

## 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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## Immigration and Asylum

### Scottish Parliament Motions

**S5M-12661 Christina McKelvie (SNP): Refugee Festival Scotland 2018** – That the Parliament welcomes Refugee Festival Scotland 2018, which celebrates the contribution that refugees make; understands that, in Scotland's Year of Young People, the festival has put young people at its heart; understands with deep concern that more than half of the world's refugees and displaced people are children, fleeing from war, terrorism and human rights violations, and often separated from their loved ones, with many unaccompanied children having lost their parents and most having been trafficked or exploited; highlights this distinctive plight and the inspiring resilience of children, women and men seeking safety and refugee protection in Scotland, and urges all MSPs to support and engage with Refugee Festival Scotland 2018, particularly its Cup of Tea with a Young Refugee event on World Refugee Day on 20 June, which is hosted by the charity, Aberlour, and the Scottish Refugee Council.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-12661>

**S5M-12551 Patrick Harvie (Green): Asylum for Giorgi Kakava and his Grandmother, Ketino** – That the Parliament notes the case of Giorgi Kakava, who is a 10-year-old orphan, and his grandmother, Ketino, who are at risk of deportation to Georgia just months after the death of Giorgi's mother, Sopio; notes that Giorgi came to Scotland with his mother when he was three, following the death of his father in Georgia; shares Ketino's concerns for her grandson's safety if he were forced to return to a country whose language he does not speak and where his father was reportedly threatened by gangsters before his death; notes that Giorgi's school chaplain and Springburn Parish Church minister, the Rev Brian Casey, has launched a petition calling for the family to be granted asylum, and applauds everyone who has supported Giorgi and his grandmother throughout this difficult period.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-12551>

**S5M-12560 Bob Doris (SNP): Giorgi Kakava and his Grandmother** – That the Parliament extends its sympathy to the young Springburn resident, Giorgi Kakava, who is a 10-year-old orphan originally from Georgia, and who tragically lost his mother, Sopio, who passed away in recent months while going through the UK asylum process; is concerned that Giorgi and his grandmother, Ketino Batkhadze, face the risk of deportation to Georgia, which is a country that he does not know and whose language he does not speak; notes that Giorgi attends the local primary school, has many friends and is very much part of the Springburn community; is aware of concerns that his father, who has also passed away, was reportedly previously targeted by criminals in Georgia and that this might also place Giorgi at risk should he be forced to go back to that country; recognises what it sees as the groundswell of support for the family, with nearly 65,000 people having signed a petition that has been organised by the school chaplain and Springburn Parish Church Minister, Brian Casey, which urges both to be allowed to stay, and congratulates everyone who has backed the campaign to enable Giorgi to grow up in Scotland, supported by his grandmother.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-12560>

## UK Parliament Debate

**Immigration (Guidance on Detention of Vulnerable Persons) Regulations 2018: Detention Centre (Amendment) Rules 2018**

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-06/debates/80e227f8-f9b5-491f-ba1f-c04299f4745b/Immigration\(GuidanceOnDetentionOfVulnerablePersons\)Regulations2018DetentionCentre\(Amendment\)Rules2018](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-06/debates/80e227f8-f9b5-491f-ba1f-c04299f4745b/Immigration(GuidanceOnDetentionOfVulnerablePersons)Regulations2018DetentionCentre(Amendment)Rules2018)

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

**Denzel Darku**

**Joanna Cherry (SNP):** Denzel Darku is a student nurse and a tireless volunteer who carried the baton for Scotland at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. He dreams of a career in NHS Scotland, but faces deportation on a technicality, through no fault of his own. My colleagues in the Scottish Government have already written to the Secretary of State about this young man's case, but they have not had a reply. Will the Secretary of State meet me to discuss this young man, who only wants to stay in Scotland to serve the national health service?

**Reply from Sajid Javid:** I am pleased that the hon. and learned Lady has raised that case, because it was also raised with me last week by the leader of the Scottish Conservatives, Ruth Davidson, who is also very concerned about it and

has asked me to look into it. The hon. and learned Lady might know that there is an appeal going on with regard to Mr Darku, and I should not say too much about that. However, I am very sympathetic about the situation, and there will be no enforcement action while the review takes place.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-04/debates/E245913A-23F5-404B-B60E-9EC039BFB2E5/TopicalQuestions#contribution-B32CD5FF-FA81-4362-AA88-0F1A9F9AA9A8>

### Immigration

**Craig Tracey (Conservative):** What steps [is the Minister] taking to implement a fair, effective and sustainable immigration system. [905664]

**Reply from the Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes):** We will continue building and managing an immigration system that meets the economic and social needs of the UK, and I will set out further plans in due course. I am committed to a fair and humane system, and we are reviewing the operational assurance regime across the borders, immigration and citizenship system to ensure that it is effective and reflects best practice.

**Craig Tracey:** In recent months we have seen a squeeze on doctors' ability to come to this country to fill vital roles in our NHS. What steps are the Government taking to ensure that we can access the skills that are needed while ensuring that our immigration system becomes sustainable?

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** We keep the tier 2 cap under close review. Priority is given to doctors working in shortage specialisms, as determined by the Migration Advisory Committee, and no one has ever been refused for any of those posts. We have taken steps to boost training places for nurses and doctors, and a record number of undergraduates will begin medical training by 2020, with 1,500 new places. ...

**Yvette Cooper (Labour):** The Home Affairs Committee recommended in February that the Government look again at the tier 2 system, because doctors were already being turned away. *The BMJ* is now reporting that 1,500 doctors have been turned away even though they had job offers in the national health service. In the Home Affairs Committee and the Health and Social Care Committee, and across the House, there is a strong desire for us to make sure that we get the doctors we need. The Home Office said in response to our recommendations that it was simply going to wait until the publication of the MAC report in October. That is too late. I urge the Government to change the system now to ensure that we can get in the doctors we need.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** I thank the right hon. Lady for her question, and I welcome the comments that various Select Committees have made on this issue. I have absolutely no doubt that she heard the Home Secretary's comments yesterday, and I reassure her that we are looking at the matter closely.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-04/debates/1143D3CD-1CE8-4EC2-AE8E-1B05AE6D89F9/Immigration>

### Settled Status

**Kate Green (Labour):** What recent assessment he has made of the adequacy of the new process for non-UK EU citizens resident in the UK to apply for settled status. [R] [905645]

**Reply from the Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes):** The application process for resident EU citizens and their family members to obtain that status in the UK after we leave the EU will be straightforward, streamlined and user-friendly, and there will be a dedicated customer contact centre to help people through the process. The majority of applicants will need to meet only three criteria: they will have to prove their identity, prove that they are resident in the UK, and prove that they do not pose a serious criminal or security threat.

**Kate Green:** According to the Migration Observatory, 64,000 non-Irish EU nationals in the UK have never used the internet, and 250,000 have reported language-related

difficulties in accessing or keeping work. What capacity will the Home Office have to deal with the many thousands of applicants who will not be able to apply online?

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** It is crucially important that, in addition to our assisted digital application process, we will have dedicated support—lines to help people through the process. But I am very conscious that there will be people with language difficulties; that has been raised with us by some of the user groups, and we are looking to see how we can assist them as well.

**James Gray (Conservative):** I greatly welcome the Minister's announcement that the process will be smooth and easy to follow, but agree with the hon. Member for Stretford and Urmston (Kate Green) that a very large number of otherwise extremely sophisticated people in this country do not know that it is going to be as easy as my hon. Friend describes. By what mechanism will she get the message out to all these people that they are welcome here, that the process will be easy, and, crucially, that the cost of applying for residency will be no more than the current cost for a British citizen of applying for a passport?

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** We have been very clear from the outset that the cost of the scheme will be no more than the cost of applying for a British passport, and indeed for those who already have permanent residency there will be no cost at all. It is crucially important that we continue to work with our user groups, and as we roll the scheme forward we will be providing more information, including through our dedicated email service that we are sending out to people. But we do have an important communication job to make sure people know how to apply and when the scheme opens.

**Joanna Cherry (SNP):** Efforts to involve community groups and public services such as libraries in facilitating settled status applications seem almost non-existent. I learned from Scottish Government colleagues last week that in Scotland the UK Government have made only cursory contact with only two libraries. Can the Minister tell us what further engagement is planned with community groups and public services?

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The Home Office continue to engage with people, businesses and organisations across the UK. We are seeking a deal that works for the entire UK and it is very important that we make sure that user groups in Scotland, including organisations such as Citizens Advice, have the necessary resources and understanding of how this system is going to work. We are rolling forward an engagement programme from this point onwards, and I am looking forward to making further announcements in due course.

**Andrew Bridgen (Conservative):** Does the Minister agree that the fact that 3 or 3.5 million EU citizens wish to remain in the UK after we leave the EU is a huge vote of confidence in a post-Brexit Britain's future? Does she wish that all colleagues in this House had as much confidence as those EU citizens who wish to remain in the UK after we leave?

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** My hon. Friend makes an excellent point. There are more EU citizens living and working here now than there were at the time of the referendum, and we want to make sure that it is very clear to them that they are welcome. We welcome the contributions they make to both our communities and our economy and we are working to make sure that the streamlined process is as easy as possible.

**Afzal Khan (Labour):** EU citizens are worried that they might be subjected to the same treatment as the Windrush generation; we have seen similarly cruel treatment of highly skilled migrants deported because of minor tax errors. What system is the Minister putting in place to ensure that, when the settled status system is up and running, issues can be picked up internally without the need for a media storm and extensive pressure from the Opposition?

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Of course, it is crucial that the settled status scheme gives people a digital confirmation of their right to live, work and rent property in the UK, and we are absolutely committed to doing that.

