify and transfer children to the UK as soon as possible. Home Office officials have met with their counterparts in each of the countries in the past few weeks to plan future transfers. We have secondees in Greece and Italy working on transfers of unaccompanied children to the UK under both the Dublin III Regulation and section 67 and we published the criteria for future transfers on 10 March. Over the coming months, the Government will continue to work with EU Member States and partners to implement section 67. [HCWS619]

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2017-04-26/HCWS619/>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Doctors: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake [71614] To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what discussions his Department has had with (a) Hospital Trusts and (b) the British Medical Association on the effect of the UK leaving the EU on the number of doctors from the EU working in the NHS.

Reply from Philip Dunn: The Department and the Secretary of State have regular discussions with the British Medical Association and hospital trusts on a range of issues.

The Secretary of State has always made clear that European Union nationals who work in the National Health Service make a valuable contribution and securing their futures will be a priority in the Brexit negotiations.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-21/71614/>

Nurses: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake [71615] To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what recent discussions his Department has had with (a) Hospital Trusts and (b) the Royal College of Nursing on the effect of the UK leaving the EU on the number of nursing staff from the EU working in the NHS.

Reply from Philip Dunn: The Department and the Secretary of State have regular discussions with the Royal College of Nursing and hospital trusts on a range of issues.

The Secretary of State has always made clear that European Union nationals who work in the National Health Service make a valuable contribution and securing their futures will be a priority in the Brexit negotiations.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-21/71615/>

British Nationality

Margaret Ferrier [71318] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average cost to her Department was of administering applications for (a) naturalisation (b) registration to become a British citizen in each year since 2015.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The estimated average cost of processing nationality naturalisation and registration applications in each year since 2015 is detailed within the appropriate publications below:

Naturalisation

2015/16

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/768/pdfs/uksiem_20150768_en.pdf

2016/17

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/503759/2016_Unit_Costs_Table.pdf

2017/18

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/606616/Unit_cost_table_2017.pdf

Registration

2015/16

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/768/pdfs/uksiem_20150768_en.pdf

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-19/71318/>

British Nationality

Margaret Ferrier [71319] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for naturalisation to become a British citizen were (a) rejected on the grounds that the applicant was made bankrupt within 10 years of making the application and (b) accepted despite the applicant being bankrupt within 10 years of making the application in each year since 2015.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: No statistical information is available showing how many applications for British citizenship have been rejected or accepted where the applicant had been made bankrupt.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-19/71319/>

Entry Clearances

Vicky Foxcroft [71512] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will take steps to enable non-EEA applicants to be issued with a certificate of application.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Under Regulation 18(3) of the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2016, non-EEA nationals who make a valid application for EEA documentation are already issued with a certificate of application.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-20/71512/>

Entry Clearances: Families

Anna Turley [60318] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to ensure that the family visitor visa application process is clear and comprehensible to people using that process.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Home Office website contains detailed guidance for customers on the process of applying for a visa.

Customer service is a key priority for UK Visas and Immigration, and the efficiency and effectiveness of the visa application process is kept under regular review, including by the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration. Feedback from customers and partners assists us in continuously improving the services we offer. For example, during 2016 we rolled out a new and more intuitive online visa application process, Access UK.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-17/60318/>

Visas

Jeff Smith [69608] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many and what proportion of applicants for the 30-day entry visas to the UK specified a future date for travel on their application form.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: All visa applicants are required as part of the online application process to provide the date on which they intend to travel to the UK.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-28/69608/>

Visas: Overseas Students

Julian Sturdy [63536] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of Tier 4 visa applications was processed within 15 working days in the last 12 months.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Home Office publishes quarterly statistics on the processing of Tier 4 applications within 15 working days (the latest of which were published on 1 December 2016). Reports covering the last 12 months can be found here:

https://www.gov.uk/search?q=international+operations+transparency+data&show_organisations_filter=true

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-02-07/63536/>

Overseas Students: Visas

Eilidh Whiteford [907245] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what discussions she has had with the Home Secretary on reintroduction of the post-study work visa.

Reply from Joseph Johnson: The Department engages regularly with the Home Office on matters of student migration.

Overseas students can remain in the UK to work following their studies by switching to several existing visa routes, including Tier 2 (skilled worker) visas.

The Government closed the dedicated Post Study Work visa route in 2012 on the grounds that it was open to immigration abuse (including low-skilled work and fraudulent applications).

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-11-08/907245/>

Overseas Students: Undocumented Migrants

Nicholas Soames [71217] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many non-EU students were unaccounted for at the end of their courses in each of the last five years.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Over time the data obtained through exit checks will contribute to the statistical picture.

The Home Office is continuing to assess and analyse elements of the exit check data collected in relation to specific cohorts to understand the extent to which estimates provided are statistically robust. This level of detail is not yet available.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-18/71217/>

Refugees: Sponsorship

Karl Turner [71638] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many community groups have signed up to the Community Sponsorship scheme since it was launched.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The number of people who have been resettled under the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement scheme is published in the quarterly Home Office immigration statistics. Since the scheme began in January 2014 a total of 5,706 people have been resettled in the UK to the end of December 2016. The figure includes those Syrians resettled with a community sponsor during this period.

We have seen considerable interest in the scheme from across the UK and are

working with a number of groups as they develop their plans. Supporting a vulnerable resettled family is a significant responsibility and it is only right that we carefully assess every sponsoring organisation. We will, therefore, not be providing a running commentary on numbers that have been resettled with a community sponsor or how many community groups have signed up to the scheme.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-21/71638/>

Refugees: Families

The following two questions both received the same answer

Helen Hayes [70806] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many vulnerable adult women refugees, including gender-based violence survivors, pregnant refugee women and women with newly born children under 12 months have been identified for family reunion with extended family they have in the UK under the Dublin III regulation.

Helen Hayes [70807] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department has taken to identify vulnerable adult women refugees, including gender-based violence survivors, pregnant refugee women, or women with newly born children under 12 months, who could be eligible for refugee family reunion with extended family they have in the UK, in line with the Dublin Regulation's discretionary clause.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Government continues to work with key EU Member States to ensure the Dublin Regulation family reunification process works effectively. We will always fully consider any request made to the UK to unite family members under the Dublin Regulation. Where someone seeking asylum elsewhere in the EU can demonstrate they have close family members legally in the UK, we will continue to meet our obligations under the Dublin Regulation and accept responsibility for processing such claims. At present we do not publish data on cases covered by the Dublin Regulation. Eurostat, the EU's statistics agency, regularly publishes Member State figures, which can be found at:

http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Dublin_statistics_on_countries_responsible_for_asylum_application

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70806/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70807/>

Refugees: Children

Tulip Siddiq [65720] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what comparative assessment she has made of the number of refugee children coming to the UK under (a) Dubs and (b) the Dublin agreement; and if she will identify those numbers in quarterly immigration statistics.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: In 2016, over 900 unaccompanied asylum seeking children were transferred to the UK from Europe. Over 750 were transferred from France, including over 200 under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016.

