

## 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.**

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**The Scottish Parliament is in recess until 4 September 2017 and the UK Parliament until 5 September 2017. During the summer recess MEMO will be published on 14 and 28 August, and 11 September.**

## Immigration and Asylum

### Scottish Parliament Written Answers

#### Immigration compliance and enforcement patrols

**S5W-09925 Neil Findlay (Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government whether any minister or official (a) was consulted by UK Government ministers or officials and (b) has received any information from Police Scotland or the City of Edinburgh Council in respect of the Home Office's immigration compliance and enforcement patrols in Scotland relating to EU migrants rough sleeping, as reported in *The Ferret* on 15 June 2017.

**Reply from Alasdair Allan:** The Scottish Government was not consulted by the UK Government or officials, nor have we received information from City of Edinburgh Council in respect of immigration compliance and enforcement patrols of EU nationals rough sleeping in Scotland. Scottish Government officials have

however engaged with the Home Office and Police Scotland to clarify the position.  
<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-09925>

### **Immigration compliance and enforcement patrols**

**S5W-09927 Neil Findlay (Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government whether any minister or official made any representations to the Home office, Police Scotland or the City of Edinburgh Council in respect of the Home Office's immigration compliance and enforcement patrols in Scotland relating to EU migrants rough sleeping, either before or since the report on this matter was published in *The Ferret* on 15 June 2017.

**Reply from Alasdair Allan:** Scottish Government officials have engaged with the Home Office and Police Scotland to clarify the position on immigration compliance and enforcement patrols in Scotland relating to EU nationals rough sleeping. The Minister for International Development and Europe has written to the UK Immigration Minister expressing our concern that we were not consulted in advance of these measures being adopted, and seeking assurance from the UK Government that EU Treaty rights, and the dignity of EEA nationals, are being respected.

Officials are also working with the COSLA Migration, Population and Diversity Team to understand the extent of these patrols.

The Scottish Government is clear that any enforcement measures taken must be humane and respect the rights and dignity of migrants, particularly those who may be vulnerable or at risk. EEA nationals, who exercise their right to free movement within the terms of EU law to move to Scotland, have a legitimate reason to be here and will continue to be welcomed.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-09927>

## **Scottish Parliament Motions**

**S5M-06825 Rona Mackay (SNP): Welcoming the UK Parliamentary Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill** – That the Parliament welcomes the introduction of a UK parliamentary bill to allow refugee children settled in the UK to sponsor their parents to join them; notes that the Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill, introduced by Angus MacNeil MP, aims to keep refugee families together, allow children to be reunited with their parents and reintroduce legal aid for refugee family applications, which stopped in 2012; notes that it has been supported by the Refugee Council, UNHCR, UN Refugee Agency, Amnesty International, British Red Cross and Oxfam GB; considers that the Syrian refugee crisis is the most defining humanitarian disaster since the Second World War, and that measures that go above and beyond the norm are needed to help those families whose lives have been torn apart through no fault of their own; thanks Angus MacNeil MP for devoting his private members' bill to this cause, and wishes him and his team all the best in getting it passed in the UK Parliament.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-06825>

**S5M-06918 Clare Adamson (SNP): Motherwell FC Welcomes Syrian Refugees** – That the Parliament commends the decision of Motherwell FC to welcome 40 Syrian refugees, free of charge, to its match against Berwick Rangers on 29 July 2017; congratulates the Well Society, the supporters group that owns the majority stake in the club, on this fantastic initiative to help foster relations with the newly-arrived people; understands that North Lanarkshire has housed over 200 refugees since the beginning of the Syrian Resettlement Programme; notes the great reputation of Motherwell as being an inclusive, welcoming and community-based club, and appreciates the decision of the

Well Society to integrate these people from Syria into the community of North Lanarkshire.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-06918>

## UK Parliament , House of Lords Debate

### Refugees

<http://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2017-07-19/debates/02FCEA8A-3782-431D-9C2C-DEA8D4783847/Refugees>

## UK Parliament, Ministerial Statement and Q&A

### Immigration Act 2016: Section 67

*col 854* **The Minister for Immigration (Brandon Lewis):** The Government are fully committed to helping and supporting the most vulnerable children, and we are contributing significantly to hosting, supporting and protecting vulnerable children affected by the migration crisis. This is part of our wider response of taking 23,000 people from the region. We have already granted asylum or another form of leave to more than 8,000 children and local authorities across the country are supporting more than 4,000 unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.

Children transferred under section 67 are being cared for by local authorities across the country and we and they take our responsibility to those children very seriously. Safeguarding those children is paramount. Following consultation with local authorities, the Government have set the number of children who will be transferred under the scheme at 480. We have invited referrals of eligible children from France, Greece and Italy and our officials at the Home Office have visited those countries in recent months to put in place processes further to identify and transfer eligible children. In the past week I have spoken to my counterparts in Greece and Italy specifically on this issue, and I shall follow that up with face-to-face meetings in both countries next week.

It is important to remember that the processes for transferring children must be implemented in line with each member state's national laws and all transfers of children to the UK must be carried out safely and with the best interests of the children at the centre of all decisions. The ongoing work to transfer children under section 67 is in addition to our other commitments and we continue to work closely with member states and relevant partners to ensure that children with family in the UK can be transferred quickly and safely.

Our approach continues to be to take refugees directly from conflict regions, providing refugees with a more direct and safe route to our country rather than risking hazardous journeys to Europe. We are committed to resettling 23,000 people from the region and our resettlement schemes are some of the largest and longest-running in the EU. So far, we have resettled more than 7,000 people under the Syrian vulnerable persons resettlement scheme and the vulnerable children resettlement scheme. Our schemes allow children to be resettled with their family members, thereby discouraging them from making perilous journeys to Europe alone.

It is worth noting that families continue to arrive from the region. Just yesterday, 199 individuals arrived and another 80 are due to arrive next week. That is all part of the Government's approach to helping the most vulnerable.

*col 855* **Tim Farron (Liberal Democrat):** ... Before the election, the Government promised they would transfer 480 refugee children from Europe to the UK, but in the other place the Government recently admitted that so far only 200 unaccompanied children have been given sanctuary here. When do the Government expect to fulfil this measly commitment, and will the Minister give us a date today?

I say that it is a measly commitment because the UK should do so much more. Freedom of Information Act requests show that local councils have voluntarily offered to accept 1,572 more children in addition to those they already support. Does the Minister know this? In light of this information, will the Government reopen Dubs and take their fair share? ...

**col 856 Reply from Brandon Lewis:** I am afraid that the hon. Gentleman's comments are based on pretty much a series of false premises. I remind him that, as I have said, we have a range of schemes out there and are working to bring 23,000 people over. While he bandies around numbers I politely ask him to bear in mind that behind every number he talks about—some of which were wrong—there is a child. It is important for us to ensure that those children get the care and support they need in the right time and the right place. ...

We are very clear that we must ensure that we do not create a pull factor while at the same time doing the right thing, as we have done with the £2.46 billion of support that makes us one of the biggest contributors and covers the biggest humanitarian aid project this country has ever conducted, to look after the people who need our care the most. Instead of playing politics with children's lives, we should get on with looking after them and I wish the hon. Gentleman would join us in that. ...

**Mark Harper (Conservative):** ... I urge the Minister to keep the deadline in place. It is incredibly important that we do not encourage any more families to send their children on dangerous journeys. We should continue to take children directly from the region—directly from the camps—so that we can ensure they arrive safely. Encouraging the thought that if children get to Europe they will be able to stay is exactly what encourages the dangerous journeys that lead to their dying. ...

**Diane Abbott (Labour):** ... The House understands the Government's preference to take unaccompanied children directly from the region. I have visited the camps in France and Greece. The Minister needs to be reminded that the children are already there, often living in horrible conditions and at the mercy of traffickers and sexual exploitation. How many children in 2017-18 will come into this country under section 67? How many children will come in under Dublin? How long, on average, has each case taken? What is the future of close family reunion once we leave the European Union? Will the Government consider expanding UK immigration rights so that a child's right to family reunion in the broad sense is in no way diminished, or will the Government simply walk away from their moral obligations?

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** ... We—councils, charity groups and individuals—should be proud of the phenomenal work being done across the country, including the £1 million community sponsorship scheme that the Home Secretary announced last night, to welcome the most vulnerable people. It is right that we look to see who are the most vulnerable—who cannot afford to pay human traffickers, and who need our support in the region—rather than those who are in European countries. ...

**col 857 Tim Loughton (Conservative):** ... Will the Minister acknowledge that post-Brexit, when presumably we will come out of the Dublin III scheme, there will be a problem with children under the family reunion scheme? Can we ensure that they will still be matched with relatives beyond their parents, because many of them will have lost their parents but will have siblings, uncles and others with whom they may be safely and appropriately placed? ...

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** ... He is right: all of us in this country should be proud of the finance and focus we provide, but for every 3,000 people we bring over and help we could be helping 800,000 people in the region. ...

**col 858 Joanna Cherry (SNP):** ... last week I attended the launch of a report from the Human Trafficking Foundation, following an independent inquiry into separated and unaccompanied minors in Europe. The inquiry found that UK Ministers have done "as little as legally possible" to help unaccompanied children who have fled war and conflict

in their home nations; have turned away from a humanitarian crisis that “would not be tolerable” to the British public if they were more aware of it; and that by failing to offer safe passage are “unquestionably” fuelling both people trafficking and smuggling. Those are not my words but the findings of an independent inquiry. ...

**Yvette Cooper (Labour):** The Minister knows that helping children in the region and those in Europe and already here is not an either/or. Parliament told the Government to help lone child refugees in Europe when it passed the Dubs amendment last year. I know the Government did not want to agree to it, but it was passed. The way in which they have narrowed the criteria, dragged their feet, and failed even to count councils’ offers properly is shameful. Will he confirm that they have helped only 200 children under the Dubs amendment, despite the fact that councils have offered nearly 500 places, and that there are tens of thousands of child refugees still alone in Europe? ...

**col 859 Reply from Brandon Lewis:** ... We are clear about wanting to give children the right support and ensuring they have the support network to be an important and valued part of our community. It is important that we do so within what local authorities can provide, bearing in mind the restrictions and capacity they have. In 2016 we granted asylum or some form of leave to over 8,000 children, and since 2010 we have done so for some 42,000 children. ...

**col 862 Stuart McDonald (SNP):** Many of us do not understand why the Government chose to put a limit on the Dubs scheme based on a rather half-baked consultation with local authorities at one particular time. Why do the Government not continue to engage with local authorities and take proactive steps to increase their capacity to take unaccompanied children, including by implementing fully funded places?

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** First, that is what the amendment and the legislation said we should do. Secondly, I come back to a point I have made a few times. When we bring people—including families and, most importantly, vulnerable children—over, it is important that we have the facilities and capacity to give them the best start in life. I come back to the point I made earlier. ... we have already granted asylum or some other form of leave to more than 8,000 children. ...