The hon. Gentleman also raised the issue of people with minor tax discrepancies. It is important to reflect that there have been several instances where those minor discrepancies have run into tens of thousands of pounds, and it is crucial that we pick up any discrepancies between what people are declaring as their income for immigration purposes and their income for tax purposes. We want to make sure that we collect the amount of tax that is owing.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-04/debates/E618A10A-D6B2-4A3C-BE47-9D5B0700B897/SettledStatus>

### **Leaving the EU: Seasonal Workers**

**Steve Double (Conservative):** What steps [is the Minister's] Department is taking to ensure that the hospitality and tourism sector can continue to access seasonal workers from the EEA after the UK leaves the EU. [905655]

**Reply from the Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes):** The Government are considering a range of options for the future immigration system. We will make decisions based on evidence and engagement. We have asked the independent Migration Advisory Committee to advise on the economic and social impact of the UK's exit from the EU and on how the UK's immigration system should be aligned with a modern industrial strategy.

**Steve Double:** The tourism and hospitality sector's No. 1 concern is post-Brexit access to the labour force. Many seasonal workers will not qualify for settled status under the current framework because of the seasonal nature of their work. Will the Minister consider some sort of seasonal workers scheme for the hospitality sector, along the same lines as a seasonal agricultural workers scheme?

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** I recognise the importance of tourism in my hon. Friend's constituency and his work in the all-party group on the visitor economy. Seasonal workers make an important contribution to the tourism and hospitality sector, and it is a sector that we wish to see thrive. Any EU citizen who is currently in the UK will be able to benefit from the settlement scheme that we are establishing. For the longer term, we have asked the independent Migration Advisory Committee to advise us; I am sure that it will be mindful of my hon. Friend's points.

**Martin Whitfield (Labour):** Along with the hospitality industry, the agricultural industry is crying out for help on migrant workers. Will the Government confirm that they will reinstate the seasonal agricultural workers scheme and allow it to reflect the needs in different areas, such as my county of East Lothian?

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The hon. Gentleman has identified farming and my hon. Friend the Member for St Austell and Newquay (Steve Double) asked about tourism, but a number of other sectors are affected, including fisheries, which has been raised with me recently. It is crucial that we take the advice of the Migration Advisory Committee and that we have evidence-based policy making. I reassure the hon. Gentleman and other Members that I am looking into this issue very closely indeed.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-04/debates/BFCF08EF-FAA0-4B99-821E-18A28349D11D/LeavingTheEUSeasonalWorkers>

### **Illegal Migrants: Employment**

**Damien Moore (Conservative):** What steps [is the Minister] taking to ensure that illegal migrants cannot work in the UK. [905651]

**Reply from the Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes):** Employers have had a duty to prevent illegal working since 1997. In 2016, we introduced tougher sanctions on rogue employers and made illegal working a criminal offence, so that wages can be seized as proceeds of crime. We have recently introduced additional safeguards to protect legal migrants seeking employment who do not have the necessary documentation to establish their lawful immigration status.

**Damien Moore:** I welcome my right hon. Friend's commitment to reducing illegal immigration. Does she agree that the best way to deter illegal migrants from looking for work in the UK is by preventing their entering the country with stringent checks at air and sea ports?

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** I thank my hon. Friend for that question. All passengers arriving in the UK at passport control are checked against watch lists on arrival at the border. The majority of those people are checked against our systems before they even travel, through the collection of advance passenger information. Between April 2010 and March 2018, we refused entry to 138,992 people, including more than 18,000 in the year to March 2018.

**Rim Farron (Liberal Democrat):** Those seeking asylum in the UK are currently banned from working and, as a result, they are forced to live in penury and are denied the right to contribute their skills to our society. Does the Minister agree that this system is lacking in both compassion and common sense? Will she reform it?

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Our asylum system provides accommodation and funding for those who are here during the process of their asylum claim. The hon. Gentleman makes an important point: we must continue to make sure that the UK has one of the most humane asylum systems in the world. We are working very hard to make sure we do that.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-04/debates/834E7732-BF69-4803-B8D8-D3443A344002/IllegalMigrantsEmployment>

### Refugee Family Reunion

**Jo Stevens (Labour):** [Will the Minister] take steps to expand the scope of the refugee family reunion rules. [905642]

**Reply from the Secretary of State for the Home Office (Sajid Javid):** The Government's approach to refugee family reunion has provided a safe and legal route for more than 25,000 partners and children of those granted protection here in the last five years. We are listening carefully to calls to expand family reunion. We are monitoring the progress of two private Members' Bills and are actively in discussion with non-governmental organisations.

**Jo Stevens:** While adults can sponsor their relatives, under UK rules separated children have no family reunion rights—not even to bring their parents to the UK. Every other country in the EU allows children to sponsor at least their closest relatives. When will the UK do the same?

**Reply from Sajid Javid:** I understand the concerns of the hon. Lady, who is right to raise this important matter. As I said a moment ago, we want to look at the private Members' Bills and see what more we can do. On her specific issue about children, there is a concern that if we allow children to sponsor adults, whether their parents or others, that might cause harm, in that people might be incentivised to push children forward and put them through danger. I hope she understands that we need to consider such things carefully.

**Ranil Jayawardena (Conservative):** Is it not critical that we help people at home rather than incentivising people to trust people traffickers and so support their illegal activities?

**Reply from Sajid Javid:** My hon. Friend makes a very good point. He will know that the Government do a lot—more than any other European Government—to support refugees in conflict zones. With regards to Syria, for example, the British Government have so far allocated more than £2 billion.

**Patrick Grady (SNP):** The Home Secretary says he wants to consider the private Members' Bills, so is it not about time the Government brought forward a money resolution so that the Bill in the name of my hon. Friend the Member for Na h-Eileanan Siar (Angus Brendan MacNeil), the Refugees (Family Reunion) (No. 2) Bill, can make progress and we can debate the Government's amendments?

**Reply from Sajid Javid:** As I have said, this is an important and sensitive issue and we want to consider it carefully, but that means it should not be rushed. We

should take the correct time necessary to consider the Bills.

**Rebecca Pow (Conservative):** We have two Syrian families living in Taunton Deane. The local community has gone all out to look after them, particularly a charity called Christian Help and Action for Refugees in Somerset and Rev. Rod Corke from St Mary Magdalene Church, who is leaving us soon to go to Malvern—a great loss. Will the Home Secretary join me in congratulating all those who have given up so much time to look after these needy people?

**Reply from Sajid Javid:** I absolutely join my hon. Friend in commending the work of her local community in helping refugees, particularly the group CHARIS. It shows the importance of community sponsorship, which is something we want to look at more closely.

**Diane Abbott (Labour):** The importance of family life ought to unite both sides of the House, but the current rules break up families, as many of us see in our own constituency case loads week after week. The rules are inhumane and in breach of the right to a family life under article 8 of the European convention on human rights. It is also unfortunate that legal aid for some of these applications, which was previously available, was removed under the coalition in 2013. Labour has pledged in government to end the breaking up of families under these rules. Surely the Home Secretary should move faster to review his current family reunion rules.

**Reply from Sajid Javid:** I say to the right hon. Lady that 25,000 people have been reunited over the last five years—5,000 a year; I hope she would agree that that is not an insignificant number. She says the current rules are inhumane. It is worth reminding her that they were introduced in 2007 by the previous Labour Government. Perhaps she should reflect on that. She talks about legal aid. As she will know, legal aid is under review by the Ministry of Justice and is something we are looking at carefully.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-04/debates/4D85A705-42B8-4112-9AB4-80CB0D6C6666/RefugeeFamilyReunion>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

### Immigrants: English Language

**Stephen Timms (Labour) [146690]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether his Department has received evidence that sessions of Toieic tests administered by ETS before 2014 included both genuine and fraudulent entries.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** As previously set out to the Home Affairs Select Committee (HASC), where ETS analysis found no direct evidence of cheating but they could not be confident in the test result because of the large number of confirmed invalid results at the same test centre, a test result would be deemed “questionable”.

Nobody with a questionable test certificate should have action taken against them on this basis without first being given the chance to re-sit a test and attend an interview.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-22/146690/>

### Immigrants: English Language

**Kate Osamor (Labour Co-op) [148977]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department is taking to (a) identify visa applicants wrongly accused of cheating in the TOIEC English language test, (b) ensure that appeals against the Home Office’s decision to cancel their leave are heard in the UK; and offer applicants wrongly accused of fraud and refused a visa appropriate compensation.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The Courts have consistently found that our evidence is sufficient to establish the presumption of fraud where we have taken

action in individual cases. It is then up to individuals to challenge this through statutory appeals where available or Judicial Review.

Parliament legislated to amend the appeals system in the Immigration Act 2014 so that an appeal only arises where a claim raising asylum, humanitarian protection or human rights is refused. Similar provisions are set out in the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2016.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-01/148977/>

### **Doctors: Migrant Workers**

**Carline Lucas (Green)** [147426] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 16 May 2018 to Question 141827, what methodology and criteria he is using to monitor the effect of the operation of the immigration cap on potential NHS doctors; if he will make it his policy to remove those restrictions; and if he will make a statement.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The Government recognises fully the contribution that doctors working in the NHS – and other professionals – make to the UK. But it is also important to ensure that our immigration routes work in the national interest and protects the resident labour market.

Where the number of applications by UK based employers exceeds the monthly allocation of available Tier 2 (General) places, first priority is given to applications filling a shortage occupation, followed by PhD-level occupations, graduate occupations and lastly on salary, from highest to lowest.