In the joint Written Ministerial Statement of 8 November, the Government committed to publishing regular updates on the number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children transferred to the UK. The Government is considering options for publishing this information.

Statistics on transfers under the Dublin Regulation are already available here:

http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Dublin_statistics_on_countries_responsible_for_asylum_application

Asylum statistics are published quarterly in the Home Office Immigration Statistics

release, which can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-october-to-december-2016/asylum>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-02-27/65720/>

Refugees: Children

Paul Blomfield [70749] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the number of stateless children in the UK.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The UK is a signatory to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. In April 2013, the UK introduced Immigration Rules to allow stateless persons to be formally recognised as stateless and granted leave to remain where they do not otherwise qualify under any other provisions and cannot be removed to the country of their former habitual residence because they are not admissible for purposes of residence there. Those who have committed serious crimes or are considered to be a danger to the security or the public order of the UK are not eligible for stateless leave. Those who qualify under the Immigration Rules are normally granted 30 months limited leave to remain and can apply for further leave when that expires. They are eligible to apply for settlement after completing 5 years limited leave.

Stateless persons and their dependent children, who believe that they have a fear of return to their home country, can also make an application for asylum under the 1951 Refugee Convention. Those who qualify under the Immigration Rules are normally granted limited leave to remain for a 5 year period, with the option to apply for settlement when that leave expires. A stateless person may also make an application to register as a British citizen, if they are not recognised as a citizen of any country, providing they meet the qualifying criteria.

The Home Office shares information with UNHCR relating to statelessness. UNHCR publishes information and releases regular trend reports. The latest trend report by UNHCR can be found at:

<http://www.unhcr.org/uk/statistics/unhcrstats/58aa8f247/mid-year-trends-june-2016.html>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70749/>

Refugees: Children

Carolyn Harris [71837] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what information her Department holds on local authority capacity to accept refugee children under the Dubs scheme and allegations that the Dubs scheme has encouraged traffickers to exploit such children.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Home Office consulted extensively with local authorities on their capacity to host unaccompanied children to arrive at the number of additional children they could take under section 67. Over 400 local authority representatives attended events in England, Scotland and Wales. On 8 September 2016, the Minister for Immigration wrote to local authorities to ask them to confirm their capacity to host all unaccompanied asylum seeking children, regardless of how they reached the UK. Local authorities told us they had the capacity to support 480 unaccompanied children. This capacity was in addition to the more than 4,000 unaccompanied children already in local authority care.

The migration crisis has shown that pull factors, such as policy changes and political messaging, can influence the movements of migrants. Approximately two thirds of asylum-seekers in the EU last year chose to travel to Germany and Sweden after passing through many safe countries en route. Whether it is push or pull factors that motivate children to come to Europe, it is always in the child's

best interest to enable them to come before they need to make dangerous journeys to Europe and before they become unaccompanied. That is why the Government's strategy is to resettle the most vulnerable refugees directly from the regions; this is how we stop traffickers and smugglers from exploiting vulnerable people and children affected by conflict. In 2016, we resettled more than 5,000 people under the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme and the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-25/71837/>

Refugees: Housing

Frank Field [71492] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have offered a home to refugee (a) children and (b) families in the last 12 months; and how many of those offers have been taken up.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The British public has been very generous in their offers to help and accommodate refugees under the UK's Resettlement schemes. Many have made offers of housing directly to their local authority or through the Help Refugees in the UK website. We don't hold information about how many offers of housing are made or taken up by local authorities.

Some community groups are also offering housing for refugees through the Community Sponsorship scheme. This is a new scheme launched in July, for which we do not currently report numbers.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-20/71492/>

Asylum

Paul Blomfield [70750] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her policy is on refused asylum seekers who comply with her Department's requirements but have no immediate prospect of leaving the UK.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The UK has a long and proud tradition of providing a safe haven to those who genuinely need our protection.

For those who do not need protection they are expected to return home if their claim is refused and dismissed on appeal. All asylum and human rights claims are carefully considered on their individual merits in accordance with the UK's obligations under the 1951 United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the European Convention on Human Rights.

Where a decision has been made that a person does not require international protection, and there are no remaining rights of appeal or obstacles to their return, the Home Office expects unsuccessful asylum seekers to return voluntarily to their home country. The Home Office can assist persons who wish to return voluntarily. The Home Office's preferred option is for those who have no legal basis to remain in the UK to leave voluntarily and we offer assistance to those who choose to do so by actively promoting the Home Office Voluntary Return Service. This service offers confidential advice and information to asylum seekers, refugees and people who have remained in the UK without legal status and should return home on a voluntary basis. Individuals who fall within the above categories can obtain further advice by telephoning: 0300 004 0202 or by accessing the website at: www.gov.uk/return-home-voluntarily

If an individual does not leave the UK voluntarily, then it may become necessary to enforce their removal. The Home Office closely monitors developments in all countries of return and takes decisions on a case-by-case basis in the light of international obligations and the latest available country information. The Home Office only enforces removal when it and the courts conclude that it is safe to do so, with a safe route of return.

Enforced removals are carried out in the most sensitive way possible, treating

those being removed with respect and courtesy. Details of total numbers of cases who have had asylum claims refused and have no basis to remain having exhausted all appeal rights can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/asylum-transparency-data-february-2017>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70750/>

Asylum

Anna Turley [70762] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to ensure that the decision-making process for asylum claims takes full account of the extent of abuse and torture which applicants may have endured.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: All members of staff who make decisions in asylum receive training on international and domestic law and safeguarding issues supplemented by a mentoring programme with an experienced caseworker that can last up to 6 months. Within the training there are specific sections that detail torture and Medico Legal Reports and how they should be used and analysed in asylum claims.

The Home Office are working closely with Freedom from Torture and other key partners to review and make further improvements to the decision making process and training relating to asylum claims involving survivors of abuse and torture.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70762/>

Asylum: Children

Charles Walker [66852] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 6 March 2017 to Question 66137, on asylum: children, if she will provide directly the information requested in that Question; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The information requested is readily available in the public domain. The latest figures are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-october-to-december-2016/list-of-tables#asylum>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-07/66852/>

The answer referred to in the above question can be read at

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-01/66137/>

Asylum: Children

Lyn Brown [69288] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the proportion of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children accepted under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 that would otherwise have been eligible for transfer to the UK under the family-reunification provisions of the Dublin III Regulation.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Government has confirmed that the specified number under section 67(1) of the Immigration Act 2016 will not include cases transferred to the UK under the Dublin III Regulation.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-27/69288/>

Asylum: Children

The following three questions all received the same answer

Lisa Nandy [70792] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied asylum seeking children were screened in (a) Croydon and (b) Salford in each year between 2010 and 2016.

Lisa Nandy [70796] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether it is her Department's policy to allow unaccompanied asylum-seeking children to be screened as close to their home in the UK as possible.