**col 863 Preet Kaur Gill:** Europol has estimated that more than 10,000 unaccompanied child refugees have disappeared in Europe over the past two years. What steps are the Government taking to address that and to support our EU partners in improving protection for unaccompanied children at risk of trafficking or exploitation?

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** There are two sides to this. First, we must ensure that we do not create a pull factor that encourages more children and other individuals to take that treacherous journey, which simply helps the profits of the traffickers we all hope to see driven out. It is also about working with our partners and the National Crime Agency, which is working with Europol, to ensure that we track down and catch the people who commit these awful crimes. ...

**To read the full lengthy question and answer session see**

<http://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-07-19/debates/73226D74-D204-4667-A335-62C9E93D862E/ImmigrationAct2016Section67>

### **Immigration Act 2016**

*The Minister repeated the House of Commons statement from Brandon Lewis (see above)*

**Lord Rosser (Labour):** ... I have previously asked—without success—for the Government to provide the figures on the number of further unaccompanied children that local authorities have said they have the capacity to take in the current financial year, 2017-18, under Section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016, on the basis that government funding at the current level per child will be continued for further unaccompanied children coming here under the Dubs amendment in the current financial year. If I am again to be unsuccessful in getting an answer to that question, is it because, in the Government’s view, that question is now irrelevant because it appears in the response to the UQ that the Government have now put a cap of 480 on the number of children who can come here under the Dubs amendment. This is surely the same figure applicable at the time of

the PNQ on 27 April 2017, in the light of the addition of the further 130 children as a result of a government administrative error, when the Government also said, “we have not closed the Dubs scheme”.—[*Official Report*, 27/4/17; col. 1444.]

Surely, in the light of the response to the UQ, which appears to apply a cap of 480, that claim made on 27 April no longer stands up, and if I am right in saying that, frankly, that is a disgrace.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** My Lords, regarding the cap, the specified number was set out in legislation. It was initially 350, which was based on the consultation we carried out with local authorities. I have apologised before at this Dispatch Box—I apologise again—in that there was an administrative error and the figure then rose to 480. That figure is based on the number of children that local authorities can accommodate. It is right that we have not closed the Dubs scheme, which remains open. There are numbers to be filled and therefore the Dubs scheme is not closed.

**Baroness Sheehan (Liberal Democrat):** My Lords, we are receiving conflicting statements from the Government and local authorities. Will the Minister update the House on her department’s working relationship with local authorities based on, first, evidence presented recently to the High Court by Help Refugees that local authorities had the capacity to accept a far greater number of unaccompanied minors than have currently been accepted? Secondly, freedom of information requests have shown that local councils have voluntarily offered to accept 1,572 more children in addition to those they already support. Does the Minister acknowledge this? In the light of this information, will the Government reopen Dubs and take their fair share of these children, who are at such risk that, according to Oxfam, 28 children a day are going missing from Italy alone.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Government have consulted fully with local authorities. We held roadshows up and down the country. The FOI response to which the noble Baroness has referred talks, I think, about spare capacity for 784 unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. These figures are entirely at odds with our consultation and do not reflect capacity among local authorities. Over recent weeks and months there has been a lot of misunderstanding about the purpose of the 0.07% threshold to which I assume she is referring. It is neither a target for the number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children that we would expect to see in a local authority area, nor is it an assessment of a local authority’s capacity to accommodate unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. It is an indication of when a local authority is caring for a disproportionate number of such children, as some local authorities are, and when we would expect to see them transfer away from that authority. Drawing conclusions about local authority capacity by automatically assigning them from their 0.07% threshold is a flawed methodology which fails to reflect existing capacity.

**Baroness Butler-Sloss (Crossbench):** ... Northern Ireland and Scotland have both offered to take children but we were told in evidence that neither of them have been invited to take any at all. I hope the Minister has read our report, which talks about children being teargassed daily by the riot police in northern France and the terrible conditions in both Italy and Greece. I wonder if she and others in the Government can see that, according to the evidence we received, no effort whatever is being made to identify Dubs children in Calais and Dunkirk or indeed in Italy and Greece. Moreover, no effort at all is being made to identify any of the children with an entitlement under Dublin III. This is a catastrophe for these children and I feel passionate about it. However, nothing seems to be being done.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** I recognise the passion of the noble and learned Baroness, and she and I have talked about this on a number of occasions. I have read her report. The first thing I should say about the treatment by police of children in France is a point I have made in the House before: the prime responsibility for unaccompanied children in Europe lies with the authorities

of the countries in which the children are present. We continue to work with our European and international partners to reach a solution to the migrant crisis, and the UK has contributed significantly to that in hosting, supporting and protecting the most vulnerable children. We have a very strong track record on co-operating with France to manage the situation in Calais and protect the shared border. The safest way for eligible children to be transferred to the UK is by claiming asylum in France. Children with qualifying family members in the UK will be transferred to the UK to claim asylum where it is in their best interests to do so. Also, more children will be referred under Section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016.

**The Lord Bishop of Durham:** My Lords, more than 25,000 unaccompanied children arrived in Italy last year. The cut-off date for Section 67 was 20 March 2016, which means that none of the children who arrived in Italy after that date could be helped. Given that no children have yet been transferred from Greece and Italy under the scheme, will the Government consider resetting the cut-off date?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The most reverend Primate will appreciate that people are killed when they travel from the region to places such as France. It is really worth the House noting that those who benefit most from refugees travelling to places in Europe are the people traffickers—the unscrupulous thugs who bring those people at great peril across the sea, many of whom die on the way. That is why we are so keen to help children and families in the region, rather than have them make that perilous journey. A change in the date, I am sad to say, would act as that pull factor.

**Lord Dubs (Labour):** Can I ask the Minister for a simple answer to a simple question? Once we have reached the total of 480 children that she says the Government will accept under Section 67, is that the end of it or will the Government respond to local authorities which are still saying that they are willing to take more? It is a simple yes or no.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** I hope that I can give the noble Lord a simple answer: the figure of 480 is a specified number, which the noble Lord will appreciate because it is the number that we agreed. The noble Lord well knows that local authorities do not take children just from the Dubs scheme but from other schemes; I know that he appreciates that, and that local authorities are limited by capacity. We are always willing to listen to and take advice from local authorities which feel that their capacity has improved, but I have to say to the noble Lord that we arrived at the specified number and we are bound by local authorities' capacity.

<http://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2017-07-19/debates/0AD66018-6309-42B8-933C-B724D4F14C6C/ImmigrationAct2016>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

### Unaccompanied Child Refugees

#### *Application for emergency debate (Standing Order No. 24)*

**Tim Farron (Liberal Democrat):** I seek leave to propose that the House debate a specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration—namely, the acceptance of unaccompanied asylum seeking children into the UK.

Baroness Williams revealed in a recent response to a question in the other place that under the Dubs scheme only 200 unaccompanied asylum seeking children had so far been transferred to the United Kingdom from mainland Europe. The Government stated before the general election that before closing the scheme they would take 480 children, which in itself was the cause of outrage to many of us who had championed the Save the Children campaign to give sanctuary to 3,000 children in the UK. The Government's choice to take a figure as low as 480 was mean-spirited, blatantly politically motivated and not worthy of this House or this country—and yet the number of desperate children we have actually received is less than half that measly target.

The Government cannot use a lack of capacity or of resources as an excuse. Recent freedom of information requests have shown that local councils have voluntarily offered to accept 1,572 more children than they were supporting. Be it Syrian children, survivors of the Nazi death camps, Ugandan refugees or those fleeing genocide in the Balkans, this country's values of openness and tolerance dictate that we have a moral duty and responsibility to be a land of sanctuary. Our history shows that we are stronger and more successful because of our willingness to take in desperate refugees, who go on to become proud Britons. So why do the Government seem committed to turning their back on the world?

Our actions in this House directly affect the lives of the many hundreds of children who have a legal right to come to the United Kingdom but who are currently scattered across Europe, scared and alone. I and many others feel strongly that this issue must be debated before the House rises for the summer recess. In the summer, migrants make more trips to Europe in unsuitable boats, and I fear that all over again we are likely to see more news of people drowning while trying desperately to reach safety. Put bluntly, by the time October comes around there will be many more children alone, orphaned and living a hand-to-mouth existence in continental Europe.

We must examine our consciences. The Government made an unambitious commitment that had to be dragged out of them. They then cancelled that agreement before managing to meet even half of its terms. I ask the House to take this opportunity to address this outrage and to help these desperate children.

**Reply from Mr Speaker:** The hon. Gentleman asks leave to propose a debate on a specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration—namely, the acceptance of unaccompanied child refugees into the UK. I have listened carefully to his application, and on this occasion I am not persuaded that the matter is proper to be discussed under Standing Order No. 24. Ordinarily, I am exhorted to say nothing more than that, but I will say to the hon. Gentleman that I am not insensitive to the strong concern that he and others have on this matter. There is a limitation on time—we do not have unlimited time between now and the recess—but if he wants to seek other opportunities to air his concerns on this matter tomorrow, on Thursday or indeed both— who knows?—he may be successful in his quest.

<http://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-07-18/debates/F93B5FD4-2960-4E9B-B894-F2CFDF8ED561/UnaccompaniedChildRefugees>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

### Nurses: Migrant Workers

**Royston Smith (Conservative)** [4106] To ask the Secretary of State for Health, how many nurses from (a) EU, (b) non-EU and (c) commonwealth countries are employed by the NHS; and how those numbers have changed in the last seven years.

**Reply from Philip Dunne:** NHS Digital publishes data on the nationality of staff working in the National Health Service in England. Nationality is self-reported within the NHS human resources and payroll system, the electronic staff record. NHS Hospital and Community Health Services: Qualified Nursing and Health Visiting Staff in NHS trusts and clinical commissioning groups as at 30 September each specified year and latest data as at 31 March 2017

Qualified Nursing and Health Visiting Staff (headcount)	European Union nationals (including United Kingdom)	Non-EU	Commonwealth Countries (excluding UK)
2010	232,227	30,428	16,055
2011	238,459	29,030	15,360
2012	239,227	27,644	14,563
2013	248,828	26,285	13,779



2014	257,393	25,485	13,306
2015	264,938	25,032	12,750
2016	269,943	25,495	12,522
Mar-17	273,120	25,882	12,609

Source: NHS Digital

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-10/4106/>

### UK Visas and Immigration: Telephone Services

**Roger Godsiff (Labour)** [3890] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reason the phonenumber provided by UK Visas and Immigration for people to make inquiries about the status of their visa application is charged at £1.37 per minute on top of network charges; and what the average length of time is for people who call the line to wait on hold.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** Customers are charged £1.37 per minute when calling from outside of the UK and from the point at which they are connected to an agent

For customers who are applying from within the UK, phone calls continue to be charged at the caller's standard network rate only.