A number of medical professionals, including consultants working in the specialisms of emergency medicine, clinical radiology and old age psychiatry are already recognised to be in national shortage, as determined by the Migration Advisory Committee, and receive priority within the allocation of Tier 2 places. We estimate that around 40% of all Tier 2 places go to the NHS.

No application seeking to undertake a job in national shortage has ever been refused a place because of the visa cap.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-23/147426/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-08/141827/>

### **Junior Doctors: Migrant Workers**

**Nic Dakin (Labour)** [148780] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment his Department has made of the ability of NHS trusts to secure Tier 2 visas for junior doctors in disciplines that are not on the shortage occupation list.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The Government recognises fully the contribution that doctors working in the NHS – and other professionals – make to the UK.

Doctors in specialisms which the Migration Advisory Committee have recognised as being in shortage in the UK already receive priority within the Tier 2 allocation system. We continue to monitor the operation of Tier 2 to ensure that it strikes the right balance between supporting employers – including the NHS - accessing talent from overseas and that it works in the national interest and protects the resident labour market. Over a third of all Tier 2 places go to the NHS.

The Government has taken steps to boost doctors training places and a record number of undergraduates will begin medical training by 2020 with 1,500 new places.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-01/148780/>



### **Catering: Migrant Workers**

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Tommy Sheppard (SNP)** [147926] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reason restaurants that offer a takeaway or home delivery service have been precluded from becoming Tier 2 visa sponsors since 2011; and what assessment he has made of the effect of that policy on the strength of the south Asian and east Asian restaurant sector since that date.

**Tommy Sheppard (SNP)** [147927] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he plans to make an assessment of the potential merits of changing the restrictions on Tier 2 visa sponsorship for chefs.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Tier 2 (General) supports non-EEA high skilled workers taking up employment with UK based employers. The MAC has consulted widely with the restaurant industry on a number of occasions and they have concluded that the current criteria adequately identify the very best chefs whilst providing measures for preventing abuse of the system. In order to define what constitutes a skilled chef, the independent Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) and the Home Office developed criteria designed to identify the top 5% to 8% of chefs. Only chefs who meet these criteria are able to qualify under Tier 2 (General).

Part of the qualifying criteria is that the job must not be in an establishment which provides a take-away service. We believe that the finest quality restaurants are generally not associated with the provision of takeaway services. We recognise that there may be a small number of high quality exceptions, but the immigration system has to apply clear, objective and verifiable criteria equally to all applications.

We are carefully considering a range of options for the future immigration system and will set out initial plans in the coming months. The Government is clear that we will make decisions on the future immigration system based on evidence and engagement. That is why we asked the independent Migration Advisory Committee to advise on the economic and social impacts of the UK's exit from the EU and also on how the UK's immigration system should be aligned with a modern industrial strategy. The MAC's report is due to be published in September.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-24/147926/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-24/147927/>

### **Migrant Workers: Commonwealth**

**Rushanara Ali (Labour)** [148790] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps he is taking to enable Commonwealth migrants to work in the UK after the UK leaves the EU.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** We are considering the options for our future immigration system very carefully and will outline further details in due course. We will control immigration so that we continue to attract the brightest and the best to work or study in the UK, but will manage the process properly so that our immigration system serves the national interest and works for all.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-01/148790/>

### **Windrush Generation: Diplomatic Service**

**Afzal Khan (Labour)** [147980] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, whether his Department will provide consular and legal assistance to (a) members of the Windrush generation and their children and (b) people

who arrived between 1973 and 1988 applying for citizenship or the right to remain from abroad.

**Reply from Harriett Baldwin:** The consular assistance the Foreign and Commonwealth Office can offer overseas is set out in our public guide at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/support-for-british-nationals-abroad-a-guide>.

The Home Secretary announced a dedicated Windrush Scheme at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/undocumented-commonwealth-citizens-resident-in-the-uk>

which will ensure that members of the Windrush generation will be able to obtain the documents to confirm their status. This applies equally to their children born in the UK and those who arrived in UK as minors, and to others who have been in the United Kingdom for a long period of time. This includes information and assistance for those currently overseas and contact details of the Windrush Taskforce.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-24/147980/>

### **Windrush Generation: Compensation**

**Rushanara Ali (Labour)** [148789] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how he plans to determine the level of compensation payable to Windrush migrants.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The Government has launched a Call for Evidence to hear about the experiences of those that might have been affected, which closes on 8 June. The information gathered through the Call for Evidence will be used to inform the decisions on the design of the scheme, and Martin Forde QC has been appointed as an Independent Person to oversee that design.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-01/148789/>

### **Windrush Generation: Compensation**

*The following three questions all received the same answer*

**Kate Green (Labour)** [149668] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to his Department's consultation entitled Windrush compensation: call for evidence, published on 10 May 2018, what meetings he has had with black majority church leaders since announcing that review.

**Kate Green (Labour)** [149669] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many responses his Department has received to its consultation paper entitled Windrush compensation, published on 10 May 2018.

**Kate Green (Labour)** [149670] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the timetable is for his Department's response to its consultation on Windrush compensation.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Following the opening of the Call for Evidence on the compensation scheme, meetings have taken place with a number of individuals and organisations with links to affected communities, including those representing faith groups. This programme of engagement will continue in the weeks ahead, working with Martin Forde QC, the Independent Person that is overseeing the design of the scheme. In his Written Statement to the House of 24 May, the Home Secretary outlined that almost 100 responses had been received at that point as part of the Call for Evidence. Responses continue to be received and this number has, and will continue to, increase up until the Call for Evidence closes on 8 June. The Government will publish a further public consultation on the design and shape of the scheme, as soon as the time has been taken to analyse the responses to the Call for Evidence and use the information gathered to inform design and implementation considerations.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-04/149668/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-04/149669/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-04/149670/>

*The consultation referred to above (now closed) can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/windrush-compensation-call-for-evidence>

*The statement referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2018-05-24/HCWS722/>

### **Immigration: Offenders**

**Hilary Benn (Labour)** [146745] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether it is his policy to backdate the granting of further leave to remain in cases where a decision has been withheld pending criminal charges but where the applicant is subsequently found innocent of all charges.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** There is no provision in the Immigration Rules to backdate a grant of leave. If an individual made an application prior to expiry of previous leave, that leave will have been extended by virtue of Section 3C of the Immigration Act 1971 until such time as the application is decided, meaning there would be no break in lawful stay in the UK.

Those who apply after expiry of previous leave will have their stay regularised from the date their application is granted, but the intervening period will not retrospectively be considered as lawful.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-22/146745/>

### **Immigration: EU Nationals**

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat)** [148588] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether it is his Department's policy that EU residents who are acting as carers and will have been living in the UK lawfully and continuously for five years by 29 March 2019 will be considered as workers and able to apply for settled-status.

**Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat)** [148589] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether it his policy that EU residents who have disabilities and (a) have not been able to work, (b) have not worked sufficiently or continuously and (c) who might never work due to their disabilities but who will have been living in the UK lawfully and continuously for five years by 29 March 2019 will be able to apply for settled status.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** We agreed with the EU that the eligibility criteria for UK settled status will be the same as, or more favourable than, those set out in the Free Movement Directive for acquiring permanent residence.

As a matter of domestic policy, we have decided that the main requirement for eligibility under the settlement scheme will be continuous residence in the UK. Applicants will not need to demonstrate that they met the relevant requirements in the Free Movement Directive as to permitted activity.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-01/148588/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-01/148589/>

## Immigration: EU Nationals

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Vince Cable (Liberal Democrat)** [148605] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to his Answer of 24 May 2018 to Question 146070 on immigration: EU nationals, how his Department will define what a standard application is in respect EU citizens applying for settled or temporary status.

**Vince Cable (Liberal Democrat)** [148606] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 24 May 2018 to Question 146070 on immigration: EU nationals, what factors or variables might result in an application for settled or temporary status being considered non-standard.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Learning lessons from applicants' experiences of the existing routes for obtaining EEA documentation, the UK is designing a streamlined, user-friendly, digital application process for the settlement scheme.

We are developing a system which draws on existing government data, for example, employment records held by HMRC will be checked, which will, for the majority, verify residence as a worker. We will not seek to account for undocumented periods where we are satisfied that, overall, the residence requirements have been met. We will verify identity and are considering digital ways to do this in order to make it both secure and user-friendly.

Applicants who are not yet able to evidence the 5 years' continuous residence necessary to obtain settled status, but who can evidence that they were resident before the specified date, will be given temporary status. This will enable them to remain in the UK until they have built up 5 years' continuous residence allowing them to apply for settled status.

We will be providing further detail on the scheme in due course.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-01/148605/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-01/148606/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-21/146070/>

## Immigration: EU Nationals

**Rushanara Ali (Labour)** [148788] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what progress has been made on the settled status system for EU nationals after the UK leaves the EU.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Work is well underway to develop the settled status scheme for EU citizens which we plan to open by the end of this year. Recruitment is underway to bring existing UKVI European casework staffing levels to around 1,500 ahead of the scheme launch and we are also establishing a new customer resolution centre.

We have been discussing the design of the new streamlined, user-friendly application process with stakeholders, including through our monthly user groups, and user testing has already begun.

We will be providing further detail on the scheme in due course.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-01/148788/>

## Immigration

**Laura Smith (Labour)** [150230] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate his Department has made of the number of leave to remain applications that have exceeded the six months deadline.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The information you have requested is not included

in statistics published by the Home Office.