Lisa Nandy [70797] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what financial assistance is provided for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children to travel to their screening interview.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Asylum seeking children can arrive or be encountered in the UK in a variety of ways. The full policy and guidance for processing such claims is set out in the Processing Children's Asylum Claims instruction which is published:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/537010/Processing-children_s-asylum-claims-v1.pdf

When an asylum seeking child is encountered they will undergo a welfare interview in order to record their basic information and identify any immediate welfare concerns. Those unaccompanied children who are unable to travel to the Asylum Intake Unit in Croydon are able to register their claim and undergo a welfare interview at the nearest available Home Office location. It is not possible to determine how many unaccompanied asylum seeking children have had welfare interviews in different locations without an examination of individual records which could only be achieved at disproportionate cost.

In July 2016 the Government significantly increased the funding it provides to local authorities who look after UASC. Local authorities now receive £41,610 per annum year for each unaccompanied asylum-seeking child aged under 16 and £33,215 per annum for unaccompanied asylum-seeking child aged 16 and 17.

This represents a 20% and 28% increase in funding respectively.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70792/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70796/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70797/>

Asylum: Children

The following four questions all received the same answer

Lisa Nandy [70793] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied children claimed asylum in (a) the UK, (b) the North West, (c) Greater Manchester and (d) Wigan in the last 12 months.

Lisa Nandy [70810] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied asylum-seeking children have been placed in (a) the UK, (b) the North West, (c) Greater Manchester and (d) Wigan under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 in the last 12 months.

Lisa Nandy [70811] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied asylum-seeking children have been looked after by local authorities in (a) the UK, (b) the North West, (c) Greater Manchester and (d) Wigan in the last 12 months.

Refugees: Families

Lisa Nandy [70809] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many children have ben reunited with family members in (a) the UK, (b) the North West, (c) Greater Manchester and (d) Wigan under the Dublin III Regulation in the last 12 months.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Annual Figures on the number of claims for asylum from Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC), including by country of nationality, are published quarterly by the Home Office in the Immigration Statistics release. A copy of the latest release, Immigration Statistics to December

2016, is available from:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-october-to-december-2016/asylum>

A breakdown of these figures by region, city and immigration status is not available.

The Government is committed to ensuring that there is a more equitable distribution of UASC across the country and that no one authority has to care for more UASC than they are able to, including those transferred to the UK under Section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016. That is why we introduced the voluntary National Transfer Scheme and have consulted with every region in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland on their capacity. Every region in England is participating in the National Transfer Scheme and we are working closely with the Devolved Administrations to ensure they are able to accept cases under the National Transfer Scheme. We are very grateful for the way in which local authorities have stepped up to accept UASC under the National Transfer Scheme. We will continue to work closely with local authorities to take up offers of placements to help ease the burden on those local authorities caring for a disproportionate number of UASC.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70793/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70810/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70811/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70793/>

Asylum: Children

Lisa Nandy [70886] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what specialist mental health support is provided to unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in the UK.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Home Office notify the relevant local authority of the arrival of any unaccompanied asylum seeking child in the UK so that they can consider the best course of action and necessary support for that specific child.

If at any stage of the asylum process, Home Office staff have welfare or safeguarding concerns about a child, including concerns about their mental health, they immediately refer the child to the local authority children's service to consider the best course of action.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70886/>

Asylum: Children

Lisa Nandy [70887] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied children were granted asylum in the UK in the last 12 months, by nationality.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Home Office publishes the number of initial decisions on asylum applications from Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children, in each quarter by nationality, in table as_09_q of the *Immigration Statistics* release. The latest figures are available at the following link:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/593029/asylum3-q4-2016-tables.ods

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70887/>

Asylum: Children

Helen Hayes [71058] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps the Government is taking to ensure that children who have family in the UK who were affected by the Dunkirk refugee camp fire are reunited with their families as soon as possible.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: We are in ongoing dialogue with the French authorities regarding the incident at the Dunkirk camp. The primary responsibility for unaccompanied children in Europe lies with the State in which they are present. We are committed to making sure that the Dublin III Regulation works effectively to ensure that unaccompanied asylum-seeking children are reunited as soon as possible with any close family members in the UK, as set out in the Regulation.

Under the Dublin III Regulation, an unaccompanied child must first claim asylum in the EU Member State in which they are present, and that Member State must then raise a take charge request with the UK Government. It is therefore vital that children remaining in France who have close family in the UK engage with the French authorities to make an asylum claim and enable the process to start.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-18/71058/>

Asylum: Children

The following two questions both received the same answer

Stuart McDonald [71150] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how many Child in Need assessments under the Children Act 1989 have been carried out for children arriving into care of local authorities under the (a) Dubs amendment of the Immigration Act 2016 and (b) Dublin III Regulations.

Asylum: Young People

Stuart McDonald [71198] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how many young people who entered the UK through (a) the Dubs amendment of the Immigration Act 2016 and (b) Dublin III regulations between 1 January 2016 and 1 January 2017 were accommodated in (a) foster placements, (b) supported accommodation and (c) other accommodation.

Reply from Edward Timpson: The Department for Education does not collect figures for the number of young people in English local authorities under these arrangements. Individual local authorities will hold this information on the assessment and placement of these young people.

The Department for Education only holds the information for England. The devolved administrations hold the information for the other constituent countries.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-18/71150/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-18/71198/>

Asylum: Housing

Paul Blomfield [70890] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many refused asylum seekers were granted accommodation under Section 4(2) of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 by country of origin in 2016.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The government expects those who have been refused asylum and who have no lawful basis to remain in the UK to leave at the earliest opportunity. If there is a genuine obstacle that prevents a failed asylum seeker's departure from the UK and they are destitute, they can apply for support

under section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. The Home Office publishes quarterly figures on the number of asylum seekers in receipt of support, including under Section 4, in table as_18q in volume 4 of the Asylum data tables. These are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-october-to-december-2016/asylum#data-tables>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70890/>

Asylum: Housing

Roger Godsiff [71272] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will publish a copy of the standard contract used for outsourcing the provision of homes for asylum seekers.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The suite of six COMPASS Contracts provides accommodation, transport and related services to asylum seekers. There are three providers who each deliver two regional contracts: G4S Care and Justice (UK) Ltd, Serco Ltd and Clearsprings Ready Homes Ltd. A published copy of these contracts can be accessed at:

<https://data.gov.uk/data/contracts-finder-archive/contract/503107/>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-19/71272/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

Child Refugees

Lord Dubs: To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the situation regarding child refugees in the Calais and Dunkirk areas, and whether they will take immediate steps to allow a significant number to enter the UK.

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Williams of Trafford): My Lords, in 2016, the UK transferred more than 750 children from France as part of comprehensive support for the Calais camp clearance. The UK also offered support to France following the recent fire at Dunkirk. We continue to work closely with the French to transfer eligible children under Section 67 of the Immigration Act and the Dublin regulation. The fastest route to safety is to claim asylum in France.