Our web site [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) is the main source of information and advice and is free of charge

The UK Government believes it is right that those who use and benefit directly from the UK immigration system make an appropriate contribution towards meeting the costs of the immigration system. Those who use the services from outside the UK are predominantly prospective customers and in many cases no application will be made and no application fee collected

Fees set by the Home Office for border, immigration and citizenship services are set at a level that partially funds the immigration system. The remainder is funded through general taxation

The average wait time for overseas callers was 1:51 between 1st June 2017 and 10 July 2017. A customer will only be charged for the time they spend connected to one of the customer service representatives.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-10/3890/>

### Visas

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [5241] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether those who have paid for her Department's Priority Service and not received a response within the 60 days' time standard will (a) be reimbursed the fee and (b) have their case processed within a revised time standard; and if she will make a statement.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** UKVI's published timescale for processing standard visa applications is 12 weeks (60 working days) for settlement applications, and three weeks (15 working days) for non-settlement applications. Applications made under the priority visa service will be placed to the front of the processing queue and expedited, however timescales for decision are not guaranteed. If there is a problem with an application or it is complex and expected to take longer than the standard processing timescale, UKVI will write to the customer within the standard processing time and explain what will happen next.

Both UKVI and its commercial partners make clear in communications to customers that the priority visa service fee will not be refunded if processing takes longer than the publicised times or the visa is refused, other than in exceptional circumstances. UKVI will consider refunds in any exceptional cases. These requests should be made via the usual enquiry helpline:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration/about/complaints-procedure#how-to-complain>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-17/5241/>

### **EU Nationals: Polish Language**

**Daniel Kawczynski (Conservative)** [4223] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if her Department will provide a Polish translation of the guidance on the Status of EU citizens in the UK: what you need to know on her Department's website.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** A Polish translation of the guidance on the status of EU citizens in the UK is available at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/status-of-eu-nationals-in-the-uk-what-you-need-to-know.pl>.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-11/4223/>

### **Entry Clearances**

**Neil Coyle (Labour)** [4282] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many of her Department's and UK Border Agency decisions were not made within the standard timeframe under the classification of complexity in each of the last 10 years.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** Published data on UKVI's performance against service standards for applications made in the UK and from overseas, including the proportion of cases classified as non-straightforward, can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data#uk-visas-and-immigration>.

Where an application is defined as non-straightforward due to complexity, the customer will be written to within the normal processing time to explain why it will not be decided within the normal standard, and to explain what will happen next.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-11/4282/>

### **Immigration: Legal Aid Scheme**

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [4804] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, pursuant to the Answer of 11 July 2017 to Question 3597, whether people enforcing their rights (a) through the UK judicial system and (b) contained within the Withdrawal Agreement will be eligible for legal aid.

**Reply from Philip Lee:** The scope of civil legal aid is set out in the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (LASPO), which came into force on 1 April 2013.

In order for a person to be granted civil legal aid, both their income and capital must be within specified limits as set out in the means test. In addition, their case needs to have a reasonable chance of winning (the merits test).

The Government does not currently put any nationality or residence restrictions on accessing civil legal aid. However, under LASPO civil legal aid is generally limited to proceedings taking place in England and Wales.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-13/4804/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-06/3597/>

### **Immigration: Appeals**

**Jo Swinson (Liberal Democrat)** [4646] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the implications for the guidance given to Entry Clearance Officers of the recent Court of Appeal judgment relating to the admission to the UK of adult dependent relatives.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The Immigration Rules for the admission to the UK of adult dependent relatives were upheld as lawful by the Court of Appeal on 24

May 2017 in *Britcits v The Secretary of State for the Home Department* [2017] EWCA Civ 368. We will update the relevant guidance as appropriate in due course.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-12/4646/>

### **Immigration: EU Nationals**

**Hywel Williams (Plaid Cymru)** [3618] To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, for what reasons the Government chose its planned cut-off date for EU citizens to retain UK citizenship after the UK leaves the EU.

**Reply from Robin Walker:** Our aim is to provide maximum certainty as quickly as possible for EU citizens in the UK. That is why we are clear that anyone who arrived in the UK before the date we triggered Article 50 (29 March 2017) will be covered by the UK's proposed approach. And all EU citizens in the UK will have their rights protected under EU law until the date we leave the EU. The specific date will be subject to negotiation but will not be before the date of trigger or after the date of withdrawal.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-07/3618/>

### **Immigration**

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [3553] To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, with reference to paragraph 10 of his Department's policy paper entitled *Safeguarding the position of EU citizens in the UK and UK nationals in the EU*, published on 26 June 2017, what additional steps people who have received permanent residence documentation will have to take in order to secure settled status.

**Reply from Robin Walker:** There is no need to do anything now. The UK will remain a member of the EU until March 2019 and there will be no change to the rights and status of EU citizens living in the UK, nor UK nationals living in the EU, during this time. Permanent residence status is linked to the UK's membership of the EU and so will no longer be valid after we leave. Therefore EU citizens do not need to apply for documentation confirming their permanent residence status. We will be asking EU citizens to make an application to the Home Office for documentation demonstrating their new settled status in due course. We will make the process as streamlined as possible for all individuals, including those who already hold a residence document under current free movement rules. Our intention is that the grace period last up to two years, giving people plenty of time to regularise their status. Anyone who would like to find out the latest information, including when they will need to sign up for the new scheme, can sign-up for email updates here.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-06/3553/>

*The policy paper referred to above can be read at*

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/621848/60093\\_Cm9464\\_NSS\\_SDR\\_Web.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/621848/60093_Cm9464_NSS_SDR_Web.pdf)

### **Immigration: EU Nationals**

*The following three questions all received the same answer*

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [4288] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to paragraph 6 of her Department's policy paper, *Safeguarding the position of EU citizens in the UK and UK nationals in the EU*, published on 26 June 2017, whether EU citizens who are full-time carers for a relative who dies before the EU citizen carer has accrued five years' residence will be eligible to qualify for settled status.

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [4289] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to paragraph 6 of her Department's policy paper, *Safeguarding the*

position of EU citizens in the UK and UK nationals in the EU, published on 26 June 2017, whether EU citizens who are full-time carers for their relatives will be eligible to qualify for settled status.

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [4422] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to paragraph 6 of her Department's policy paper Safeguarding the position of EU citizens in the UK and UK nationals in the EU, published on 26 June 2017, what provision the Government plans to make available with respect to the legal status and rights of EU citizens in the UK who are potential victims of trafficking and modern slavery.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The Government's policy paper (Cm 9464), sets out that EU citizens, including carers and potential victims of trafficking, who arrive in the UK before the specified date and have five years' continuous residence will be able to apply for UK settled status. EU citizens who arrive before the specified date, but do not yet have five years continuous residence, will be able to make an application to stay until they have built up the necessary five continuous years' residence to be able to apply for UK settled status.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-11/4288/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-11/4289/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-11/4422/>

*The policy paper referred to above can be read at*

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/621848/60093\\_Cm9464\\_NSS\\_SDR\\_Web.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/621848/60093_Cm9464_NSS_SDR_Web.pdf)

### Immigration

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [4290] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to paragraph 6 of her Department's policy paper, Safeguarding the position of EU citizens in the UK and UK nationals in the EU, published on 26 June 2017, whether non-EU family members who are married to a disabled or terminally ill EU citizen who passes away before having accrued five years' residence will be eligible to qualify for settled status.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The Government's policy paper (Cm 9464), sets out the UK's proposals for securing the rights of EU citizens and their family members. Paragraph 29 footnote 6 sets out that the definition of family member includes those with retained rights. The Free Movement Directive sets out that rights of residence can be retained by family members of an EU citizen in certain circumstances, for example, the death of the EU citizen. We will set out the details of the new scheme, including detailed eligibility criteria, in due course.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-11/4290/>

*The policy paper referred to above can be read at*

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/621848/60093\\_Cm9464\\_NSS\\_SDR\\_Web.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/621848/60093_Cm9464_NSS_SDR_Web.pdf)

### Immigration

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [4628] To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, with reference to paragraph 6 of his Department's policy paper Safeguarding the position of EU citizens in the UK and UK nationals in the EU, published on 26 June 2017, whether a child born after the specified date to a lawful EU resident who arrived in the UK before the specified date will be eligible for settled status.

**Reply from Robin Walker:** Children of EU citizens who hold settled status and are born in the UK will automatically acquire British citizenship. EU resident

parents who arrived before the specified date, but who need to apply for permission to stay post-exit in order to meet the five year residence requirement, will also need to apply for the same permission on behalf of their child when their child is born.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-12/4628/>

*The policy paper referred to above can be read at*

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/621848/60093\\_Cm9464\\_NSS\\_SDR\\_Web.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/621848/60093_Cm9464_NSS_SDR_Web.pdf)

### **Immigration: EU Nationals**

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [4682] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 12 July 2017 to Question 3708, on Immigration: EU nationals, how her Department will determine who is eligible for deemed leave.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The Government's policy paper (Cm 9464) is clear that the Home Office will provide a period of blanket residence permission, to start immediately on the UK's exit from the EU for EU citizens, and their family members, lawfully resident in the UK before the date agreed with the EU.

This will be a generic "umbrella" of temporary leave to give individuals time between the moment that free movement ends and the time that they obtain their residence document; allowing them to remain lawfully in the UK, and continue to undertake lawful activities during that interim period. Such leave, known as 'deemed leave' in UK law under the Immigration Act 1971, will not require an application.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-12/4682/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-07/3708/>

### **Immigration: EEA Nationals**

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [4805] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to paragraph 6 of her Department's policy paper Safeguarding the position of EU citizens in the UK and UK nationals in the EU, published on 26 June 2017, what provision will be made for EEA trafficked persons to apply for settled status.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The Government's policy paper (Cm 9464), sets out that EU citizens, which includes those who are victims of trafficking, who arrive in the UK before the specified date and have five years' continuous residence will be able to apply for UK settled status. EU citizens who arrive before the specified date, but do not yet have five years' continuous residence, will be able to make an application to stay until they have built up the necessary five continuous years' residence to be able to apply for UK settled status.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-13/4805/>

*The policy paper referred to above can be read at*

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/621848/60093\\_Cm9464\\_NSS\\_SDR\\_Web.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/621848/60093_Cm9464_NSS_SDR_Web.pdf)

### **Immigration: EU Nationals**

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [4802] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 12 July 2017 to Question 3708, on the period of blanket residence permission outlined in paragraph 24 of her Department's policy paper, Safeguarding the position of EU citizens in the UK and UK nationals in the EU, published on 26 June 2017, how (a) employers, (b) landlords, (c) banks and building societies, (d)

the DVLA and (e) benefit agencies will be able to determine who has deemed leave.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The Government will set out its plans in due course for redesigning the immigration system to introduce controls on future migration to the UK by EU nationals, including any plans for adjusting statutory checks by employers, landlords and other service providers.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-13/4802/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-07/3708/>

### **Immigration: EU Nationals**

**Paul Blomfield (Labour) [5875]** To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, pursuant to the Answer of 14 July 2017 to Question 3557, whether (a) EU and (b) non-EU family members who join eligible EU citizens before (i) the specified date and (ii) the UK leaves the EU will be able to apply for settled status after five years.