However, published information on the number of applications for leave to remain in all categories, as well as data on UK Visa and Immigration performance against service standards for applications made in the UK and from overseas, can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data#uk-visas-and-immigration>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-05/150230/>

### Visas

**Steve Reed (Labour Co-op)** [147457] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 21 May 2018 to Question 144296, how many Tier 1 (general) applications were refused in each of the last five years where there were substantial differences of over £10,000 between the earnings used to claim points in an immigration application and an applicant's HMRC records.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** As I confirmed to the Home Affairs Select Committee on 8 May and in my previous answer to Question 144296, we are carrying out a review of Tier 1 (General) cases. This includes a manual check of all refused applications since 1 January 2017. We will report the findings of the review to Parliament.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-23/147457/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-15/144296/>

### Visas

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [148784] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Tier 2 (General) Restricted Certificates of Sponsorship applications were made in each month since March 2018, how many Tier 2 (General) Certificates of Sponsorship were refused in each month since March 2018 due to the annual cap having been reached; and how many were refused as a result of the annual cap being reached in each month since March 2018 in each Standard Occupational Classification code.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The specific information requested is not included in statistics published by the Home Office. Published data on sponsorship applications can be found in the immigration statistics release.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/employer-sponsorship-restricted-certificate-allocations/allocations-of-restricted-certificates-of-sponsorship>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-01/148784/>

### Visas: Married People

**Virendra Sharma (Labour)** [149652] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people entered the UK on a spousal visa and what the average age was of those applicants in each of the last ten years.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The available information on applications and outcomes (i.e. grants, refusals, withdrawn and lapsed cases) of entry clearance visas in the 'Family: Partner' and 'Family: Partner (for immediate settlement)' categories is published quarterly in 'Immigration Statistics', Visas data tables volume 1, table vi\_01\_q, latest edition at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-year-ending-march-2018/list-of-tables#visas>.

Neither an age breakdown or whether an individual entered the UK on their visa is

available in the published entry clearance visas data.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-04/149652/>

### **Immigration: Biometrics**

**Stephen Doughty (Labour Co-op) [148811]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many biometric residence permits were issued in each of the last three years.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The information you have requested regarding the total number of BRPs issued over the last three years is not included in statistics published by the Home Office.

However, the total number of grants of leave, by type of application, are available in published information at

[www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-01/148811/>

### **Resettlement**

**Jim Shannon (DUP) [150120]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps he is taking to ensure that vulnerability on religious grounds is adequately assessed by his Department when determining resettlement needs.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** With regards to resettlement, the UK works according to the humanitarian principles of impartiality and neutrality which means that we do not take into consideration the ethno-religious origins of people requiring assistance as we resettle solely on the basis of needs, identified by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

UNHCR is the internationally recognised and mandated agency for dealing with refugees. It has a global presence and 65 years' experience in handling refugee crises. UNHCR is uniquely placed to help the UK authorities identify and refer vulnerable refugees who would benefit from resettlement in this country.

The seven vulnerability criteria used by the UNHCR are Legal and or Physical Protection Needs; Survivors of Torture and/or Violence; Medical Needs; Women and Girls at Risk; Family Reunification; Children and Adolescents at Risk and Lack of Foreseeable Alternative Durable Solutions. Individuals are not specifically identified for resettlement based on their religion or ethnicity but members of minority communities may well meet one of the other vulnerability criteria set out by UNHCR.

We are working with UNHCR and other partners to intensify their outreach to groups that might otherwise be reluctant to register for fear of stigma or discrimination and unaware of the safe space and options available to them. This includes all religious minorities.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-05/150120/>

### **Refugees: Children**

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Yvette Cooper (Labour) [146746]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have arrived in the UK under the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme; what the nationalities of those people were; and how many of those people were under the age of 18 when they arrived.

### **Refugees**

**Yvette Cooper (Labour) [146747]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people arrived in the UK under the Gateway and Mandate schemes in each of the last ten years.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The Home Office is committed to publishing data in

an orderly way as part of the regular quarterly Immigration Statistics, in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

The next publication, which contains data on resettlements up to and including 31 March 2018, is due for release on 24 May, and will contain a breakdown of children resettled under each scheme since 2010.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-22/146746/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-22/146747/>

### Asylum

**Jim Shannon (DUP)** [150119] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will make training on how to assess asylum applications on the grounds of religious persecution compulsory for his Department's asylum caseworkers.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** We are committed to delivering an asylum process that is sensitive to the needs of the claimants so that sufficient information can be obtained to facilitate fair and sustainable decisions on asylum claims. All interviewing and decision making personnel receive extensive training on interviewing and considering asylum claims, and must follow published Home Office policy guidance when conducting screening and substantive asylum interviews and considering asylum claims.

Specialist training to assist decision making staff consider asylum claims based upon religious persecution is currently being developed and will be rolled out to staff as soon as possible.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-05/150119/>

### Asylum

**Thelma Walker (Labour)** [150240] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate he has made of the proportion of asylum claims processed within the six-month decision target.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The Home Office has a Service Standard to make an initial asylum decision on straightforward claims within 182 days of the date of claim however we are aware of the number of older cases in the system. These are more complex cases which generally have barriers that prevents an initial asylum decision being made. These barriers are often varied and require time to clear.

The Home Office publishes performance against the service standard to decide 98% of straight forward asylum claims within 6 months of the date of claim.

The full data release can be found at the following address;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data>.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-05/150240/>

### Asylum: Children

**Mohammad Yasin (Labour)** [148999] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when his Department's process of sending voluntary withdrawal forms to asylum-seeking minors was introduced; when his Department has reviewed that process; and how many minors have been sent such forms since the introduction of that policy.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The issuing of voluntary withdrawal forms was part of a standard template introduced in April 2015 that was issued to all asylum claimants when they were notified that their asylum claim was not a straightforward claim and therefore a decision would be delayed. This process was reviewed in early 2018 and the decision taken not to issue the form to asylum

claims made by minors.

We do not hold data on the number of forms issued.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-01/148999/>

### **Immigrants: Detainees**

**Stephen Doughty (Labour Co-op) [147455]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what his Department's policy is on access to (a) internet, (b) email, (c) social media, (d) landline telephone, (e) mobile telephone and (f) Skype for detainees at UK immigration detention centres.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The statutory Detention Centre Rules 2001, published Operating Standards for immigration removal centres (IRCs) and published Detention Services Orders set out the requirements for availability and access to telephones, the internet and email.

Detention Services Order 08/2012 sets out the Home Office's policy on detainees' possession of mobile phones in IRCs. Detainees are able to retain their own mobile telephones throughout their detention, provided their handset has no recording facility and/or access to the internet. Where a detainee's handset does not comply with these restrictions they are provided with a suitable handset by the immigration removal centre supplier so that they may maintain contact with friends, family and other means of support.

The provision of internet access in immigration removal centres helps detainees to remain in contact with family, friends and legal representatives and to prepare for removal. Detention Services Order 04/2016 provides guidance on access to the internet. It is a contractual requirement that all immigration removal centres provide detainees with reasonable and regulated access to the internet and IT facilities. The Home Office is undertaking an initial scoping exercise on the use of Skype for detainee contact with families abroad.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-23/147455/>

### **Campsfield House Immigration Removal Centre**

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Layla Moran (Liberal Democrat) [149066]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reasons his Department did not respond to the Independent Monitoring Board at Campsfield House Immigration Removal Centre Annual Report of 2016 within the six-week timeframe set out in Detention Services Order DSO 04/2014.

**Layla Moran (Liberal Democrat) [149067]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether his Department plans to respond to the Independent Monitoring Board at Campsfield House Immigration Removal Centre Annual Report of 2017 within the six-week timeframe set out in Detention Services Order DSO 04/2014.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Independent monitoring of our immigration removal centres (IRCs) is vital to ensuring that each centre provides a secure and humane environment for detainees. The response to the Independent Monitoring Board at Campsfield House IRC Annual Report of 2016 was delayed for various reasons, including the General Election and ministerial changes. I responded to the report on 13 February 2018.

I will be writing to the Independent Monitoring Board with a response to their Annual Report for 2017 within the six week timeframe as set out in Detention Services Order 04/2014 'working with Independent Monitoring Boards'.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-01/149066/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-01/149067/>



### Deportation

**Stephen Doughty (Labour Co-op) [147451]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much his Department spent on (a) chartered and (b) commercial flights to (i) remove and (ii) deport people from the UK in each of the last three years.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The table below shows the total costs of public expense removals in 2015/16 and 2016/17 which includes; charter flight costs, scheduled flights ticketing costs, ticket contract management costs and other administrative costs (including the costs of cancelled flights). These costs also cover the ticketing costs for overseas security escorts.

Financial year	Scheduled Flights (£ million)	Charter Flights (£ million)	Net Total (£ Million)
2015-2016	£17.3	£9.1	£26.4
2016-2017	£17.0	£8.6	£25.6

By precedent, we do not release data for 2017-18 until the Home Office accounts have been finalised, audited by the National Audit Office, and laid before Parliament.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-23/147451/>

### Deportation

**Stephen Doughty (Labour Co-op) [147452]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many chartered flights were used to (a) deport and (b) remove people from the UK by destination in each of the last three years.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The table below shows the number of returns by charter flights. This data is not available broken down by “removed” and “deported”.

2015-2016	Number of charter flights	Returns
Pakistan	14	671
Afghanistan	1	11
Nigeria and Ghana	6	308
Morocco	1	1
Albania	15	720
Total:	37	1711

2016-2017	Number of charter flights	Returns
Albania	15	744
Pakistan	12	467
Nigeria and Ghana	6	271
Jamaica	2	74
Germany	2	43
Total :	37	1599

2017-2018	Number of charter flights	Returns
Albania	15	645
Pakistan	11	441
Nigeria and Ghana	7	297
Nigeria only	1	36
France, Switzerland and Bulgaria	1	24

France, Austria and Bulgaria	1	23
France and Bulgaria	1	22
Germany	3	77
Total :	40	1565

The Home Office charter flights to a number of European countries. This is to transfer asylum seekers whose claims have been considered in line with the Dublin Regulation, or who are beneficiaries of international protection in another safe EU Member State.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-23/147452/>

### Deportation

**Stephen Doughty (Labour Co-op) [148816]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many (a) deportation and (b) removal flights were chartered by his Department to (i) Jamaica, (ii) India, (iii) Pakistan, (iv) Bangladesh, (v) China and (vi) Nigeria in each of the last six months.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The table below shows the number of charter flights by country of destination between December 2017 and May 2018. These individual charter flight returns operations consisted of both deportation cases and of those being removed.