Lord Dubs: My Lords, I welcome the fact that the Government announced in a Written Ministerial Statement today that a further 130 children would be taken into this country under Section 67 of the Immigration Act, even if the reason is the Home Office having to hang its head in shame because it made an administrative error as part of collating the figures. That comes out of "Yes Minister". Will the Government now reconsult local authorities, because many local authorities, not just in England but in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, have expressed a willingness to take more child refugees? Is not the Minister aware that many representations have been made recently about the availability of local authority places?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The administrative error is most unfortunate, and for that I apologise. I would not want that to happen. The good news is that we have an additional 130 places, and I think we should all be very pleased about that. The important thing here is that no child has been disfranchised. Any eligible child has been taken thus far, and 200 children have been taken so far, so we have not even got to the figure of 350. I would not want noble Lords to think that any child had been disfranchised because of this administrative error, which is, as I said, most regrettable.

On the consultation, we have consulted local authorities. For the record, I can tell noble Lords that there are 4,000 unaccompanied children in local authority care

as we speak. Some local authorities, such as Kent and Croydon, host a disproportionate number of children. We are always very glad to hear from local authorities coming forward to take children through the national transfer scheme or to take refugee children, but it is not as though we have not consulted properly. I know that the Immigration Minister wrote to all local authorities, a national launch event was held, and more than 10 regional events were held in every part of England, as well as one in Scotland and one in Wales.

Lord Wigley: My Lords, the Minister will be aware of reports last week in the context of child refugees that an assumption was being made that, if such a child was disabled, they would be debarred because they would be regarded as too burdensome. Will she take the opportunity to deny with all possible strength that that could be the Government's policy?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, it would never be the Government's policy—I do not think any Government's policy—to disfranchise a disabled child because they were too burdensome. A child would be assessed under the criteria of either Dubs, Dublin or the vulnerable children's resettlement scheme. No child would ever be disenfranchised because they were disabled. I can very strongly confirm that.

Baroness Sheehan: I have two questions for the Minister. Is she aware that Help Refugees will press ahead with its pending court case, as freedom of information data show that further clerical errors exist? Secondly, will the Government accept that we have a moral and legal duty to these children to reopen the Dubs scheme to ensure that these errors are ironed out once and for all and that we act with utmost haste in bringing these unfortunate children to the UK? The Government have been far too slow in actioning those points.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, as my first Answer explained, we have not closed the Dubs scheme. We have 200 children here and there is potential for another 280 to arrive under the additional numbers. I look forward to the outcome of the court case and would not want to comment on it at this stage.

Baroness Manzoor: My Lords, France or Europe are not some war-torn country, so I am delighted that refugees are able to get to a place of safety, whether in France or here. My concern is that the most vulnerable children and women are still in Syria and on the borders of Syria. What support have the Government given in that vital work?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I am very pleased to be able to do that. My noble friend is absolutely right that the most vulnerable are still in the regions. Last year, the former Prime Minister made an announcement to double the amount of assistance going to the region to £2.4 billion—double the amount that it had been previously. My noble friend makes exactly the right point that we should be sending help to the regions where it is most needed.

Lord Rosser: First, I think it would have been better if the Government had come with an Oral Statement to the House on this issue rather than putting it in a Written Statement just before we are about to cease sitting, as this is an issue of considerable interest to the House. We discussed this in the House on 9 February, after the Government said a Written Statement in the Commons:

“Local authorities told us they have capacity for around 400 unaccompanied asylum-seeking children until the end of this financial year”.—[*Official Report*, Commons, 8/2/17; col. 10WS.]

That would have been 2016-17. I asked the Minister: “What capacity have local authorities told the Government they have for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in the 1917-18 financial year on the basis that the current level of government funding is continued?”.—[*Official Report*, 9/2/17; col. 1861.]

I did not get a direct reply to that question. The Minister said that the Government were in constant touch with local authorities. Can she give us the figure? What capacity have local authorities told the Government that they have for unaccompanied asylum-seeking

children in the next financial year, 2017-18, on the basis that the current level of government funding is continued?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, as my honourable friend in the other place outlined in the Written Ministerial Statement yesterday, the capacity for Section 67 children is 480. As for future commitments, obviously we are hours from Prorogation and I cannot make any future declarations at the Dispatch Box, much as I would want to. Those figures will be forthcoming should we be successful in the general election.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno: My Lords, the Minister said that there are 4,000 children in foster care. Are these 4,000 asylum-seeking, unaccompanied youngsters, as we voted on in the recent Act, and is she aware that of the children dispersed in France, 600 have made their way back to Calais because they have not been accepted in a very friendly way? Can she answer those two questions?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I am not sure why children who had been accepted for local authority accommodation here would want to go back to Calais. I am sure that there are various reasons for that. ... Sorry, I have slightly misheard the noble Lord's question. He asked me, first, whether there are 4,000 unaccompanied children in local authority care in this country. Yes, there are. Other children who were not eligible for either Dubs or Dublin have been dispersed within France. ...

Lord Ellon: My Lords, the debates that we have from time to time on this issue focus almost exclusively on local authorities, suggesting that they are the only and the best providers. Is that the case? If so, what is the arrangement by which other providers can link into the system in order to increase the number of places available?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I am glad that my noble friend asked that question, because one thing that the Government have been very keen to promote is the community sponsorship scheme, which the most reverend Primate the Archbishop of Canterbury has taken part in, taking in Syrian families in Lambeth Palace. In fact, in my own local authority in Trafford we also have a community sponsorship scheme. I never let the time pass up without encouraging noble Lords to tell of any community sponsors they know who might be willing to take families.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2017-04-27/debates/B60FBA43-E2C2-49D0-8202-BB1D11E84AE8/ChildRefugees>

Press Releases

New research highlights significant international precedent for a bespoke immigration policy for Scotland

<http://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/104471.aspx>

Migration drives record high in population

<https://beta.gov.scot/news/migration-drives-record-high-in-population/>

New Publications

Options for Differentiating the UK's Immigration System

http://www.parliament.scot/S5_European/General%20Documents/CTEER_Dr_Hepburn_report_2017.04.24.pdf

Refugees Welcome? The Experience of New Refugees in the UK

http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0004/0316/APPG_on_Refugees_-_Refugees_Welcome_report.pdf

News

Report calls for 'bespoke immigration policy' for Scotland

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/report-calls-for-bespoke-immigration-policy-for-scotland-1-4427397>

Westminster report condemns UK asylum system for 'loading the dice' against new refugees

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3092_westminster_report_condemns_uk_asylum_system_for_loading_the_dice_against_new_refugees

UK to take 130 more lone refugee children in Dubs scheme climbdown

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/apr/26/britain-take-130-more-lone-refugee-children-dubs-scheme>

Lord Dubs attacks Government for 'Yes Minister' mistake that stopped 130 child refugees entering UK