**Reply from Steve Baker:** Family members of eligible EU citizens (either EU citizens or non-EU nationals) who are resident in the UK before exit will be eligible to apply for settled status after five years, irrespective of the specified date.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-18/5875/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-06/3557/>

### **Immigration: EU Nationals**

**Paul Blomfield (Labour) [5920]** To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, pursuant to the Answer of 14 July 2017 to Question 3557, if during the negotiations on the UK's exit from the EU, he will seek for UK citizens in the EU after the specified date to have the right to bring their family members into the country of residence in accordance with current EU rules.

**Reply from Steve Baker:** As set out in our policy paper of 26 June, we want to provide as much certainty as possible to the three million EU citizens in the UK and the one million UK nationals in the EU, and for their lives to continue broadly as they do now. The precise rules around family reunion will be a matter for negotiations.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-18/5920/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-06/3557/>

*The policy paper referred to above can be read at*

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/621848/60093\\_Cm9464\\_NSS\\_SDR\\_Web.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/621848/60093_Cm9464_NSS_SDR_Web.pdf)

### **Immigration: EU Nationals**

**Paul Blomfield (Labour) [5921]** To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, pursuant to the Answer of 13 July 2017 to Question 3560, whether non-UK EU nationals who have previously lived in the UK but have been absent for more than two consecutive years will have the right to move back to the UK to start accruing years of residence and be eligible for settled status.

**Reply from Steve Baker:** Those who have been living in the UK for five years before the specified date and want to continue to make the UK their home will be able to apply for settled status to stay indefinitely after we exit.

Those who have already lived in the UK for over five years and hold permanent residence status under EU law, but were not present at the time of the specified date, will still be eligible for settled status if that absence was less than two consecutive years.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-18/5921/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-06/3560/>

### **Immigration: EU Nationals**

**Vicky Foxcroft (Labour)** [5358] To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, what protections will be offered to EU spouses of UK citizens who do not meet standard residency criteria once the UK has left the EU.

**Reply from Robin Walker:** We are proposing that family members arriving after exit, for example a future spouse, should be subject to the same rules that currently apply to non-EU nationals joining British citizens, or alternatively to the post-exit immigration arrangements for EU citizens who arrive after the specified date. These arrangements are yet to be finalised.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-17/5358/>

### **Undocumented Workers**

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [4863] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the effect of the creation of the offence of illegal working on her Department's ability to (a) identify and support victims of and (b) prevent trafficking and modern slavery.

**Reply from Sarah Newton:** There is no evidence that the creation of the new offence of working illegally has prevented the identification of and provision of assistance to victims of modern slavery and the prevention of trafficking. The new offence has strengthened the ability of the UK to deal with those who break our immigration laws for economic benefit by working illegally in the country.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-13/4863/>

### **Asylum**

**Stuart McDonald (SNP)** [3969] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what plans she has to lay regulations under the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 relating to changes in asylum support and the role of local authorities; and if she will make a statement.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** Implementation of the changes made by the Immigration Act 2016 to asylum support under the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 and to local authority support for migrants without immigration status will involve engagement with local authorities, the devolved administrations and other partners on the preparation of the required regulations. We have not yet made a decision on the timing of this work.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-10/3969/>

### **Asylum: Housing**

**Liz McInnes (Labour)** [4194] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the report from Refugee Action, entitled Slipping through the gaps, published in July 2017, for what reasons her Department is not meeting targets for section 95 and section 98 support for asylum seekers; and if she will make a statement.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The Home Office has discussed the report with

Refugee Action and will continue this dialogue as we examine the detailed findings. We take complaints about performance failures seriously and we have robust procedures in place to inspect, investigate and resolve issues when specific information is received.

Asylum seekers who would otherwise be destitute can apply for free accommodation and cash support to cover their essential living needs. If they have an emergency need for accommodation they can ask to be put in initial accommodation whilst their applications are being processed and the vast majority of such requests are processed on the same day.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-11/4194/>

*The report referred to above, the correct title of which is "Slipping through the cracks" can be read at*

<http://www.refugee-action.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Slipping-through-the-cracks-final4-A4-1.pdf>

### **Asylum: Homelessness**

**Louise Ellman (Labour)** [5957] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many refused asylum seekers have been made homeless in (a) the UK and (b) Liverpool for each of the last three years.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** All asylum seekers whose applications have been fully determined and have exhausted their appeal rights are required to leave the UK as soon as possible. Where failed asylum seekers who would otherwise be destitute are unable to leave the UK due to circumstances beyond their control they can continue to be supported until the barrier to their return is removed. The Home Office publishes quarterly figures on the number of asylum seekers in receipt of support, including under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, in table as\_18q in volume 4 of the Asylum data tables. These are available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-january-to-march-2017/list-of-tables#asylum>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-18/5957/>

### **Immigrants: Detainees**

**Jim Shannon (DUP)** [5232] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have had indefinite detentions in the UK in each of the last five years; and what the age groups are of those people.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** It is not possible to detain people indefinitely in the UK under immigration powers. To be lawful, detention must last no longer than is reasonably necessary to achieve the purpose for which it was authorised, must not be unduly prolonged and, in relation to removal, there must be a realistic prospect of removal within a reasonable period of time.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-17/5232/>

## **UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers**

### **British Citizenship**

**Lord Marlesford (Conservative)** [HL1014] Her Majesty's Government how many citizens of other countries have been given British citizenship in each of the last 10 years.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Information on the numbers of grants of British citizenship is published in Citizenship table cz\_01 in the Home Office's 'Immigration Statistics, January - March 2016', available at

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/615149/citizenship-jan-mar-2017-tables.ods](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/615149/citizenship-jan-mar-2017-tables.ods)



The information is summarised in this table:

<b>British citizenship grants, 2007 to 2016</b>	
Year	Grant Decisions
2007	164,637
2008	129,377
2009	203,789
2010	195,094
2011	177,934
2012	194,370
2013	208,095
2014	125,754
2015	118,109
2016	149,421

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-18/HL1014/>

### **EU citizens: dependents**

**Viscount Waverley (Crossbench)** [HL730] Her Majesty's Government under what circumstances a British citizen resident in the UK may seek leave for elderly dependants to enter the UK; and whether, following Brexit, the same rules will apply to EU citizens who have been granted permanent residency status.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** In 'The United Kingdom's Exit from the European Union: Safeguarding the Position of EU Citizens Living in the UK and UK Nationals Living in the EU' (Cm 9464), published on 26 June 2017, we indicated in paragraph 30 that, in respect of EU citizens who arrived here before the specified date, their family members who come to the UK after we leave the EU will be subject to the same rules that apply to non-EU nationals joining British citizens, or alternatively to the post-exit arrangements for EU citizens who arrive after the specified date. The current Immigration Rules for adult dependent relatives of British citizens are contained in Appendix FM: family members.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-12/HL730/>

*The policy paper referred to above can be read at*

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/621848/60093\\_Cm9464\\_NSS\\_SDR\\_Web.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/621848/60093_Cm9464_NSS_SDR_Web.pdf)

### **Indefinite leave to remain**

**Lord Green of Deddington (Crossbench)** [HL559] Her Majesty's Government how many people, in each of the last five years, were granted indefinite leave to remain on the basis of long residence under Immigration Rule 276B which requires continuous lawful residence in the UK of at least ten years.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The available information on the total number of grants of settlement in the UK on the basis of long residence, 2004 to 2015, is published in Settlement table se\_03 in the Home Office's 'Immigration Statistics, January - March 2016', available from

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/615148/settlement-jan-mar-2017-tables.ods](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/615148/settlement-jan-mar-2017-tables.ods)

Note these data include those granted under both 10 year and 14 year rules. The 14 year rule provision was removed in 2012. People can still benefit from the 14 year provision if they were given limited leave to remain on that basis before 2012, in which case they are granted settlement under transitional provisions.

[HL559 - Settlement Table se\\_03 - Immigration Stats](#)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-06/HL559/>

### Leave to remain

**Lord Green of Deddington (Crossbench)** [HL560] Her Majesty's Government how many people, in each of the last five years, were granted leave to remain on the grounds of private life in the UK under Immigration Rule 276ADE(1).

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Information on the number of extensions of stay granted by category is published in extensions table ex\_02\_o in the Home Office's 'Immigration Statistics, January - March 2017', available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-january-to-march-2017/list-of-tables#extensions>

For the relevant information please see worksheet ex\_02\_o (column A shows year, column G shows private life grants).

[Table ex\\_02 - HO Immigration Stats Jan-March 17](#)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-06/HL560/>

### Refugee Action

**Lord Scriven (Liberal Democrat)** [HL644] Her Majesty's Government what is their assessment of the recent report by Refugee Action, Slipping through the cracks - How Britain's asylum support system fails the most vulnerable, on the performance of the Home Office in finding emergency accommodation for homeless and destitute asylum seekers.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Home Office has discussed the report with Refugee Action and will continue this dialogue as we examine the detailed findings. We take complaints about performance failures seriously and we have robust procedures in place to inspect, investigate and resolve issues when specific information is received.

Asylum seekers who would otherwise be destitute can apply for free accommodation and cash support to cover their essential living needs. If they have an emergency need for accommodation they can ask to be put in initial accommodation whilst their applications are being processed and the vast majority of such requests are processed on the same day.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-10/HL644/>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.refugee-action.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Slipping-through-the-cracks-final4-A4.pdf>

### Refugees

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat)** [HL697] Her Majesty's Government what proportion of those applying for settlement in the UK as refugees have been identified as economic migrants.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** A grant of leave as a refugee (as identified by the 1951 Geneva Convention) will not be granted to those who are claiming for economic reasons only. The way in which reasons for refusal of asylum claims are stored means that it is not possible to provide a breakdown of the number of those identified as claiming as economic migrants; to do so can only be done at disproportionate cost.

Details on the number of asylum claims refused each year can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-january-to-march-2017>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-11/HL697/>

### Refugees

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat)** [HL695] Her Majesty's Government which local authorities have accepted refugees from Syria; and how many refugees have

been taken in by each such local authority.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Progress on resettlement under the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement scheme is indicated in quarterly immigration statistics, and is broken down by each local authority. The last set of statistics, published on 25 May, showed that 7,307 Syrians have been resettled across 235 different local authorities since the scheme began. The statistics are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-11/HL695/>

### Refugees

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat)** [HL699] Her Majesty's Government what financial or other assistance they have given to cultural organisations to support their activities aiming to encourage the successful integration of refugees.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Government provides funding for a range of services that can be accessed by refugees as part of their successful integration. Language skills and employment skills are key, and the ability to speak English is a key enabler to successful integration. On this basis the Government provides funding for and supports English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) as part of its wider strategy to improve adult literacy in England. ESOL funding is not ring-fenced and comes out of a provider's Adult Education Budget (AEB). Colleges and training providers have the freedom and flexibility to determine how they use their AEB to meet the needs of their communities. There is no direct funding of cultural bodies for integration purposes although refugees are encouraged to participate in existing social and community groups.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-11/HL699/>

### Refugees: Children

**Lord Hylton (Crossbench)** [HL1103] Her Majesty's Government, further to the repeating of an answer to an Urgent Question by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 19 July, whether they plan to increase (1) the number of families with vulnerable children to be resettled in the UK from the Middle East under the Vulnerable Children Resettlement Scheme; and (2) the number of vulnerable unaccompanied refugee children already in Europe with existing close relatives in the UK whom they will resettle in the UK.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Under the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme (VCRS), we will resettle up to 3,000 vulnerable children and their families up to the year 2020. The figures for the VCRS will be published in the usual way, and will feature in future releases of the Home Office's immigration quarterly statistics.