Country	Dec-17	Jan-18	Feb-18	Mar-18	Apr-18	May-18	Total
Jamaica	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
India	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pakistan	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Bangladesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
China	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nigeria*	0	1	1	1	0	1	4

\*Charter operated to Nigeria and Ghana.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-01/148816/>

### Deportation: Caribbean

**Stephen Doughty (Labour Co-op) [147453]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether (a) Ministers and (b) officials have instructed the cancellation of (i) chartered flights and (ii) commercially purchased tickets to (A) remove and (B) deport individuals from the UK to any Caribbean country in the last three months.

**Reply from Caroline Doughty:** The Department took a number of additional steps in the context of its response to Windrush issues to provide added levels of assurance on its enforcement activity including the deferral of some returns flights to the Caribbean.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-23/147453/>

### Deportation: Caribbean

**Stephen Doughty (Labour Co-op) [147454]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many (a) flights were chartered and (b) commercial seats were booked to (i) remove and (ii) deport people from the UK to Caribbean countries in each of the last 12 months.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The table below shows tickets on commercial airlines purchased in the 12 months in the year ending March 2018, to facilitate the return of illegal migrants to all Caribbean countries. There were no charter

flights operated to Caribbean countries in that 12 month period.

The data also includes all tickets purchased and includes multiple tickets for indirect flights.

Month	Total Bookings
Apr-17	79
May-17	93
Jun-17	104
Jul-17	73
Aug-17	108
Sep-17	91
Oct-17	52
Nov-17	69
Dec-17	123
Jan-18	56
Feb-18	73
Mar-18	70

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-23/147454/>

### **Deportation: Migrant Workers**

**Steve Reed (Labour Co-op)** [147906] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 21 May 2018 to Question 144296 on Deportation: Migrant Workers, and with reference to refusals having been given where there have been substantial differences of often tens of thousands of pounds between the earnings used to claim points in an immigration application and an applicant's HMRC records without a credible explanation from the applicant, what numerical value applies to the term often.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** As I confirmed to the Home Affairs Select Committee on 8 May and in my previous answer to Question 144296, we are carrying out a review of Tier 1 (General) cases. This includes a manual check of all refused applications since 1 January 2017. We will report the findings of the review to Parliament.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-24/147906/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-15/144296/>

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

### **Immigration: "Right to Rent" Scheme**

**Baroness Lister of Burtsett (Labour):** To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the impact and effectiveness of the "right to rent" scheme following the most recent report of the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration into their "hostile environment" measures, *An Inspection of the "Right to Rent" Scheme*.

**Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Williams of Trafford):** My Lords, the Government have undertaken to reconvene the landlords consultative panel and to work with it to monitor the operation and impact of the scheme. We continue to raise awareness in this sector to promote compliance and in the past year the right to rent guidance has been viewed online

nearly 450,000 times.

**Baroness Lister of Burtersett:** My Lords, that is welcome news and it is also welcome that the Government are reviewing their hostile/compliant environment regime, though it is not clear to what extent that will include a proper, thorough review of right to rent schemes. In view of the inspector's damning observations that hitherto there has been no attempt to measure its impact and that it has yet to demonstrate its worth, plus evidence from the Residential Landlords Association and others of discriminatory consequences, will the Government now suspend the scheme until they have conducted this proper, thorough evaluation that the inspector and others have called for?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** My Lords, the Government have no intention of scrapping the scheme. The first phase of the scheme, in the West Midlands, was subject to evaluation by Home Office Analysis and Insight to test its impact on discrimination, vulnerable groups and homelessness, as well as its impact on the sector and local authorities. The Home Office report published on 20 October 2015 found no evidence that the scheme was having any adverse impact on any of these. It is important that noble Lords note that the right to rent scheme is relatively new. It should not be seen in isolation but as one of a number of provisions that deter illegal immigration and restrict the number of illegal migrants establishing a settled life in the UK.

**Lord Paddick (Liberal Democrat):** My Lords, the chief inspector's report calls for monitoring and evaluation of the right to rent measures in terms of racial and other discrimination. He, like many in this House when the issue was debated, is concerned that risk-averse landlords could refuse to rent to black and minority ethnic tenants or those who have foreign-sounding names. Will the Minister tell the House how the Government are monitoring racial and other discrimination, and what baseline data they are using to determine whether discrimination has increased as a result of the right to rent scheme?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** As I said to the noble Baroness, an evaluation by the Home Office found no evidence of discrimination. We have found no levels of discrimination to date but we intend to reconvene the panel and monitor the effects of the scheme, as we do with any legislation.

**Lord Green of Deddington (Crossbench):** My Lords, does the Minister agree that, given the difficulties of removing what might be up to 1 million illegal immigrants, it makes good sense to try to bring in measures that would encourage them to leave of their own accord? Is she aware that recent opinion polls have shown that between 70% and 80% of the public agree with the measures that the Government are taking?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** I agree with the noble Lord that if someone is here illegally, they should leave of their own accord. He is absolutely right that the public support that approach. It is also important to note that in 1997, as part of the "compliant environment" measures, the then Labour Government introduced the right-to-work proposals. To date those have worked well. Nobody should be in this country if they are not legally entitled to be.

**Earl Cathcart (Conservative):** My Lords, when the Bill went through this House, a number of us warned that the Government were turning landlords into unpaid and unqualified immigration officers as they now had to check on the immigration status of tenants or face penalties. As a landlord, I quite understand why landlords want to play it safe and rent only to people with bona fide UK passports, thus discriminating against the 17% of UK citizens who do not have a passport and those people who have a perfectly legal right to rent in this country but do not have proper paperwork. Is it right that landlords such as myself should be treated as unpaid immigration officers?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** My Lords, the Government do not expect landlords to be immigration experts. They are asked to carry out checks based on checks that were previously carried out in the sector. Landlords and agents are reminded in a code of practice of the need to conduct checks against all prospective tenants in a consistent manner. I understand my noble friend's

concerns but I say to him that the list of acceptable documents is broad and it is clear that the checks are not based solely on the examination of passports or immigration documents.

**Lord Kennedy of Southwark (Labour Co-op):** My Lords, recommendation 3 of the independent inspector's report called on the Government to establish, "a new 'Right to Rent Consultative Panel'", with a remit to tackle the very issues the noble Earl raised in his question. Why have the Government not agreed to that?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** My Lords, we have agreed to that and we are planning to reconvene the landlords consultative panel this year, in response to the noble Earl's question.

**Lord Best (Crossbench):** My Lords, I declare my interest as the co-chair of the consultative panel on right to rent at the Home Office. I am delighted to hear today that we are to be called together again; it has been 18 months since we last met. Looking at this report from the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration, does the Minister share my disappointment that, regarding the hostile environment we hoped would be created for rogue landlords, who willingly and knowingly take in illegal immigrants and then exploit them because they know no one will ever complain—whatever the rent and however awful the conditions—the report indicates that in fact very little has happened in that regard?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** I am glad that the noble Lord has brought up rogue landlords because during the housing Bill—a period of our lives we will never forget—we discussed this at length. To date, 400 rogue landlords have been fined. I hope the noble Lord is on the reconvened consultative panel ... Because he brings such great expertise in this area.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-06-06/debates/7D22223B-523A-401C-88B3-B400B1A53AEC/Immigration%E2%80%9CRightToRent%E2%80%9DScheme>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/695273/An\\_inspection\\_of\\_the\\_Right\\_to\\_Rent\\_scheme.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/695273/An_inspection_of_the_Right_to_Rent_scheme.pdf)

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

### Immigration Controls

**Baroness Hamwee (Liberal Democrat) [HL8071]** To ask Her Majesty's Government what are the reasons someone might be banned from re-entry to the UK following voluntary departure, in addition to those listed in the guidance published in April 2017; whether there is provision for a discretionary ban on re-entry to the UK when no published criteria for a ban apply; and what is the scope of discretion as regards the length of the ban.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** All of the reasons why a person may be subject to a re-entry ban and the associated length of the ban are clearly outlined within the following guidance published on Gov.UK on 6 April 2017.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/606970/GI-Re-entry-bans-v7.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/606970/GI-Re-entry-bans-v7.pdf)

The guidance is based on paragraphs A320 and 320(7B) of the Immigration Rules which set out the general grounds on which entry clearance or leave to enter the UK is to be refused.

[Assets - Re-entry bans](#) (PDF Document)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-05-21/HL8071/>

### Immigration: Married People

**Baroness Afshar (Crossbench):** [HL8157] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to ensure the safe and timely return of passports submitted to the

Home Office by spouses of British citizens wishing to come to the UK.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Passports submitted by the spouses of British Citizens who are applying to come to the UK are usually held at an UKVI Decision Making Centre pending a decision being made.

The passports are stored securely and returned to customers directly by courier or via a Visa Application Centre at various locations overseas once the consideration process is completed. The transfer and transit of passports between Decision Making Centres and the Visa Applications Centres is closely monitored and records of each shipment move are kept.