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/lord-dubs-government-child-refugees-130-not-enter-uk-yes-minister-mistake-administrative-error-a7705481.html>

Britain to accept extra 130 lone refugee children after Home Office corrects 'administrative error'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/04/26/britain-accept-extra-130-lone-refugee-children-home-office-corrects/>

Home Office raises child refugee limit after blunder

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-04-26/news/home-office-raises-child-refugee-limit-after-blunder-dh8pc8tt3>

Britain will take in 130 more child refugees after ministers failed to properly count offers from councils that said they could help

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4449836/UK-child-refugees-error-counting.html>

Two-tier refugee system leaves many destitute and homeless, say MPs

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/apr/25/two-tier-refugee-system-leaves-many-destitute-and-homeless-say-mps>

Safe return review refugee policy 'beyond basic morality'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-39712431>

Two-tier system leaving refugees in UK destitute, says report

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-39700596>

'Two-tier system' leaving many refugees destitute, politicians warn

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/412397/two-tier-system-leaving-many-refugees-destitute-politicians-warn/>

Scottish population hits record high after rise in immigration

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/15250831.Scottish_population_hits_record_high_after_rise_in_immigration/

Migration sees Scotland's population reach record high

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/migration-sees-scotland-s-population-reach-record-high-1-4431114>

Story of 92-year-old Serbian refugee to be told in animation

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/story-of-92-year-old-serbian-refugee-to-be-told-in-animation-1-4431287>

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Community Relations

Press Release

For Roma by Roma: Local engagement in action

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2017/roma-roma-local-engagement-action>

New Publications

Local engagement for Roma inclusion Locality study Medway (United Kingdom)

http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/local-engagement-roma-united-kingdom-medway_en.pdf

Reports for Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Romania, Slovakia, and Spain can be downloaded from

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/project/2015/local-engagement-roma-inclusion-leri-multi-annual-roma-programme>

News

Policing in Scotland's most ethnically diverse community

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/insight-policing-in-scotland-s-most-ethnically-diverse-community-1-4426877>

From controversy to empowerment: the history of black dolls

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2017/apr/25/black-dolls-collection-african-american-history>

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Equality

Scottish Parliament Written Answers

Teachers

Tavish Scott [S5W-08540] To ask the Scottish Government what steps are being taken to ensure that initiatives aimed at increasing the number of teachers are targeting people from ethnic minority backgrounds and other groups that are currently under-represented in teaching.

Reply from John Swinney: The primary objective of the current 'Teaching Makes People' recruitment campaign is the recruitment of STEM undergraduates into Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) teaching courses. While the current campaign does not specifically target graduates from ethnic minority backgrounds into teaching we have been conscious to ensure that our campaigns are inclusive of people from ethnic minority backgrounds.

The second phase of the Teaching Makes People campaign will take place in

2017-18 and we intend to continue to address concerns about underrepresentation this year. It is intended that the next phase of the recruitment campaign will take account of recommendations from the Strategic Board for Teacher Education's Working Group which the Board agreed to establish when it last met in January.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-08540>

Teachers

The following two questions both received the same answer

Tavish Scott [S5W-08541] To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5W-01917 by John Swinney on 31 August 2016, what work the Strategic Board for Teacher Education has undertaken regarding the under-representation of teachers from ethnic minority backgrounds.

Tavish Scott [S5W-08542] To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5W-01917 by John Swinney on 31 August 2016, whether the Strategic Board for Teacher Education has made any recommendations regarding improving diversity within the teaching workforce.

Reply from John Swinney: At the meeting of the Strategic Board for Teacher Education on 18 January 2017 the Board discussed the underrepresentation of teachers from ethnic minority backgrounds in the teaching profession. As part of this discussion the Board received a presentation on research related to the issues of recruitment and retention of teachers from ethnic minority backgrounds. Further to this the Board agreed to establish a small working group charged with making recommendations related to the range of factors that are involved in the under-representation of BME groups in teaching.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-08541>

and

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-08542>

The answer referred to in the above questions can be read at

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-01917>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Debate

Race in the Workplace: The McGregor-Smith Review

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2017-04-24/debates/0B04A7F8-3FD4-4AA4-BC14-235A5C6CF303/RaceInTheWorkplaceTheMcgregor-SmithReview>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Human Rights: Minority Groups

Nusrat Ghani [64190] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what programmes his Department runs other than Prevent which aim to ensure that young people from minority ethnic communities understand their rights within UK law.

Reply from Marcus Johnes: The Department for Communities and Local Government funds a number of integration programmes that bring young people from different backgrounds together to promote social mixing and learn about their rights and responsibilities as UK citizens. For example, our £9.7 million funding for Near Neighbours since 2011 has supported the Catalyst leadership scheme which

helps young people in diverse communities to develop leadership skills to help them play their part in building a strong civil society. The Anne Frank Trust works with young people from all backgrounds to help students understand the damage caused by prejudice and hatred. Similarly, Streetwise works with young people to tackle anti-Semitism and anti-Muslim hate crime. We have also recently funded the Joseph Interfaith Foundation to support a project which helps young refugees to understand the social culture of Britain and integrate into British society.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-02-17/64190/>

Directors: Ethnic Groups

David Lammy [71032] To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, what steps his Department is taking to ensure that the recommendations of the Parker Review on increasing the ethnic diversity of UK boards are implemented.

Reply from Margot Jones: The Government wants to see greater diversity on the boards of the FTSE's largest companies, and wants to see that delivered through a business-led approach. That approach has seen the proportion of women on FTSE100 boards increase from 12.5% in 2010 to nearly 27% as at April 2017. We now want to extend that progress to ethnic, as well as gender, diversity.

Sir John Parker's Review is an industry-led review, and its recommendations will be for the private sector to consider. However, the Government will keep a close eye on how things develop, and consider whether it needs to take action once Sir John finalises his recommendations before the end of this year.

The boardroom must reflect modern Britain. Companies will do better if they make better use of the talent available and ensure their boardrooms reflect their workforces and wider society. Sir John's Review is an important, industry-led contribution to this debate.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-18/71032/>

The Parker Review referred to in the above question and answer can be read at

[http://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/A_Report_into_the_Ethnic_Diversity_of_UK_Boards/\\$FILE/Beyond%20One%20by%2021%20PDF%20Report.pdf](http://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/A_Report_into_the_Ethnic_Diversity_of_UK_Boards/$FILE/Beyond%20One%20by%2021%20PDF%20Report.pdf)

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Universities: Ethnic Groups

The following three questions all received the same answer

Lord Boateng [HL6587] To ask Her Majesty's Government to what figures they have access on the representation of UK-domiciled black and Asian ethnic minorities in comparison to UK population averages amongst (1) UK-domiciled students, and (2) academic staff, in (a) Russell Group, and (b) non-Russell Group, universities.