The Dublin Regulation establishes which EU Member State has responsibility for assessing an individual's asylum claim. Under Article 8 of the Regulation, another EU Member State can raise a Take Charge Request where a child has a family member legally present in the UK and where transfer to the UK is in the child's best interests. For transfers under Article 8.2 there is the additional requirement that the relative – a grandparent or adult aunt or uncle – is able to take care of the child. We will transfer children where a Take Charge Request is raised and who meet these requirements to the UK for their asylum claim to be assessed here.

This is an ongoing commitment and no number is associated with it.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-19/HL1103/>

*The answer to the Urgent Question referred to above can be read at*

<http://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2017-07-19/debates/0AD66018-6309-42B8-933C-B724D4F14C6C/ImmigrationAct2016>

## Asylum Seekers

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat)** [HL700] Her Majesty's Government how many asylum seekers are currently in custody awaiting final decisions on their settlement applications.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Home Office publishes figures on the number of asylum claims and decisions made as part of its Immigration Statistics release. The latest version can be found at [Immigration statistics, January to March 2017: data tables - GOV.UK](http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/58424/immigration-statistics-january-to-march-2017-data-tables) and in the attached table.

The table below shows the total number of claims and decisions made in each of the last two years.

Year	Number of Claims	Decisions Made
2015	32,733	28,622
2016	30,603	24,984

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-11/HL700/>

## Unaccompanied and trafficked children

*The following five questions all received the same answer*

**Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative)** [HL764] Her Majesty's Government when they will publish updated guidance on (1) safeguarding children who may have been trafficked, and (2) care of unaccompanied and trafficked children.

**Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative)** [HL765] Her Majesty's Government further to the Written Answer by Lord Nash on 20 January (HL4582), to what extent the training for foster carers and support workers commissioned from the Refugee Council and End Child Prostitution and Trafficking addresses (1) the indicators of modern slavery, and (2) particular risks and needs of children who are, or might be, victims of human trafficking and exploitation.

**Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative)** [HL766] Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Nash on 20 January (HL4582), in which local authorities was training given to foster carers and support workers by the Refugee Council and ECPAT to help those carers and workers care for unaccompanied asylum-seeker or refugee children.

**Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative)** [HL767] Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Nash on 20 January (HL4582), what plans they have to commission further training for foster carers and support workers to assist those carers and workers to care for children who are, or might be, victims of human trafficking and exploitation.

**Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative)** [HL768] Her Majesty's Government what measures are in place to ensure that children who may have been victims of modern slavery are placed with foster carers or support workers who have received specific training on how to care for such children.

**Reply from Lord Nash:** There are no plans to update the practice guidance 'Safeguarding children who may have been trafficked'. The revised statutory guidance 'The care of unaccompanied asylum seeking and trafficked children' will be published this autumn.

The training for foster carers and support workers that DfE commissioned from the Refugee Council and ECPAT enables those caring for unaccompanied and trafficked children to understand the challenges and risks facing these children, and equips participants with the knowledge and tools to respond effectively to their needs. Participants were also provided with access to an e-learning course to help recognise the needs of child and adult victims of trafficking and guidance on actions carers and professionals should take to identify and safeguard victims. Foster carers and support workers attended training courses located in 48 local authorities (see list below). Training was not limited to carers from those authorities.

The forthcoming safeguarding strategy for unaccompanied asylum seeking and refugee children will address the need for any additional training required by foster carers and support workers to care for children who are, or might be, victims of human trafficking and exploitation.

Further to the training which has recently commissioned, the statutory guidance on 'The care of unaccompanied asylum seeking and trafficked children' states that "Everyone involved in the care of unaccompanied and trafficked children should be trained to recognise and understand the particular issues likely to be faced by these children. This includes recognising the indicators of trafficking as a child's previous history or current experience of being trafficked might not be apparent on entering care."

**To read a lengthy list of local authorities where the training by ECPAT and Refugee Council was located see**

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-12/HL764/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-12/HL765/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-12/HL766/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-12/HL767/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-12/HL768/>

*The guidance referred to above can be read at*

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/177033/DFE-00084-2011.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/177033/DFE-00084-2011.pdf)

and

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/330787/Care\\_of\\_unaccompanied\\_and\\_trafficked\\_children.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/330787/Care_of_unaccompanied_and_trafficked_children.pdf)

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-11/HL4582/>

## UK Parliament Early Day Motion

**190 Caroline Lucas (Green) Asylum Support** – That this House notes with deep concern the findings of the recent research report by Refugee Action, Slipping Through The Cracks, that a failure by the Home Office to follow its own guidance for supporting those seeking asylum in the UK is resulting in vulnerable people being wrongly denied assistance or suffering long delays to get the support they are entitled to, and that this is making vulnerable people homeless and leaving them unable to feed their families; further notes that the Refugee Action report follows highly critical reports on the asylum support system by the Home Affairs Committee in January 2017, and the Public Accounts Committee in April 2014; considers it vital that Home Office policy and practice adequately supports all asylum seekers while taking account of the particular needs of the most vulnerable, including victims of torture and trafficking; and calls on the Government urgently to commit to applying existing policy and guidance in all cases, including making decisions on support as quickly as possible, to put into practice a transparent approach to decision-making on asylum support, and to take urgent action to

improve the standards and monitoring of asylum accommodation.  
<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2017-19/190>

## Press Releases

### **Unaccompanied child refugees**

<https://news.gov.scot/news/unaccompanied-child-refugees-1>

### **Home Secretary announces £1 million to help communities support refugees**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-announces-1-million-to-help-communities-support-refugees>

### **Immigration policies being formulated in the dark, say Lords committee**

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/economic-affairs-committee/news-parliament-2017/brexit-labour-market/>

### **Migrant children at risk of trafficking and exploitation as current protection systems fail them – UN experts**

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=21916&LangID=E>

### **States must act urgently to protect refugee children from trafficking**

<http://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/states-must-act-urgently-to-protect-refugee-children-from-trafficking>

### **Strengthen child protection to guard against trafficking**

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2017/strengthen-child-protection-guard-against-trafficking>

### **'Act now' to help and protect trafficking victims, UN urges on World Day against the scourge**

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=57278#.WX4XG9OGOOnY>

## New Publications

### **Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS) Guidance for local authorities and partners**

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/631369/170711\\_Syrian\\_Resettlement\\_Updated\\_Fact\\_Sheet\\_final.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/631369/170711_Syrian_Resettlement_Updated_Fact_Sheet_final.pdf)

### **Deportation with Assurances**

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/630809/59541\\_Cm\\_9462\\_Accessible.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/630809/59541_Cm_9462_Accessible.pdf)

### **Brexit and the Labour Market**

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201719/ldselect/ldeconaf/11/11.pdf>

### **House of Lords Briefing: World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, 30 July 2017**

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/LLN-2017-0044/LLN-2017-0044.pdf>

### **Overview of the UK population: July 2017**

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/articles/overviewoftheukpopulation/july2017/pdf>

## Introduction to Social Culture of Britain for young refugees (videos)

### Equality Before the Law; Hate Speech

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PL953XJMUIJ2bHj8WlgY5GrnBvg\\_DdrmJI&v=72F8tY7YvUQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PL953XJMUIJ2bHj8WlgY5GrnBvg_DdrmJI&v=72F8tY7YvUQ)

### Law and Freedom of Expression

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PL953XJMUIJ2bHj8WlgY5GrnBvg\\_DdrmJI&v=Tjt0\\_qiHgl](https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PL953XJMUIJ2bHj8WlgY5GrnBvg_DdrmJI&v=Tjt0_qiHgl)

### Gender Equality in Islam

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PL953XJMUIJ2bHj8WlgY5GrnBvg\\_DdrmJI&v=Cbg39qCUMTc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PL953XJMUIJ2bHj8WlgY5GrnBvg_DdrmJI&v=Cbg39qCUMTc)

### How to Access National Health Service

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PL953XJMUIJ2bylJaXyxYdVB3GidmoWiHO&v=FgizUeEjWBk>

### What Causes Mental Health Issues

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PL953XJMUIJ2bylJaXyxYdVB3GidmoWiHO&v=dBmBlhau-hQ>

### Some Possible Causes of Depression

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PL953XJMUIJ2bylJaXyxYdVB3GidmoWiHO&v=M602zKi\\_ARM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PL953XJMUIJ2bylJaXyxYdVB3GidmoWiHO&v=M602zKi_ARM)

### Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PL953XJMUIJ2aJF2YJD3ObFEfkPsgj9cHd&v=3uroCCJvHvo>

### Domestic Abuse and Women's Health

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PL953XJMUIJ2aJF2YJD3ObFEfkPsgj9cHd&v=8tK3pxyy0ik>

### Women's Equality and Domestic Abuse in Islam

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PL953XJMUIJ2aJF2YJD3ObFEfkPsgj9cHd&v=7QpqKy0P1Zw>

## News

### Brexit: UK-EU freedom of movement 'to end in March 2019'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-40734504>

### Contradictory statements on post-Brexit future 'deny Scotland essential powers' on EU migrants

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15439118.Contradictory\\_statements\\_on\\_post\\_Brexit\\_future\\_deny\\_Scotland\\_essential\\_powers\\_on\\_EU\\_migrants/?ref=mrb&lp=3](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15439118.Contradictory_statements_on_post_Brexit_future_deny_Scotland_essential_powers_on_EU_migrants/?ref=mrb&lp=3)

### EU migrants will need to register with Home Office after Brexit, says Amber Rudd

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/eu-migrants-register-home-office-brexit-amber-rudd-free-movement-implementation-a7864016.html>

### EU nationals will be free to work in the UK for years after Brexit, says Chancellor Philip Hammond

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/eu-nationals-uk-work-free-movement-brexit-philip-hammond-chancellor-immigration-brandon-lewis-a7864181.html>

**EU nationals can register to enter UK during Brexit transition**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2017/jul/27/freedom-of-movement-ends-with-brexit-says-immigration-minister-brandon-lewis>

**Rudd outlines 'open' post-Brexit immigration policy**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-07-27/news/rudd-outlines-open-post-brexit-immigration-policy-6d02ppknk>

**Brexit EU migration study launched by Amber Rudd**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-40734504>

**Amber Rudd asks for analysis of EU migration – a year after referendum**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2017/jul/27/amber-rudd-asks-for-analysis-of-eu-migration-a-year-after-referendum>