There is also the opportunity where UKVI can assess applications from digital images of passports. However, the physical passport is required for UKVI to affix a vignette when a decision is made.

In most locations there is an option for customers to keep their passport until a decision has been made on their application with payment of an additional fee.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-05-23/HL8157/>

### Female Genital Mutilation

**Lord Hylton (Crossbench)** [HL8123] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether, following the intentions set out in their 2015 Counter Extremism Strategy, they intend to refuse entry visas to foreign preachers or teachers who are known to advocate female genital mutilation.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Government's Counter Extremism Strategy is clear that female genital mutilation can be a harm of extremism. FGM is a crime and this Government will not tolerate it.

The Government takes a robust stance against individuals seeking entry to the UK where a person's character, conduct or associations make it undesirable for them to do so. The Home Secretary has excluded 11 individuals from the UK for unacceptable extremist behaviour since the Counter Extremism Strategy was published in October 2015. We will continue to consider any cases brought to our attention and act in accordance with the individual circumstances involved.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-05-22/HL8123/>

### Asylum

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat)** [HL8187] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many people were prosecuted in (1) 2016, and (2) 2017, for assisting asylum seekers whose claims had failed.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** In the period requested, there were no prosecutions for those assisting asylum seekers whose claims had failed.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-05-23/HL8187/>

### Asylum

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat)** [HL8189] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many asylum claims are currently waiting to be processed.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Home Office publishes data on the number of asylum cases pending a decision at the end of each quarter in table as\_01\_q (asylum, volume 1) of the quarterly *Immigration Statistics* release.

The latest figures show the total number of asylum cases pending a decision at the end of March 2018 was 24,593. Of this total, the number pending an initial decision was 22,100. The data can be found at the link below:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/709299/asylum1-mar-2018-tables.ods](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/709299/asylum1-mar-2018-tables.ods)

[Tables as\\_01\\_q - Asylum vol 1](#) (Excel SpreadSheet)

### Asylum

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat)** [HL8190] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many asylum seekers were removed from the UK while their applications were still being processed in each of the last three years for which figures are available.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Other than in certified cases, the Home Office does not intentionally remove individuals whose claim for protection is still being processed. The Home Office does not routinely publish statistics on the number of individuals wrongfully removed or deported, or keep central records of people who have been wrongfully removed or deported.

However, as was noted in a letter provided to the Home Affairs Select Committee on 14 May 2018, the department identified 17 cases since 2015 in which a person was returned to the UK after being removed,

- i. in five cases, the Department or the Court found no legal basis for their remaining here; the Department has subsequently removed or is seeking to remove that person again from the UK;
- ii. in nine cases, proceedings are ongoing; and
- iii. in three cases, the Department or the Court has found those people to have a legal basis to remain in the UK. (It is not necessarily the case that the legal reason which led to those people being brought back to the UK is the same grounds on which they have acquired a legal basis to remain).

### Asylum: Religious Buildings

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat)** [HL8185] To ask Her Majesty's Government what support they are giving to places of worship that provide sanctuary for asylum seekers regardless of their immigration status.

### Asylum

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat)** [HL8188] To ask Her Majesty's Government what action, if any, they have taken against churches or other organisations for supporting failed asylum seekers.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** We welcome the important contribution that voluntary, charitable and non-governmental organisations make to the UK asylum system and believe the best way to support those who have been refused asylum and who have no lawful basis to remain in the UK is in helping them to leave the UK voluntarily and reintegrate into their communities in their country of origin.

The Home Office does not fund or take action against churches or other places of worship that offer support to failed asylum seekers.

and

### Asylum: Children

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat)** [HL8076] To ask Her Majesty's Government within what period they aim to process asylum applications from children in Calais; and what steps they are taking to ensure such applications are processed within that period.

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat)** [HL8077] To ask Her Majesty's Government what provisions they will make to ensure that child asylum seekers in Calais who have had their applications successfully processed are brought over to the UK.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Those transferred from France, whether it is under the Dublin III Regulation or section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016, are transferred as quickly as possible, and on arrival to the UK, will immediately enter the asylum system in the UK. Their asylum claim will be processed in line with our published guidance. We are under no obligation to consider asylum claims lodged outside UK territory, and we do not transfer those granted refugee status in another Member State to the UK.

The Home Office currently has a service standard to make a decision on straight forward asylum claims within 6 months of the date of claim. The Home Office has clear internal guidance on the management of asylum claims and the factors that can lead to a case being designated as 'non straight forward'. These cases are proactively managed to ensure barriers are cleared and decisions are made as soon as possible. Where a case is designated as 'non straight forward' the claimant will be informed of the delay to the decision.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-05-21/HL8076/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-05-21/HL8077/>

#### **Immigrants: Detainees**

**Baroness Cox (Crossbench)** [HL8349] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many people died in UK immigration detention centres from suicide or self-inflicted wounds between 1 March 2017 and 1 March 2018.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Any death in immigration detention is subject to investigation by the police, the coroner (or Procurator Fiscal in Scotland) and the independent Prisons and Probation Ombudsman.

In the period 1 March 2017 to 1 March 2018 there have been 8 deaths of individuals while detained in an immigration removal centre under immigration powers or shortly after release. Of these deaths none has yet been determined by a coroner to be a self-inflicted death.

Staff at all immigration removal centres are trained to identify those at risk of self harm so that action can be taken to minimise the risk. All incidents of self harm are treated very seriously and every step is taken to prevent incidents of this nature. Formal risk assessments on initial detention and systems for raising concerns at any subsequent point feed into established self harm procedures in every IRC, which are in turn underpinned by the Home Office Operating Standard on the prevention of self-harm and Detention Services Order 06/2008 Assessment Care in Detention Teamwork (ACDT).

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-05/HL8349/>

## **New Publication**

### **Section 322(5) of the Immigration Rules**

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CDP-2018-0138/CDP-2018-0138.pdf>



## News

### **Exploring difficulties faced by unsuccessful community organisations' funding applications**

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/blogs/3315\\_exploring\\_difficulties\\_faced\\_by\\_unsuccessful\\_community\\_organisations\\_funding\\_applications](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/blogs/3315_exploring_difficulties_faced_by_unsuccessful_community_organisations_funding_applications)

### **Sajid Javid pledges 'fresh look' at migration rules**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-44346900>

### **Home Secretary Sajid Javid expresses 'sympathy' to student nurse battling to stay in Scotland**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/16268752.Javid\\_expresses\\_sympathy\\_to\\_student\\_nurse\\_battling\\_to\\_stay\\_in\\_Scotland/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/16268752.Javid_expresses_sympathy_to_student_nurse_battling_to_stay_in_Scotland/)

### **Sajid Javid plans 'fairer, more compassionate' immigration system**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jun/06/sajid-javid-plans-fairer-more-compassionate-immigration-system>

### **I'm appalled, says Sajid Javid in Windrush apology**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/im-appalled-says-sajid-javid-in-windrush-apology-pm8s0qdhw>

### **Home Office policy leaving refugees homeless within days of being granted asylum, report finds**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/homeless-people-night-shelters-refugees-home-office-policies-sajid-javid-a8368806.html>

### **Government's 'racist' policy requiring landlords to carry out immigration checks challenged in High Court**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/government-right-to-rent-landlord-immigration-checks-housing-policy-high-court-windrush-a8385506.html>

### **Government faces high court challenge over 'right to rent' scheme**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jun/06/government-faces-high-court-challenge-right-rent-scheme>

### **991 deportation flights booked to Caribbean in year before Windrush row**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jun/05/991-people-deported-to-caribbean-in-year-before-windrush-row>

### **Windrush victims say government response is a 'shambles'**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jun/08/windrush-victims-say-government-response-is-a-shambles>

### **The Windrush deportations were wrong – and so are all the others**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jun/07/windrush-legal-illegal-migrants-caribbean-deportation-uk>

### **Caribritish: me, my family and the legacy of Windrush**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jun/07/caribritish-me-my-family-and-the-legacy-of-windrush>

**Concerns for eastern Europeans in Brexit 'settled status' plan**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/jun/05/concerns-for-eastern-europeans-in-brexit-settled-status-plan>

**Royal College of GPs demands change to immigration rules**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-44366981>

**NHS faces Brexit staffing crisis unless visa caps lifted – report**

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/jun/05/nhs-faces-brexit-staffing-crisis-unless-visa-caps-lifted-report>

**Hostile environment: how risk-averse universities penalise migrants**

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2018/jun/05/universities-immigration-risk-hostile-environments>

**The government's treatment of gay refugees shames Britain**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jun/07/lgbt-rights-deportation-gay-lesbian-refugees>

**Home Office prevented asylum seeker's urgent cancer treatment**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jun/07/home-office-prevented-asylum-seekers-urgent-cancer-treatment>

**Asylum seeker was refused treatment for breast cancer**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-06-09/news/asylum-seeker-was-refused-treatment-for-breast-cancer-bpdsxqs06>

**As a doctor, I know Kelemua Mulat is not the first person to be unfairly denied life saving NHS treatment due to her immigration status**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/kelemua-mulat-nhs-home-office-refugee-immigration-a8392161.html>

**Arabic language teacher sought to help refugee families on Bute**

<https://www.scotsman.com/regions/inverness-highlands-islands/arabic-language-teacher-sought-to-help-refugee-families-on-bute-1-4749412>

**Poetic migrants help turn Oxford Spires into top school for stanzas**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/poetic-migrants-help-turn-oxford-spires-into-top-school-for-stanzas-vwvqnhlwh>

**Deportation threat student Denzel Darku can stay in UK**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-44401000>

**Student nurse wins fight against deportation**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/student-nurse-wins-fight-against-deportation-1-4751200>

**Deportation threat to Paisley-based student nurse Denzel Darku is lifted**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16276898.Deportation\\_threat\\_to\\_Paisley-based\\_student\\_nurse\\_is\\_lifted/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16276898.Deportation_threat_to_Paisley-based_student_nurse_is_lifted/)

**Deportation-threatened student nurse wins fight to remain in Scotland**

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/deportation-threatened-student-nurse-wins-12663142>

Theresa May ignored letters asking her to reconsider deporting Denzel Darku while Home Secretary

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/theresa-ignored-letters-asking-reconsider-12675008>

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## Community Relations

### News

**Grenfell one year on: the mosque manager who took in survivors**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jun/10/mosque-manager-grenfell-survivors-interview-abdurahman-sayed-al-manaar>

**'I don't look like most people's idea of a Gypsy'**

<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2018/jun/08/gypsy-damian-le-bras-road-traveller-roots>

TOP

## Equality

### Scottish Parliament Written Answers

#### Employment

**S5W-16746 Jackie Baillie (Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government what steps it is taking to increase transparency regarding the salaries of black and minority ethnic people in (a) the civil service and (b) other employment.