Lord Boateng [HL6589] To ask Her Majesty's Government when they last met UK Vice-Chancellors to discuss (1) the proportion of admission offers made to UK-domiciled black and other ethnic minority students, and (2) the number of black and Asian UK-domiciled citizens appointed to academic posts in UK universities.

Higher Education: Ethnic Groups

Lord Boateng [HL6588] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the work of (1) the Higher Education Academy, and (2) the Higher Education Statistics Agency, in relation to equal opportunities in higher education for black and Asian UK-domiciled students in (a) undergraduate studies, and (b) post-graduate studies.

Reply from Lord Nash: Widening access and success for students from disadvantaged backgrounds is a priority. This Government is committed to increasing BME (Black and Minority Ethnicity) participation in higher education (HE) by 20% by 2020. We want to ensure that everyone with the potential has the

opportunity to benefit from HE, irrespective of their background or gender. Our most recent guidance to the Director of Fair Access placed a strong emphasis on increasing the number of BME students in HE by 2020 and to address disparities in outcomes (retention, degree attainment and progression to employment/ further study) for students from BME backgrounds. HE publicly-funded providers are subject to maximum fee caps for undergraduate courses. Those wishing to charge higher fees must have an access agreement agreed with the Director. HE publicly-funded providers without an access agreement can charge up to £6,000 for a full-time course in 2017/18 or up to £6,165 if they have a Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) rating of 'Meets Expectations'. HE publicly-funded providers with an access agreement can charge up to £9,000 for a full-time course in 2017/18 or up to £9,250 if they have a TEF rating of 'Meets Expectations'.

For 2017/18, access plans agreed by the Director means HE providers will spend more than £833 million on measures to improve access and student success for students from disadvantaged backgrounds including minority ethnic groups - up significantly from £404 million in 2009.

Recent research by the Institute for Fiscal Studies shows that BME groups are more likely to participate in HE than white British people. They also have relatively higher participation rates at the most selective institutions, taking into account prior attainment, student characteristic and other factors. The entry rate for English 18 year olds from state schools increased for all ethnic groups in 2016. The entry rates are the highest ever recorded for each group, with the largest increases for pupils in the Asian ethnic group (1.9 percentage point increase to 43%) and the Mixed ethnic group (1.2 percentage point increase to 33%) while the lowest entry rate was for pupils in the White ethnic group (0.9 percentage point increase to 29%).

As autonomous organisations, HE providers are responsible for their own admissions policies and procedures. DfE Ministers have had no meetings with Vice-Chancellors to discuss admissions offers.

In addition, subject to Parliament, the Higher Education and Research Bill will:

- Establish a new regulator for higher education in England, the Office for Students, which will have a statutory duty to consider the need to promote equality of opportunity for students as it relates to access and participation in higher education.
- Introduce a Transparency Duty which will shine a light on university admissions and performance requiring providers to publish application, offer, acceptance, drop-out and attainment rates of students broken down by ethnicity, gender and socio-economic background.
- Introduce a new Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF), which will ensure institutions are incentivised to provide excellent teaching outcomes for all of their students including those from BME and disadvantaged backgrounds.

Regarding the appointment of black and Asian UK- domiciled individuals to academic posts, I commend the Leadership Foundation for Higher Education's Diversifying Leadership Programme, which is tackling under-representation of BME staff in leadership roles in higher education.

I also commend the Equality Challenge Unit's Race Equality Charter, which is awarded to recognise the advancement of minority ethnic staff and students in higher education through representation, progression and success for all.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-04-04/HL6587/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-04-04/HL6589/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-04-04/HL6588/>

Press Release

A critical turning point, not business as usual, for human rights in Europe

<http://www.coe.int/en/web/commissioner/-/a-critical-turning-point-not-business-as-usual-for-human-rights-in-europe>

New Publication

Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights Activity Report 2016

<https://rm.coe.int/CoERMPublicCommonSearchServices/DisplayDCTMContent?documentId=090000168070ad23>

News

Lack of diversity among UK senior judiciary is 'serious constitutional issue'

<https://www.theguardian.com/law/2017/apr/25/lack-of-diversity-among-uk-senior-judiciary-is-serious-constitutional-issue>

Tory MP's complaint that prize for writers of colour was unfair to whites dismissed

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2017/apr/28/tory-mps-complaint-that-prize-for-writers-of-colour-was-unfair-to-whites-dismissed>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-05408 Jackson Carlaw: Cross Party Group on Palestine – That the Parliament notes with astonishment the purported statements of the Treasurer of the Cross Party Group on Palestine at a meeting on 25 April 2017; understands that Philip Chetwynd refused to discuss the definition of anti-Semitism in Scotland in the presence of "representatives of three Zionist organisations"; believes that Mr Chetwynd went on to call these representatives "ideological terrorists" and that he felt "intimidated"; considers that Scotland's Parliament must be open to all and that political debate is weakened by an unwillingness to engage with those with whom we disagree; considers that the alleged comments of Mr Chetwynd could potentially be construed as anti-Semitic given that, of the three representatives referred to, one was Jewish and another an Israeli national living in Scotland; thanks MSPs, including vice-convenor, Sandra White, and other external organisations for opposing the removal of these three representatives from the meeting, and considers that, given what it considers Mr Chetwynd's unwillingness to act in a manner appropriate to maintaining the reputation of the Parliament, he should be removed from his position forthwith.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-05408>

For background information relating to the above incident see

http://www.scojec.org/news/2017/17iv_cpg/cpg.html

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Hate Crime

Steve McCabe [71746] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to ensure that the police have sufficient resources to deal with the reported rise in hate crimes since June 2016.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: The police have increased their capability to record and respond to hate crime. The police have also improved training to staff on the identification, investigation and prosecution of hate crime. The UK has some of the most robust legislation in the world for tackling hate crime and on 26 July last year the Government published the Hate Crime Action Plan "Action Against Hate". This outlines the work Government, law enforcement and other parties will undertake over the next four years to tackle hate crime in all its forms.

Decisions on the allocation of police resources are a matter for Chief Constables in association with local Police and Crime Commissioners.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-24/71746/>

Hate Crime

John Mann [70433] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, how much government funding has been provided to the hate crime programme in each year from 2014 to 2017.

Reply from Marcus Jones: In 2012 we published 'Challenge It, Report It Stop It' which covered the period 2012-2014. This plan delivered real improvements in the way in which hate crime was reported. This was followed by the publication in July 2016 of 'Action Against Hate', the UK Government's plan for tackling hate crime. In support of both action plans, the Department for Communities and Local Government has provided over £2.5 million to organisations during the period 2014-2017 to tackle hate crime.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70433/>

"Challenge It, Report It Stop It", referred to above, can be read at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/307624/HateCrimeActionPlanProgressReport.pdf

"Action Against Hate", referred to above, can be read at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/543679/Action_Against_Hate_-_UK_Government_s_Plan_to_Tackle_Hate_Crime_2016.pdf

Social Media: Hate Crime

Nusrat Ghani [61015] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what assessment his Department has made of the potential merits of introducing fines for social media companies which fail to remove hate material from their online platforms.