**Brexit EU migration study examines if British workers are at a disadvantage to foreign labour**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/07/27/brexit-eu-migration-study-examines-british-workers-adisadvantage/>

**Home Secretary Amber Rudd unveils 'census' of EU workers in Britain to assess the role they play in the UK's economy and society**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4733924/Amber-Rudd-unveils-census-EU-workers-Britain.html>

**Home Office volunteers no data on EU migrants in work**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/jul/18/home-office-has-no-data-on-eu-migrants-in-work-suggests-minister>

**Official estimates of international students in UK 'potentially misleading'**

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2017/jul/27/official-estimates-of-international-students-in-uk-potentially-misleading>

**Government risks making immigration policy 'in the dark', peers warn**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/beyondbrexit/15425221.Government\\_risks\\_making\\_immigration\\_policy\\_in\\_the\\_dark\\_peers\\_warn/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/beyondbrexit/15425221.Government_risks_making_immigration_policy_in_the_dark_peers_warn/)

**Peers back plan for new Scots powers on migrants**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/15419713.Peers\\_back\\_plan\\_for\\_new\\_Scots\\_powers\\_on\\_migrants/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/15419713.Peers_back_plan_for_new_Scots_powers_on_migrants/)

**Wrong immigration figures leave Government making policy 'in the dark' peers warn**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/immigration-figures-brexit-lord-forsyth-theresa-may-a7851596.html>

**Government risks making post-Brexit immigration policy 'in the dark', say peers**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/07/21/government-risks-making-post-brexit-immigration-policy-dark/>

**Concern over Dubs resettlement scheme**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-40691737>

**UK has not taken in any child refugees under Dubs scheme this year**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/jul/19/uk-not-taken-any-child-refugees-dubs-scheme-this-year>



**Government accused of failing child refugees due to 'lack of planning' in implementation of Dubs scheme**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/government-child-refugees-failing-lack-of-planning-scottish-welsh-human-trafficking-a7854566.html>

**Government commits to resettling an extra 3,000 refugees from Africa and Middle East**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/government-resettling-extra-3000-refugees-middle-east-north-africa-dubs-scheme-resettlement-a7855291.html>

**The new arrivals: an update on the project's progress so far**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/jul/28/the-new-arrivals-update-project-progress-so-far>

**More than 100 child refugees missing in UK after being smuggled from Calais**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/child-refugees-uk-missing-calais-smuggled-jungle-camp-crisis-lorries-parliament-dubs-resettlement-a7853991.html>

**'A bit of me is dying. But I can't stay': the EU nationals exiting Britain**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2017/jul/28/brexit-the-eu-nationals-exiting-britain-a-bit-of-me-is-dying-but-i-cant-stay>

**Indefinite detention is dehumanising for refugees. This practice must end**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/jul/19/indefinite-detention-refugees-journeys-refugee-tales>

**Thousands of non-EU ex-students allowed to stay each year, says Migration Watch**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-07-21/news/thousands-of-non-eu-ex-students-allowed-to-stay-each-year-says-migration-watch-qjgjh5x07>

**Home Office breached woman's human rights in Yarl's Wood 'punishment room'**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/jul/27/kenyan-asylum-seeker-human-rights-yarls-wood-punishment-room>

**Yarl's Wood: Home Office locked up woman in 'freezing' punishment room for 28 hours in breach of law**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/yarls-wood-home-office-immigrant-woman-freezing-punishment-room-28-hours-detention-centre-rights-a7864321.html>

**Nearly one in three births are to foreign-born mothers as rate hits record high**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/07/19/nearly-one-three-births-foreign-born-mothers-rate-hits-record/>

**Migrants raised UK population by 250,000 in each of past 12 years**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-07-22/news/migrants-raised-uk-population-by-250-000-in-each-of-past-12-years-dd38q2fmc>

**EU migrants make up over 20% of labour force in 18 British industries**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2017/jul/29/eu-workers-fifth-labour-force-18-sectors-britain-economy>

**Scotland welcomes one in four Syrian refugees**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15429003.Scotland\\_welcomes\\_one\\_in\\_four\\_Syrian\\_refugees/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15429003.Scotland_welcomes_one_in_four_Syrian_refugees/)

### **Scotland takes 1,800 Syrian refugees over last two years**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/scotland-takes-1-800-syrian-refugees-over-last-two-years-1-4512062>

### **Joy for Iranian artist as Edinburgh Festival visa ban is overturned**

<http://www.scotsman.com/lifestyle/joy-for-iranian-artist-as-edinburgh-festival-visa-ban-is-overturned-1-4515546>

### **Iranian artist to attend Edinburgh book festival after visa volte-face**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/jul/28/iranian-artist-ehsan-abdollahi-attend-edinburgh-book-festival-visa-ban-lifted>

### **Sharing Lives, Sharing Languages**

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/blogs/3235\\_sharing\\_lives\\_sharing\\_languages](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/blogs/3235_sharing_lives_sharing_languages)

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## **Community Relations**

### **Press Release**

#### **The Al Haram Al Sharif Tensions Must Not Spill into the UK**

<https://tellmamauk.org/the-al-haram-al-sharif-tensions-must-not-spill-into-the-uk/>

### **News**

#### **Interfaith talks need to go beyond tea and samosas**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-07-22/register/interfaith-talks-need-to-go-beyond-tea-and-samosas-lsbd75gcv>

#### **Legislation is needed to stop one ethnicity taking over a school, says Bradford superhead**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2017/07/18/legislation-needed-stop-one-ethnicity-taking-school-says-bradford/>

#### **Bradford schools chief wants law to tackle racial segregation**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-07-19/news/bradford-schools-chief-wants-law-to-tackle-racial-segregation-sd89jh8zw>

#### **Muslims fly flag for Britain at festival**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-07-29/news/muslims-fly-flag-for-britain-at-festival-3hmvkbq2d>

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## **Equality**

### **UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers**

#### **Police: Equality**

**Lord Ouseley (Crossbench) [HL578]** Her Majesty's Government how many BAME (1) men, and (2) women, hold senior and chief officer positions in police constabularies in

England and Wales; how many such positions there are; and what assessment they have made of the recruitment trends to such positions, in terms of improved access to, and diversity within, senior positions.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Home Office collects and publishes statistics on the number of police officers employed by each police force in England and Wales on a bi-annual basis. These data are published in the 'Police workforce, England and Wales' statistical bulletins. The Home Office does not collect information on the number of posts available.

Detailed data on the number of officers in post, broken down by rank, gender and ethnicity are collected and published on an annual basis only. The requested data, representing the picture as at 31 March 2016, can be found in the attached Table\_D1 accompanying the main release here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-workforce-england-and-wales-31-march-2016>

Data for previous years can be found in the Open Data Tables, available here:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/539981/open-data-table-police-workforce-ethnicity.ods](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/539981/open-data-table-police-workforce-ethnicity.ods)

The Government has made it easier than ever before for the public to hold their PCC and chief constable to account over how diverse their force is compared to the local population. Police.uk now gives access to diversity data for officers and police staff, and the profile of BME and female officers by police rank, in comparison to the local force area population. We are in regular discussion with the College of Policing, who are leading work with chief constables and others to improve senior police recruitment.

The Government's direct entry schemes at Inspector and Superintendent ranks help to attract the most talented people into policing, bringing in fresh experience, diversity and perspectives. Of the 40 inspectors and superintendents who have started the scheme so far 43% have been women and 13% were from an ethnic minority background. Chief Constable appointments have also been opened up to those with equivalent experience from overseas.

[Table D1](#)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-06/HL578/>

## New Publications

**Scotland's Equality Evidence Strategy 2017-2021**

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00522512.pdf>

**Ethnic Minorities in Politics and Public life**

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN01156/SN01156.pdf>

## News

**Immigrants' son Sir Rabinder Singh rises to become Court of Appeal judge**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-07-22/news/immigrants-son-sir-rabinder-singh-rises-to-become-court-of-appeal-judge-3fwgffgqw>

**Recruitment of black and Asian judges too slow – lord chief justice**

<https://www.theguardian.com/law/2017/jul/20/recruitment-of-black-and-asian-judges-too-slow-lord-chief-justice>

## Backlash over BBC's low-paid minority ethnic staff

<https://www.theguardian.com/media/2017/jul/22/scandal-of-bbc-low-paid-ethnic-minority-staff-creating-as-much-anger-as-sexism>

## Pressure on Ofcom grows to force BBC to increase diversity

<https://www.theguardian.com/media/2017/jul/24/pressure-on-ofcom-grows-to-force-bbc-to-increase-diversity>

## EU criticised for leaving out ethnic minorities in 'diversity' drive

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/jul/27/eu-criticised-leaving-out-ethnic-minorities-diversity-drive>

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# Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

## Scottish Parliament Written Answers

### Religiously Aggravated Offending in Scotland 2016-17

**S5W-10012 Elaine Smith (Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking in response to the finding in the report, *Religiously Aggravated Offending in Scotland 2016-17*, that (a) 57% of all reported offences were directed at Roman Catholics and (b) there had been a 14% increase in offences.

**Reply from Angela Constance:** The Scottish Government believes that there is no excuse for any form of hate crime. Scotland is a diverse multi-cultural society and this diversity is our strength.

This Government is clear that there is absolutely no place for bigotry and prejudice in 21st century Scotland and it will not be tolerated. Later this year, we will launch a public campaign to raise awareness within wider society of the impacts of hate crime.

We remain committed to tackling all forms of prejudice and discrimination, including sectarianism. Over the last 6 years we have invested £13 million (to March 2018) to tackle sectarianism including £9.8 million directly invested in community based projects across Scotland, many of which have a strong focus on education.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-10012>

The report referred to above can be read at

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00520696.pdf>

### Independent Advisory Group on Hate Crime, Prejudice and Community Cohesion

**S5W-10041 Anas Sarwar (Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government for what reason its response to the Report of Independent Advisory Group on Hate Crime, Prejudice and Community Cohesion makes no reference to Islamophobia or anti-Muslim acts.

**Reply from Angela Constance:** We are clear that there is absolutely no place for prejudice in Scotland, and that includes anti-Muslim prejudice and Islamophobia. Any form of hate crime is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

The Scottish Government is committed to building strong, resilient and supportive communities for all and, as set out in our response to the Report of the Independent Advisory Group, we will now take forward an ambitious programme of work in response to their recommendations.

Focusing on building community cohesion for all will have a significant impact in addressing such prejudice and inequalities – not only for religious groups but for all minority communities in Scotland. This is absolutely essential in ensuring that

we are truly 'One Scotland' where people live in peace and everyone has the opportunity to flourish.