**Reply from Jamie Hepburn:** The Scottish Government recognises the importance of increasing employment rates and tackling workplace inequalities for specific groups who are disadvantaged in the labour market. We are committed to doing all we can to address the barriers that prevent people from all communities from realising their true potential, accessing employment and progressing within their careers.

The Fair Work Framework highlights the importance of transparency in the workplace. It highlights that pay transparency and defensibility should be a core organisational objective for employers and should incorporate pay levels, benefits provision and pay structures that are openly shared with workers and can provide the basis for more equal pay and more defensible pay dispersion. Although employment law is reserved to the UK Government we are using all powers at our disposal to encourage ethical business practice and drive inclusive economic growth.

Scottish Ministers have supplemented general duties through the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012 which introduced a number of duties including mainstreaming equalities and publishing equality outcomes to ensure that public authorities comply with the Equality Act's provisions. Each public authority produces reports on progress with delivery at regular intervals and those reports are regulated by the Equality and Human Rights Commission.

The Scottish Government operate a pay and grading system which ensures equal pay for work of equal value for all of its employees. We publish information on the average salaries of black and minority ethnic staff as part of our Equality Mainstreaming Report which is available on the Scottish Government website.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-16746>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

### Pupils: Travellers

**Seema Malhotra (Labour Co-op)** [147450] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps he is taking to improve the attainment of pupils from (a) gypsy and roma and (b) Irish Traveller backgrounds.

**Reply from Nick Gibb:** Through the Pupil Premium the Government continues to provide additional funding, nearly £2.5 billion this year, to help schools improve the progress and attainment of disadvantaged pupils; high proportions of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils will benefit from this support.

In January 2018 the Department established the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller stakeholder group to inform policy to raise the attainment of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils. In March 2018, a review of exclusions was launched, led by Edward Timpson, who will be supported by an expert reference group providing expertise on the school system and perspectives of pupils more likely to be excluded. The group includes an advisor with extensive experience working with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. The Department continues to work with the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government on their 2018/19 pilot programme to improve the social integration of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. In addition, as part of the Careers Strategy, the Department will include Gypsy, Roma and Traveller youth as a target group for a pilot, testing ways of providing careers guidance to vulnerable groups.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-23/147450/>

### GCE A-level: Ethnic Groups

**David Lammy (Labour)** [147796] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how many Black British students achieved 3 'A' grades or higher in A Levels in each of the last eight years.

**Reply from Nick Gibb:** The number of black students achieving [1] three A\*-A grades at A level [2], split by ethnic group, from 2010/11 – 2016/17 [3] are as follows:

Academic year	Number of students	Number achieving three A*-A grades
2010/11	8,989	358
2011/12	9,415	343
2012/13	10,385	407
2013/14	10,622	400
2014/15	11,411	459
2015/16	9,457	449
2016/17 [4]	9,234	487

Figures for 2009/10 are not readily available and could only be obtained at disproportionate cost.

[1] Based on students at the end of their 16-18 study.

[2] Based on students who entered for at least 1 A level or applied A level qualification. Where qualifications taken by a student are in the same subject area and similar in content, 'discounting' rules have been applied to avoid double counting qualifications.

[3] Figures are based on final data, except for 2016/17 which is based on revised data.

[4] The methodology through which student's ethnicity is identified was changed in 2016/17. Up to 2015/16 a student's ethnicity was taken from their census record three years prior to the academic year the figures are reported for. In 2016/17 a student's ethnicity is taken from the census record of their final year of key stage 4

study (normally, three years prior). Due to this change, 2016/17 figures can not be compared to earlier years.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-24/147796/>

## New Publications

### **#WeAreScotland**

New Scottish Government campaign to celebrate the positive impact of people who choose to make Scotland their home, because no matter what your race, creed, colour or culture, you're welcome here.

<https://onescotland.org/campaigns/we-are-scotland/>

### **European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA): Fundamental Rights Report 2018**

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra\\_uploads/fra-2018-fundamental-rights-report-2018\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2018-fundamental-rights-report-2018_en.pdf)

## News

### **Trooping the Colour: Guardsman first to wear turban**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-leicestershire-44413296>

### **Sikh soldier becomes first to wear turban for trooping the colour**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jun/09/sikh-soldier-becomes-first-to-wear-turban-for-trooping-the-colour>

### **Cambridge University asks for help attracting black students**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/education-44351572>

### **Universities must improve their diversity levels - or we will use our powers to penalise them**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/opinion/2018/06/06/universities-must-improve-diversity-levels-will-use-powers/>

### **Smart black kids are being failed by their schools long before they even think of Oxbridge**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2018/06/06/smart-black-kids-failed-schools-long-even-think-oxbridge/>

### **Oxford and Cambridge threatened with fines for lack of diversity**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-06-06/news/oxbridge-threatened-with-fines-for-lack-of-diversity-dmsbvn8hf>

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## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### Scottish Parliament Debate

#### **Hate Crime Legislation: Bracadale Review**

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11583&i=105040#ScotParlOR>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

### Antisemitism

**Tom Pursglove (Conservative)** [905660] To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, assessment he has made of recent trends in anti-semitic hate crime.

**Reply from Heather Wheeler:** The Government condemns all forms of hate crime including antisemitism. Nobody should be attacked because of their race, religion, sexual orientation, transgender identity or disability. In July 2016, we published Action Against Hate: The UK Government's Plan for Tackling Hate Crime, which we will be refreshing this year.

We work closely with the police and the Community Security Trust (CST), who are members of the Cross Government Working Group on Tackling Antisemitism, alongside other Jewish stakeholders. In their recent report, the CST recorded 1,382 antisemitic incidents reported across the UK in the 2017, a 3 per cent increase from the 1,346 incidents recorded during 2016.

Individual police forces collate and analyse intelligence on the number of antisemitic incidents, in order to inform local operational decisions and to provide adequate protection at times of demand. The National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) analyses this intelligence to inform forces of any emerging challenges.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-21/905660/>

## New Publication

**Addressing anti-Semitism through education: Guidelines for Policymakers**

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0026/002637/263702e.pdf>

## News: UK Conservative Party

**Tories have not tackled Islamophobia, Conservative Muslim Forum says**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-44378791>

**More than 350 mosques urge Conservatives to launch internal inquiry into Islamophobia claims**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/islamophobia-inquiry-mosques-urge-conservative-party-theresa-may-a8381551.html>

**Two Jewish groups back calls for inquiry into Tory Islamophobia allegations**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/tory-islamophobia-inquiry-theresa-may-investigation-jewish-jcore-ujs-mcb-a8386086.html>

**Jeremy Corbyn calls for investigation of alleged Tory Islamophobia**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/jun/05/jeremy-corbyn-calls-for-investigation-alleged-islamophobia-conservative-party>

**Sajid Javid clashes with Muslim Council over Islamophobia**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-06-04/news/sajid-javid-clashes-with-muslim-council-over-islamophobia-63rfs5878>

**Corbyn demands inquiry into Tory Islamophobia claims**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-06-05/news/corbyn-demands-inquiry-into-tory-islamophobia-claims-pv5jqfkbv>

### **Tory Muslim chief accuses party of failing to tackle Islamophobia**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-06-06/news/tory-muslims-accuse-party-of-islamophobia-vp8nrtj0>

### **Pro-Tory Facebook group filled with Islamophobic abuse**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/jun/09/pro-tory-facebook-group-filled-with-islamophobic-abuse>

### **Conservatives hoping Islamophobia issue 'will magically go away', warns senior party activist**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/conservatives-islamophobia-inquiry-racism-sajid-javid-mohammed-amin-a8384876.html>

## **News: Other Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination**

### **Man admits sending racist and abusive emails to MPs**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-birmingham-44357504>

### **Man arrested over fires at mosque and Sikh temple in Leeds**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jun/06/man-arrested-over-fires-at-mosque-and-sikh-temple-in-leeds>

### **Muslim and Sikh places of worship set on fire in Leeds in suspected hate crimes**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/leeds-arson-attack-hate-crimes-mosque-muslim-sikh-gurdwara-a8385176.html>

### **Interview with Bake Off's Nadiya Hussain: my fight against racism and Islamophobia**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-06-09/the-times-magazine/interview-with-bake-offs-nadiya-hussain-my-fight-against-racism-and-islamophobia-x5vz7j8h>

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## **Other UK Parliament and Government**

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

#### **Female Genital Mutilation: Prosecutions**

**Baroness Smith of Basildon (Labour)** [HL8197] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many prosecutions there have been under the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 in each year since 2015; and how many have been successful.