Reply from Marcus Jones: This Government has recognised the harm caused by hate on the internet and committed to take action to reduce this harm in the recently published Hate Crime Action Plan. Despite the challenges we face, we have made considerable progress in addressing hate on the internet. The Director of Public Prosecutions has published guidance to prosecutors on when it is in the public interest to take perpetrators to court. We also continue to support the police hate crime web-facility, True Vision to provide information to victims and professionals and to allow on-line reporting of hate crime. The College of Policing has included guidance to police and partners on responding to internet hate crime in their Hate Crime Strategy and Guidance. This guidance was downloaded over 4,700 times from True Vision in the first five months, in addition to the physical

documents circulated to individual agencies.

We have supported the establishment of the UK No Hate Speech Movement which equips, trains and supports young volunteers to operate on the internet, supporting victims, reporting damaging material and challenging hate-fuelled perpetrators through 'counter-narrative' activity.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-20/61015/>

The hate crime action plan referred to above can be read at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/543679/Action_Against_Hate_-_UK_Government_s_Plan_to_Tackle_Hate_Crime_2016.pdf

Hate Crime: Convictions

Craig Whittaker [60862] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many incidences of online (a) hate crime, (b) anti-Semitism and (c) Islamophobia have resulted in convictions in the last (i) 12, (ii) 24 and (iii) 36 months.

Reply from Sarah Newton: Conviction data for hate crime does not differentiate between hate crimes committed online and offline.

The Government is committed to tackling all forms of hate crime and we published a new cross-Government hate crime action plan in July last year. This includes action against hate crimes committed both online and offline.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-19/60862/>

Castes: Discrimination

Gareth Thomas [71419] To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities, whether she has consulted employers and entrepreneurs on the potential effect of caste legislation; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Caroline Dinenage: On 28 March the Government issued a public consultation – 'Caste in Great Britain and Equality Law' - on the issue of caste and caste discrimination and the Equalities Act 2010.

The consultation is due to close on 18 July and can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/caste-in-great-britain-and-equality-law-a-public-consultation>

We encourage all those with an interest in this matter, including employers and entrepreneurs, to contribute to this debate by considering the issues set out in the consultation and responding.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-20/71419/>

Antisemitism

The following two questions both received the same answer

John Mann [70428] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, how many times he has discussed anti-Semitism with his international counterparts in the last calendar year.

John Mann [70702] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, whether he has made representations on antisemitism to his (a) Russian, (b) Polish, (c) Latvian, (d) Lithuanian, (e) Saudi Arabian and (f) Malaysian counterparts since he took office.

Reply from Alok Sharma: Combating all forms of discrimination, including anti-semitism, remains an important part of the Government's human rights work internationally. Through our membership of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), we actively supported the adoption of a Working Definition of Antisemitism in 2016. The UK is now encouraging individual states to adopt the definition domestically. Since 2010, the UK's Special Envoy for post-Holocaust issues has played an important role in driving a more coherent and

strategic approach to our work in this area, including on anti-semitism. The current Special Envoy Sir Eric Pickles raised antisemitism during his recent visits to Poland in October 2016 and March 2017.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70428/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70702/>

Antisemitism

John Mann [70429] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many meetings she has had with which organisations to discuss issues related to anti-Semitism since 2015.

Reply from Philip Lee: The Secretary of State for Justice has not met with any organisations to discuss issues related to anti-Semitism since 2015.

Details of Ministers' meetings with external organisations are published routinely on Gov.uk and can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/moj-gifts-hospitality-travel-and-meetings>.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70429/>

Discrimination

John Mann [70430] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how many meetings he has had with whom and on what dates to discuss (a) antisemitism and (b) other forms of racism since 2015.

Reply from Chris Skidmore: Details of Ministers' and Permanent Secretary meetings with external organisations, including senior media figures, are published routinely on Gov.uk and can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/ministers-transparency-publications>

Information about meetings between officials, businesses and charities are not centrally held and could only be obtained at disproportionate cost.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-04-13/70430/>

News

Ukip 'integration agenda' attacked as Islamophobic

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-04-24/news/ukip-integration-agenda-attacked-as-islamophobic-qjbgwts38>

Tim Farron sacks Lib Dem candidate for 'offensive and antisemitic' remarks

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2017/apr/26/lib-dems-criticised-over-reselection-of-ex-mp-censured-for-antisemitism>

Lib Dems sack candidate and former MP David Ward after 'antisemitism' accusations

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/tim-farron-sacks-david-ward-antisemitism-lib-dem-candidate-bradford-east-a7703416.html>

Liberal Democrat leader Tim Farron sacks MP candidate facing allegations of anti-Semitism

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/04/26/liberal-democrat-leader-tim-farron-sacks-mp-candidate-facing/>

Farron ousts ex-MP accused of antisemitism

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/farron-ousts-ex-mp-accused-of-antisemitism-rqbfq97qq>

Tim Farron sacks David Ward as the Lib Dem candidate for Bradford East after storm of criticism over his anti-Semitic views

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4447928/Tim-Farron-SACKS-David-Ward-Lib-Dem-candidate.html>

Lib Dems forced to suspend election candidate who compared Israeli prime minister to Hitler on Facebook and claimed Tory and Labour run by 'Zionist paymasters'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4443446/Lib-Dems-forced-suspend-anti-Semitic-candidate.html>

'Disgraceful' NHS barriers facing Gypsies and travellers

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-39736321>

Student leaders' antisemitic tweets

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-04-25/news/student-leaders-antisemitic-tweets-ckb6nbwxm>

Scottish school pupil in shock racist rant after telling worker 'All black people should be called n***s'**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/scottish-school-pupil-shock-racist-10318939>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Release

'No room for complacency' in Scotland's squeezed Prosecution Service

<http://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/104503.aspx>

New Publications

Role and Purpose of the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service

http://www.parliament.scot/S5_JusticeCommittee/Reports/JS052017R09.pdf

The White Paper on the Great Repeal Bill - Impact on Scotland

<http://tinyurl.com/lp5gf3a>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

Prorogation

The UK Parliament has been prorogued, and will not sit again until after the General Election that will take place on 8 June 2017.

Prorogation marks the end of a parliamentary session. It is the formal name given to the period between the end of a session of Parliament and the State Opening of Parliament

that begins the next session.

Prorogation brings to an end nearly all parliamentary business. However, Public Bills may be carried over from one session to the next, subject to agreement.

Motions lapse when the Parliament is prorogued, questions which have not been answered fall, i.e. nothing more will happen with them. If they have not been answered then they will stay unanswered. No motions or questions can be tabled during a prorogation.

For more information see

<http://www.parliament.uk/about/how/occasions/prorogation/>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Refuges: Minority Groups

The following two questions both received the same answer

Paul Blomfield [69836] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what assessment he has made of whether current refuge provision for BAMER women who are victims of abuse is sufficient to meet the specific needs of those women.