I would also like to refer the member to question S5W-08278 answered on 13 April 2017 which outlines some of the action we have taken to tackle Islamophobia in Scotland. All answers to written Parliamentary Questions are available on the Parliament's website, the search facility for which can be found at:

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx>

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-10041>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0050/00506074.pdf>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-08278>

## Scottish Parliament Motions

**S5M-06801 Christina McKelvie (SNP): Amnesty International Report, Tackling Hate Crime in the UK** – That the Parliament welcomes the recent report from Amnesty International, Tackling Hate Crime in the UK, detailing specific case studies of hate crime attacks across the UK and the recommendations posed to each devolved UK parliament on how best to tackle hate crime; notes the recommendations in the report, including speaking out against hateful and discriminatory language, investing in greater community engagement against hate crime and developing training practices to eradicate online hate crime; further notes the specific recommendations directed to the Scottish Government, the Independent Review of Hate Crime Legislation and Police Scotland, including the collection and publication of hate crime data, consolidating existing current hate crime data and to extend the categories covered by protected characteristics, and pays tribute to those referred to in the report's case studies for sharing their stories and experiences, helping the evidence-based recommendations from Amnesty to be realised.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-06801>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.amnesty.org.uk/files/Against-Hate-Briefing-AIUK.pdf>

**S5M-06811 John Mason (SNP): Anti-Semitism in Scotland** – That the Parliament deplores the reported UK-wide rise in anti-Semitic incidents in the last year to what it understands is the highest level on record; understands that Scotland recorded 26 anti-Semitic incidents over the last year, 15 of which led to a criminal charge, with another 19 "non-criminal" anti-Semitic incidents; believes that many within the Jewish community are increasingly worried about facing discrimination due to their religion, with many choosing to keep their faith secret; understands that the Campaign Against Anti-Semitism compiled the analysis, which found that many of those surveyed had stopped attending their synagogue due to a fear of anti-Semitic incidents; considers this to be unacceptable, and calls on governments at all levels to ensure that action is taken to ensure that the problem of anti-Semitism is tackled head-on.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-06811>

### Hate Crime: Prosecutions

**Stephen Timms (Labour)** [5417] To ask the Attorney General, what recent progress has been made in increasing the prosecution rate for hate crimes.

**Reply from Robert Buckland:** The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) has taken a number of steps to improve its prosecution of all strands of hate crime.

The CPS is prosecuting and convicting more defendants of hate crime than ever before. In 2015/16, the CPS completed 15,442 hate crime prosecutions, an increase of 704 on the previous year. The conviction rate also improved to 83.2% in 2015/16 an increase from 82.9% the previous year.

The CPS Annual Report and Accounts 2016/17 shows that the proportion of cases where the CPS was successful in achieving uplifted sentences for hate crime perpetrators has increased dramatically. The proportion rose from 33.8% in 2015/16, to 52.2% in 2016/17 – reaching 58.2% in the final quarter.

The CPS has delivered mandatory face to face disability hate crime training and racially and religiously aggravated hate crime training and is in the process of developing homophobic, biphobic and transphobic hate crime training to support prosecutors to more effectively deal with hate crime cases.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-17/5417/>

### Religious Buildings: Security

**Andrew Gwynne (Labour)** [4808] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, whether his Department (a) has a role and (b) provides funding in respect of Government measures to protect religious buildings from attack.

**Reply from Marcus Jones:** The Department for Communities and Local Government does not have a direct role nor does it provide funding in respect of measures to protect religious buildings from attack. The Jewish Community Protective Security Grant, the Places of Worship security funding scheme and the Vulnerable Faith Institutions scheme are the responsibility of the Home Office.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-13/4808/>

### Codes of Practice: Social Media

*The following four questions all received the same answer*

**Liz Saville Roberts (Plaid Cymru)** [4727] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, whether she plans to include measures to tackle (a) hate conduct and (b) extremist content in the code of practice for providers of online social media platforms.

**Liz Saville Roberts (Plaid Cymru)** [4728] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, if she will ensure that the code of practice for providers of online social media platforms will include provisions for those providers to fully co-operate with the police on criminal content.

**Liz Saville Roberts (Plaid Cymru)** [4729] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, whether she plans to consult stakeholders on the content and nature of the code of practice for social media providers before issuing that code.

**Liz Saville Roberts (Plaid Cymru)** [4757] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, what mechanisms she plans to put in place to revise the code of practice for providers of online social media platforms to respond to future technical developments.

**Matt Hancock:** The Digital Economy Act requires the Secretary of State, before issuing a code of practice, to consult social media providers to whom the code is intended to give guidance and such other persons as the Secretary of State considers it appropriate to consult. We will take forward this consultation as part of

the Internet Safety Strategy.

The detail of what the code of practice will include will be decided following this consultation.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-12/4727/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-12/4728/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-12/4729/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-12/4757/>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

### Religion: Freedom of Expression

**Lord Pearson of Rannoch (UKIP)** [HL1068] Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth on 3 July (HL47), whether UK citizens are free to criticise religions in private and in public.

**Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth:** Citizens of the United Kingdom are of course, free to criticise religions in private and public. However, it is not acceptable to stir up or promote hatred and violence against people because of their faith. Freedom of speech is one of the values that underpin our society but there are limits – it is not acceptable for people to abuse freedom of speech to incite hatred and division.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-19/HL1068/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-06-21/HL47/>

## New Publications

### Antisemitic Incidents Report January – June 2017

[https://cst.org.uk/public/data/file/f/6/Antisemitic Incidents Report Jan-June 2017.pdf](https://cst.org.uk/public/data/file/f/6/Antisemitic%20Incidents%20Report%20Jan-June%202017.pdf)

### Jew Hate & Holocaust Denial in Scotland

[https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/953855\\_faecb29a6e7d4dc6b07d80da1a9bb812.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/953855_faecb29a6e7d4dc6b07d80da1a9bb812.pdf)

## News

### Anti-Semitic incidents 'at record level in UK'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-40735634>

### Community Security Trust Antisemitic Incidents Report reveals record number of antisemitic hate incidents in first six months of 2017

<https://cst.org.uk/news/blog/2017/07/27/cst-antisemitic-incidents-report-reveals-record-number-of-antisemitic-hate-incidents-in-first-six-months-of-2017>

### **Record number of anti-Semitic hate incidents in UK**

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/uk-world/477831/record-number-of-anti-semitic-hate-incidents-in-uk/>

### **Anti-Semitic attacks hit record high in UK amid warnings over rise of 'hatred and anger'**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/anti-semitic-hate-crime-attacks-british-jews-assaults-uk-incidents-record-high-cst-research-a7861721.html>

### **Sharp rise in hate crimes against Jews**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-07-27/news/sharp-rise-in-hate-crimes-against-jews-7sztn82g6>

### **Hate crimes against Jewish people soar to record levels: Number of attacks up by 30% on last year as more than 750 are recorded in the first half of 2017**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4734054/Hate-crimes-against-Jewish-people-soar-record-levels.html>

### **Scottish Defence League thug made Nazi salute after punching anti-racist campaigner**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/scottish-defence-league-thug-made-10847062>

### **UKIP to probe AM's racial slur about black MP Chuka Umunna**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-politics-40693162>

### **Listen to shocking racist rant as UKIP politician calls Labour MP Chuka Umunna a 'f\*\*\*ing coconut'**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/listen-shocking-racist-rant-ukip-10848439>

### **Police investigate 'Nazi outfits' at Orange Lodge event**

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/scotland/470233/police-investigate-nazi-outfits-at-orange-lodge-event/>

### **Cops probe 'hate incident' after 'Nazi outfits' worn at Orange Lodge event**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/cops-probe-hate-incident-after-10810279>

### **Grand Orange Lodge rage over media coverage but refuse to apologise for Hitler costume photos**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/grand-orange-lodge-rage-over-10809082>

### **Racist thug, 25, who ripped off a Muslim nurse's hijab and tied it round her neck in an unprovoked street attack is jailed**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4736298/Racist-thug-25-ripped-Muslim-nurse-s-hijab.html>

### **White nationalist movement's propaganda campaign torn up by furious Arbroath locals**

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/local/angus-mearns/477368/white-nationalist-movements-propaganda-campaign-torn-up-by-furious-arbroath-locals/>

### **Angry locals remove antisemitic, anti-Muslim posters in Scotland**

<https://tellmamauk.org/angry-locals-remove-antisemitic-anti-muslim-posters-in-scotland/>

### **Manchester mosque 'gutted' by fire in suspected arson attack**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/manchester-mosque-fire-suspected-arson-attack-droylsden-road-manchester-islamic-centre-hate-crime-a7844956.html>



**Why the Manchester mosque will rise from the ashes**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/belief/2017/jul/20/why-the-manchester-mosque-will-rise-from-the-ashes>

**Manchester mosque seriously damaged in suspected arson attack**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/07/17/manchester-mosque-seriously-damaged-suspected-arson-attack/>

**Manchester Mosque gutted by fire as anti-Muslim crimes soar**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/manchester-mosque-gutted-by-fire-as-anti-muslim-crimes-soar-vpcl8p5sd>

**Water thrown at terrified Muslim women in 'fake acid attack hate crime' outside Southampton mosque**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/muslim-women-water-attack-racist-assault-southampton-mosque-acid-attacks-bashir-ahmed-masjid-a7848261.html>

**Stop Muslim invasion: Dim-witted vandals paint racist slur on wall underneath CCTV**

[http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/15418456.Stop\\_Muslim\\_invasion\\_Dim\\_witted\\_vandals\\_paint\\_racist\\_slur\\_on\\_wall\\_underneath\\_CCTV/](http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/15418456.Stop_Muslim_invasion_Dim_witted_vandals_paint_racist_slur_on_wall_underneath_CCTV/)

**Tube hijab attack investigated as hate crime**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-london-40624454>

**Man denies ripping off woman's hijab on tube platform**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/man-denies-ripping-off-muslim-womans-hijab-tube-platform-pawel-uczciwek-london-underground-hate-a7844916.html>

**Muslim mother sues London school for banning her from wearing face veil**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/muslim-mother-london-school-face-veil-ban-daughter-niqab-holland-park-rachida-serroukh-a7852396.html>

**Muslim mother takes legal action against school over face veil ban**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/jul/20/muslim-mother-takes-legal-action-against-school-over-face-veil-ban>

**Teenage girl found hanged in school toilets suffered 'racist' bullying about being Polish, inquest hears**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/07/17/teenage-girl-found-hanged-school-toilets-suffered-racist-bullying/>

**Daniel Kitson can't reclaim a racist word he's never been the target of**

<https://www.theguardian.com/stage/commentisfree/2017/jul/19/daniel-kitson-cant-reclaim-a-racist-word-hes-never-been-the-target-of>

**Jewish report claims Scots activists peddle anti-semitic opinions**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/jewish-report-claims-scots-activists-peddle-anti-semitic-opinions-m7v823zjd>

**Sunday Times removes 'anti-Semitic' column on BBC pay**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-40768352>

**Sunday Times apologises over 'anti-Semitic' remarks on BBC's Jewish female presenters**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/15442690.Sunday\\_Times\\_apologises\\_over\\_anti\\_Semitic\\_remarks\\_on\\_BBC\\_s\\_Jewish\\_female\\_presenters/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/15442690.Sunday_Times_apologises_over_anti_Semitic_remarks_on_BBC_s_Jewish_female_presenters/)

## Sunday Times accused of antisemitism over column on BBC pay

<https://www.theguardian.com/media/2017/jul/30/sunday-times-accused-of-antisemitism-over-column-on-bbc-presenters>

## Sunday Times forced to apologise for printing 'anti-Semitic'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/07/30/sunday-times-forced-apologise-printing-anti-semitic-column-bbc/>

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## Brexit

### Press Releases

#### Rights of EU citizens

<https://news.gov.scot/news/rights-of-eu-citizens>

#### UK Government/DUP deal

<https://news.gov.scot/news/uk-governmentdup-deal-1>

### New Publication

#### Protecting the rights of EU Citizens: Scottish Government Response to UK Government Citizens' Rights Paper

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00522493.pdf>

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## Other UK Parliament and Government

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

#### Forced Marriage

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Tim Farron (Liberal Democrat)** [5077] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many suspected cases of forced marriage have been investigated by the police in England in each year since 2010.