Paul Blomfield [69837] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what assessment he has made of the availability of specialist refuge provision for BAMER women who are victims of abuse.

Reply from Marcus Jones: Domestic abuse is a devastating crime and we are determined to ensure that victims, regardless of their circumstances, should receive the support they need when they need it.

Local areas are best placed to understand local needs and the Government has devolved power and responsibility for meeting those needs accordingly. We expect local areas to do the right thing and provide services that are responsive to the needs of victims of domestic abuse. Local areas should assess their need for domestic abuse services and make decisions on the provision of refuges and support to fit the identified needs for all domestic abuse victims, including those from BME groups, both from within and outside their local area.

To help meet this challenge, the Government's Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy, published on 8 March 2016, commits us to providing funding of £40 million to support victims of domestic abuse, including specific provision for victims from BME backgrounds. The prospectus for our 2016-18 £20 million fund was clear that bids should set out how their proposals meet the needs of those victims from diverse groups, as well as protecting assets of national significance such as the very specialist refuges which provide culturally specific and sensitive services. Alongside the £20 million fund, we published our new 'Priorities for Domestic Abuse Services', developed with partners from the domestic abuse sector, which sets out for the first time what local areas need to do to ensure an effective response to meeting the needs of all domestic abuse victims.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-29/69836/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-29/69837/>

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New Publication

The Charity Digital Toolkit

<http://micro.skillsplatform.org/charitydigitaltoolkit/>

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Other News

Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology Small Grants Fund

<http://bemis.org.uk/year-of-history-heritage-and-archaeology-small-grants-fund/>

Three Key Digital Concepts for Every Charity

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/blog/2017/april/24/three-key-digital-concepts-for-every-charity>

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Bills in Progress ** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

**** Domestic Abuse Bill**

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/103883.aspx>

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee Report

<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdneq.azureedge.net/published/DPLR/2017/4/27/Domestic-Abuse--Scotland--Bill-at-Stage-1/22nd%20Report.pdf>

Bills in Progress

UK Parliament

Ethnicity Pay Gap Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/ethnicitypaygap.html>

**** EU Citizens Resident in the United Kingdom (Right to Stay)**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/eucitizensresidentintheunitedkingdomrighttostay.html>

Due to the General Election, this Bill will not proceed further.

Student Support (Non-Interest-Bearing Finance) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/studentssupportnoninterestbearingfinance.html>

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Consultations ** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Domestic Abuse Bill (closing date 1 May 2017)

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/104171.aspx>

Policing 2026: Draft Strategy (closing date 8 May 2017)

<https://consult.scotland.police.uk/consultation/2026/>

Independent review of hate crime legislation (closing date 12 May 2017)

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/hate-crime/2f6c8d5f/>

Improving educational outcomes for children and young people from travelling cultures (closing date 28 May 2017)

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/support-and-wellbeing/improving-educational-outcomes-for-children/>

Caste in Great Britain and Equality Law (closing date 18 July 2017)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/caste-in-great-britain-and-equality-law-a-public-consultation>

Here to Stay? Young Eastern Europeans' experiences of life in the UK (no closing date given)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/heretostayproject>

Hate Crime and Prejudice Scotland Mapping Exercise (no closing date given)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BJPT5PL>

Police Scotland: Your view counts (open all year)

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/decision-making/public-consultation/local-policing-consultation>

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Job Opportunities

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

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Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

**** Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology 2017**

No set closing date – applications will be accepted until the fund has been fully allocated
BEMIS Scotland in collaboration with the Scottish Government is delighted to continue the themed years programme and invite multicultural communities across Scotland to join the celebration of the 2017 Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology and the 2017/18 Scottish Winter Festivals.

This will enable Scotland's ethnic and cultural minority communities to participate in and enhance the dynamic celebrations which are taking place across Scotland.

Constituted charitable and non-profit organisations and community groups can apply for grants of between £250 and £1,000 to stage an event to tell the story of their community's history and heritage in Scotland using 'intangible cultural heritage' – for example: language, music, song, dance or storytelling.

For more information see

<https://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/yhha-grant-guidelines.pdf>

For an application form see

<https://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/yhha-application-form.docx>

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**** this week!**

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Seminar

2 May 2017 in Glenrothes (10.00-2.00)

Fife Violence Against Women Partnership seminar for professionals to raise awareness of the very current issue surrounding female genital mutilation, including prevalence, consequences, legal aspects and implications for practice. For information see <https://www.fivevoluntaryaction.org.uk/news.asp?id=8332> or contact Mary MacIntyre 01592 583 690 / fvawp@fife.gov.uk

Fair and equal volunteering

9 May 2017 in Glenrothes (9.30-1.00)

Fife Voluntary Action course to enable organisations to feel more confident in understanding the difference between equality and diversity. For information see <https://www.fivevoluntaryaction.org.uk/news.asp?id=8216> or contact David 0800 389 6046 / info@fivevoluntaryaction.org.uk

Separated Children

11 May 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course about supporting separated child refugees. For information contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

Working with Interpreters

31 May 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine the process of using an interpreter, where the responsibility lies for the success of the interpreted session, examines the pitfalls and their consequences, and sets out best practice for using interpreters. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/jt93fog> or contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

Integration and Working with Syrian Families

1 June 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course to explore the issues facing Syrian refugees as they move from countries around Syria to the UK, and highlights the challenges and opportunities for them as they build a new life here in Scotland. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/zy436qr> or contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

Making change happen: Using the courts to make rights a reality

1 June 2017 in Edinburgh (10.00-4.00)

Human Rights Consortium Scotland workshop to discuss how organisations can use the law and the courts to bring about social change. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/l8hfxsm>

New Scots: Working with Asylum Seekers and Refugees

7 June 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine why people might need to flee their own country, how they seek asylum in the UK and what opportunities they have for rebuilding their lives here in Scotland. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/z68a5k8> or contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

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Useful Links

Scottish Parliament <http://www.parliament.scot/>

Scottish Government <http://www.gov.scot/>

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

GovUK (links to UK Government Departments) <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations>

UK Government Honours system <https://www.gov.uk/honours/overview>

European Parliament <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/>

One Scotland <http://onescotland.org/>

Scottish Refugee Council <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk>

Interfaith Scotland <http://www.interfaithscotland.org/>

Equality and Human Rights Commission <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/>

Equality Advisory Support Service <http://www.equalityadvisoryservice.com>

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

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

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

Volunteer Development Scotland <http://www.volunteerscotland.net/>

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

Central Registered Body for Scotland (CRBS) www.volunteerscotland.net/disclosure-services

Disclosure Scotland <https://www.mygov.scot/working-jobs/finding-a-job/disclosure/>

BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/>

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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 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. (Scottish Charity, no. SC027692) <http://www.bemis.org.uk/>



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://onescotland.org/>

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