#### Forced Marriage: Prosecutions

**Tim Farron (Liberal Democrat)** [5398] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many prosecutions there have been for forced marriage in England in each year since 2010.

**Reply from Nick Hurd:** The police do not publish/record the number of suspected cases of Forced Marriage which have been investigated.

However, data from the CPS annual violence against women and girls reports on police referrals and prosecutions is set out below:

	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Referrals	46	51	59	67	82	90
Prosecutions completed	41	42	41	45	46	53

In addition, between 2009 and March 2017 over 1,250 Forced Marriage Protection Orders were issued to protect those at risk and assist with repatriating victims.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-17/5398/>

## Female Genital Mutilation

**David Crausby (Labour) [5863]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps the Government is taking to prevent female genital mutilation.

**Reply from Sarah Newton:** Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a crime and it is child abuse. We will not tolerate a practice that can cause extreme and lifelong physical and psychological suffering to women and girls. Our work to end this practice is an integral part of the cross-Government Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy, which is backed by increased funding of £100m.

We have significantly strengthened the law, including introducing a new offence of failing to protect a girl from FGM, lifelong anonymity for victims, and a mandatory reporting duty requiring specified professionals to report known cases in under 18s to the police. We have also introduced FGM Protection Orders to protect women and girls at the earliest opportunity - since their introduction in July 2015, over 100 orders have been made.

To help raise awareness amongst frontline professionals, in April 2016 we published multi-agency guidance on FGM, which is now statutory, and we have developed free e-learning which has been completed by over 100,000 individuals to date. In addition, the Home Office's FGM Unit is carrying out awareness raising outreach across the UK.

Significant work is also under way to improve the response from health and social care professionals. The Department of Health, in partnership with the NHS, is leading a £4m national FGM Prevention Programme, and as part of the Department for Education's £200m Children's Social Care Innovation Programme a range of projects have been funded. DfE have also invested £375,000 to raise awareness amongst school staff and pupils.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-18/5863/>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

### Female Genital Mutilation

**Lord Lester of Herne Hill (Liberal Democrat) [HL445]** Her Majesty's Government what is their action plan to tackle female genital mutilation; and what assessment they have made of the success of that plan to date.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a crime and it is child abuse. We will not tolerate a practice that can cause extreme and lifelong physical and psychological suffering to women and girls. That is why our work to end this practice is an integral part of the cross-Government Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy, which is backed by increased funding of £100M.

We have significantly strengthened the law, including introducing a new offence of failing to protect a girl from FGM, lifelong anonymity for victims, and a mandatory reporting duty requiring specified professionals to report known cases in under 18s to the police. We have also introduced FGM Protection Orders to protect women and girls at the earliest opportunity. These are already being used to good effect - since their introduction in July 2015, over 100 orders have been made.

Raising awareness amongst frontline professionals is essential. That is why in April 2016 we published multi-agency guidance on FGM, which is statutory for the first time, and have developed free e-learning which has been completed by over 100,000 individuals to date. The Home Office's FGM Unit is carrying out awareness raising outreach across the UK. These tools are helping increase awareness, encourage good practice, and support training.

Significant work is under way to improve the response from health and social care professionals. The Department of Health, in partnership with the NHS, is leading a

£4m national FGM Prevention Programme, and as part of the Department for Education's £200m Children's Social Care Innovation Programme a range of projects have been funded. DfE have also invested £375,000 to raise awareness amongst school staff and pupils.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-07-04/HL445/>

## New Publication

**MEMO+ The UK Parliament and Government**

[http://www.scojec.org/memo+/2017/17vii\\_uk\\_parliament\\_and\\_government.pdf](http://www.scojec.org/memo+/2017/17vii_uk_parliament_and_government.pdf)

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## Other News

**Employment tribunal fees unlawful, Supreme Court rules**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-40727400>

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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>

**Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Repeal) Bill**

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/105269.aspx>

### Bills in Progress

#### UK Parliament

**Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/immigrationcontrolgrosshumanrightsabuses.html>

**Children Act 1989 (Amendment) (Female Genital Mutilation) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/childrenact1989amendmentfemalegenitalmutilation.html>

**EEA Nationals (Indefinite Leave to Remain) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/eeanationalsindefiniteleavetoremain.html>

**European Union (Withdrawal) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/europeanunionwithdrawal.html>

## Modern Slavery (Transparency in Supply Chains) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/modernslaverytransparencyinsupplychains.html>

## Modern Slavery (Victim Support) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/modernslaveryvictimsupport.html>

## Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/refugeesfamilyreunionbill.html>

## \*\* Refugees (Family Reunion) (No. 2) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/refugeesfamilyreunionno2.html>

First Reading, House of Commons

<http://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-07-19/debates/AE667929-DA6E-4938-9928-FE573D5D0F3A/PointsOfOrder#contribution-510C7494-46B0-493F-87FD-69483D046362>

## Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (Legal Advice and Appeals) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/unaccompaniedasylumseekingchildrenlegaladviceandappeals.html>

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## Consultations

\*\* new or updated this week

**\*\* closes next week!**

**Inclusive Youth Work** ( closes 7 August 2017)

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

**\*\* closes next week!**

**Patient care in the NHS** (closing date 9 August 2017)

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/105447.aspx>

**\*\* closes next week!**

**Recommendation on Promoting social inclusion and shared values through formal and non-formal learning** (closing date 11 August 2017)

[http://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/social-inclusion-shared-values-learning\\_en#documents](http://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/social-inclusion-shared-values-learning_en#documents)

**Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Repeal) Bill**

(closing date 18 August 2017)

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/105570.aspx>

**Implications of the Article 50 withdrawal process: Negotiations for Scotland**

(closing date 18 August 2017)

<https://spark.adobe.com/page/bNSXXQq6LIUOr/>

**Inquiry into Immigration** (closing date 25 August 2017)

<https://spark.adobe.com/page/CLt5v51Fty7eL/>

**\*\* The Socio-Economic Duty** (closing date 12 September 2017)

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00522478.pdf>

**Caste in Great Britain and Equality Law** (closing date 18 September 2017)  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/caste-in-great-britain-and-equality-law-a-public-consultation>

**European Union's (EU) legislation on the legal migration of non-EU citizens** (closing date 18 September 2017)  
[https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/content/consultation-european-unions-eu-legislation-legal-migration-non-eu-citizens-fitness-check-eu\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/content/consultation-european-unions-eu-legislation-legal-migration-non-eu-citizens-fitness-check-eu_en)

**\*\* Evaluation of the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020** (closing date 25 October 2017)  
[http://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/public-consultation-evaluation-eu-framework-national-roma-integration-strategies-2020\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/public-consultation-evaluation-eu-framework-national-roma-integration-strategies-2020_en)

**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 programme 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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### **Rights and Entitlements of EEA Nationals**

22 August 2017 in Glasgow (9.30-12.30)

29 August 2017 in Perth (9.30-12.30)

PAiH training to provide information about housing, employment and welfare entitlements of EEA nationals and explore how service users might prepare themselves to avoid possible threats of Brexit. For information see <http://www.paih.org/training/> or contact [training@positiveactionh.org](mailto:training@positiveactionh.org)

### **Rights of Refugees and Asylum Seekers**

22 August 2017 in Glasgow (1.30-4.30)

29 August 2017 in Perth (1.30-4.30)

PAiH training to explore how the asylum system works from the perspective of a claimant, the process involved in making a claim for asylum, the barriers faced in building a new life in Scotland, and entitlement to services. For information see <http://www.paih.org/training/> or contact [training@positiveactionh.org](mailto:training@positiveactionh.org)

### **Finding a New Home**

22 August 2017 in Edinburgh (7.30-9.00)

Just Festival discussion about the challenges of welcoming people burdened with the weight of experiential and emotional baggage, and ways to make life in Scotland inclusive, productive and happy for anyone who settles here. For information see <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/date/GJFJJK>

### **\*\* Becoming an Equality and Human Rights Commission Scotland Committee Member**

4 September 2017 in Dundee (11.30-2.00)

6 September 2017 in Glasgow (4.00-6.30)

The EHRC Scotland Committee is a statutory committee which advises the Commission on its work in Scotland. These sessions will provide information about the work of the Committee, what is involved in being a member and how to apply. For information see <https://goodmoves.com/vacancy/32342-scotland-committee-members> or contact Gillian Lawrence [Gillian.lawrence@equalityhumanrights.com](mailto:Gillian.lawrence@equalityhumanrights.com)

### **Immigration Act 2016 – “The Hostile Environment” basics**

5 September 2017 in Glasgow (9.30-4.30)

PAiH training to ensure that people providing services to or working with immigrants have up to date information to make sure their clients are able to access services without delay and prepare for being excluded when it is inevitable. For information see <http://www.paih.org/training/> or contact [training@positiveactionh.org](mailto:training@positiveactionh.org)

### **\*\* BME Health and Wellbeing Survey Launch**

14 September 2017 in Glasgow (4.00-6.00)

Information about the 2016 Black and Minority Ethnic Study which was carried out in Glasgow. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/y9bcbjt4>

### **Festival of Politics**

19-21 October 2017 at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh

<http://festivalofpolitics.scot/>

### **Black History Month 2017**

19 October 2017 at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh (6.00-7.30)

Festival of Politics event to discuss Scotland's role and the legacy of slavery and colonialism in the acknowledgement of an uncomfortable history. For information see <http://festivalofpolitics.scot/events/black-history-month-2017/>

## **Holocaust Memorial Day Trust Workshop**

25 October 2017 in Glasgow (10.00-1.00)

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust workshop to provide practical help and advice on how to create a meaningful Holocaust Memorial Day activity. Includes information about the Holocaust, Nazi Persecution and subsequent genocides, as well as challenges, such as hate crime, facing the UK today. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/ydegrweb> or contact Rhys Prosser [enquiries@hmd.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@hmd.org.uk)

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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](http://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/>

**Scottish Fundraising Standards Panel** <https://www.goodfundraising.scot/>

**Central Registered Body for Scotland (CRBS)** [www.volunteerscotland.net/disclosure-services](http://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://www.gov.scot/>

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