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** In the period 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2017, there was one prosecution (in 2016) under the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003, and that did not result in a conviction. This data relates only to those proceedings where the principal offence prosecuted was under the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003.

Where a defendant has been found guilty of two or more offences, data would only record the offence for which the heaviest penalty was imposed. Where the same disposal is imposed for two or more offences, the offence selected would be the offence for which the statutory maximum penalty was the most severe.

Data for 2018 will be published in May 2019.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-05-23/HL8197/>

## Female Genital Mutilation Protection Orders

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Baroness Smith of Basildon (Labour)** [HL8198] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many Female Genital Mutilation Orders have been (1) sought, and (2) issued, since they were introduced under the Serious Crime Act 2015.

**Baroness Smith of Basildon (Labour)** [HL8199] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether any Female Genital Mutilation Protection Orders have been breached in each year since 2015; and, in each case, whether they were dealt with (1) by criminal prosecution, or (2) in the Family Court.

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** Following their introduction in July 2015, there have been 222 applications and 205 orders made for Female Genital Mutilation Protection Orders, up to 31 December 2017.

In this period no breaches of an FGM Protection order have been dealt with in the criminal courts. In the Family Courts, proceedings for breach would be dealt with as a contempt of court matter and are not recorded separately. The information could therefore only be obtained at disproportionate cost.

Statistics on FGM Protection Orders are publicly available as part of the Family Courts Statistics Quarterly series at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/family-court-statistics-quarterly>

The next publication of Family Court Statistics Quarterly is due on 28 June 2018.

This will provide data up to the end of March 2018.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-05-23/HL8198/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-05-23/HL8199/>

## New Publication

**Female Genital Mutilation January to March 2018, experimental statistics**

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/female-genital-mutilation/female-genital-mutilation-january-march-2018-experimental-statistics>

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## New Publication

**Fraud: how to reduce the risks in your charity**

[https://www.oscr.org.uk/media/3167/v10\\_fraud-how-to-reduce-the-risks-in-your-charity.pdf](https://www.oscr.org.uk/media/3167/v10_fraud-how-to-reduce-the-risks-in-your-charity.pdf)

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## Bills in Progress

\*\* new or updated this week

### 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>

Bill as amended in the Lords

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2017-2019/0102/AsAmendedInLordsCMP.pdf>

Notice of amendments

[https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2017-2019/0212/amend/eu\\_rm\\_ccla\\_0605.1-7.html](https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2017-2019/0212/amend/eu_rm_ccla_0605.1-7.html)

and

[https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2017-2019/0212/amend/eu\\_rm\\_ccla\\_0608.1-7.html](https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2017-2019/0212/amend/eu_rm_ccla_0608.1-7.html)

## **Holocaust (Return of Cultural Objects) (Amendment) Bill**

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/holocaustreturnofculturalobjectsamendment.html>

## **Human Trafficking (Child Protection) Bill**

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

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

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

## **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

### **Welsh Government: Nation of Sanctuary – Refugee and asylum seeker plan**

(closing date 25 June 2018)

<https://beta.gov.wales/nation-sanctuary-refugee-and-asylum-seeker-plan>

### **Measures to further improve the effectiveness of the fight against illegal content online**

(closing date 25 June 2018)

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/public-consultation-measures-further-improve-effectiveness-fight-against-illegal-content-online\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/public-consultation-measures-further-improve-effectiveness-fight-against-illegal-content-online_en)

### **Protection of Vulnerable Groups and the Disclosure of Criminal Information**

(closing date 18 July 2018)

<https://consult.gov.scot/disclosure-scotland/protection-of-vulnerable/>

### **Funeral Expense Assistance Regulations** (closing date 23 August 2018)

<https://consult.gov.scot/social-security/funeral-expense-assistance/>

### **Antisemitism: Survey of European Jews** (closing date not stated)

<http://www.eurojews.eu/>

### **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.

[Click here](#) to find out about Graduate, Modern, and Foundation Apprenticeship opportunities.

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## Funding Opportunities

\*\* new or updated this week

### **Year of Young People**

There is no closing date – the fund will remain open until all money has been distributed.

Year of Young People 2018 celebrates everything that makes Scotland's young people incredible. As a nation proud of our young people, the Year of Young People puts the spotlight on the contributions and achievements of eight to 26 year olds, while giving them a stronger voice on issues that matter to them, and aims to inspire Scotland through its young people, celebrating their achievements, valuing their contribution to communities and creating new opportunities for them to shine locally and on a global-stage.

BEMIS Scotland, in collaboration with the Scottish Government, is providing grants of between £250 and £1,000 for constituted charitable and non-profit organisations, and community groups.

For full information see <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/yoyp-grant-guidelines.pdf> and to apply see <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/yoyp-application-form.docx>

## Scotland's Winter Festivals, and St Andrew's Fair Saturday

There is no closing date – the fund will remain open until all money has been distributed. Scotland's Winter Festivals aim to mobilise the people of Scotland and those with an affinity to Scotland to join in the St Andrew's Day, Hogmanay, and Burns celebrations, boosting Scotland's key tourism and events sectors and the wider economy, enhancing community engagement and raising Scotland's international profile. Our diverse ethnic and cultural minority communities are key elements of Scotland's past, present and future so we want to ensure that your story, history, and narrative plays a full part in Scotland's Winter Festivals.

BEMIS Scotland, in collaboration with the Scottish Government, is providing grants of between £250 and £1,000 for constituted charitable and non-profit organisations, and community groups.

For full information see <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/swf-2018-guidelines.pdf> and to apply see <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/swf-2018-application-form.docx>

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## Events, Conferences, and Training

\*\* new or updated this week

**\*\* this week!**

### **Meet the Scottish Charity Regulator**

13 June 2018 in Stirling (1.15-4.00)

28 August 2018 in Edinburgh (1.15-4.00)

25 September 2018 in Motherwell (1.15-4.00)

3 October 2018 in Oban (9.45-12.30)

Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) events to give charity trustees and staff the opportunity to hear about latest developments, meet OSCR staff and ask questions. Topics will include the role of the charity trustee, and guidance on safeguarding. For information and to book see <https://www.oscr.org.uk/news/meet-the-scottish-charity-regulator>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Scottish Refugee Festival**

15-24 June 2018

**Refugee Festival Scotland** celebrates the contribution refugees make to life in Scotland – the food and drink, music and poetry, dance, visual art and ideas that people bring with them when they seek safety in Scotland. For information see <https://www.refugeefestivalscotland.co.uk/>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Are Refugee Languages Welcome? The Critical Role of Refugee Languages in Integration**

15 June 2018 in Edinburgh (1.00-3.00)

Refugee languages are not an obstacle to integration; instead they provide continuity amidst upheaval and disruption, whilst playing a supporting role in English learning. Bilingualism Matters presents expert talks by high-profile researchers and testimonials from young refugee learners, followed by a round-table discussion with local community organisers and ESOL providers. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yavd967n>

**\*\* this week!**

**Young Writers' Society of Glasgow Presents: Challenging Xenophobia through Stories and Art with Young People in Glasgow**

16-19 June 2018 in Glasgow

Community event including an exhibition and workshops to showcase the process and the art-work created by local children and young people between the ages of 7 and 17. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yazlvk9m>

**\*\* this week!**

**Refugee Cycle**

16 June 2018 in Glasgow (10.00-1.00)

Join UNESCO for a physical and mental journey around the themes of migration. No ordinary guided bike ride! Participants will cycle a pre-determined route in small groups, accompanied by experienced ride leaders. At regular intervals along the route there will be informative performances and activities by the UNESCO RILA Artists in Residence and their partners. Central themes are (forced) migration, community building and hospitality. Basic bike riding skills needed, but free bikes available on site. For information see <https://www.refugeefestivalscotland.co.uk/events/refugee-cycle/>

**\*\* this week!**

**Young and Boundaryless? Youth cultures and migrant integration in Scotland and Europe since the 1950s**

16 June 2018 in Glasgow (11.00-1.00)

Interactive discussion led by Glasgow and Bangor Universities around youth cultures and migrant integration. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y7pjzfhv>

**\*\* this week!**

**Refugee Festival Scotland Opening Day**

16 June 2018 in Glasgow (12.00-4.00)

Join Scottish Refugee Council for an opening celebration to mark the beginning of Refugee Festival Scotland 2018! For information see <https://tinyurl.com/ycq8g3p9>

**\*\* this week!**

**Charlie's Promise: An Afternoon with author Annemarie Allan**

17 June 2018 in Stirling (2.00-4.30)

Scottish Council of Jewish Communities, and Scottish Book Trust author reading event with Annemarie Allan who will read from her new children's novel Charlie's Promise. Followed by a discussion surrounding the themes of the book, "the need for humanity in our approach to people who have lost their homes, their families, their countries, and come looking for sanctuary." (John Fulton), and a writing workshop. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/ycqz9vve>

**Museum Without a Home**

18-22 June 2018 in Glasgow

Oxfam Scotland and Amnesty International exhibition promoting solidarity with migrants. The exhibition has travelled the world, and exhibits real objects that were donated to people in need of protection, to comfort them and help make the difficulties of daily life more manageable. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y8pxy9ox>

**On the Border of Art and Teaching in the Multilingual World**

18 June 2018 in Glasgow (9.45-4.00)

Scottish Graduate School of Arts and Humanities Cohort Development Fund Programme workshop to explore how art-based methods are and can be used as research tools and as pedagogy. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/ybqqdapu>

### **Modern Apprenticeships: Supporting Refugees and New Scots into Employment**

18 June 2018 in Glasgow (11.00-1.00)

Skills Development Scotland event including workshops on the services provided to support the employment and education of refugees and New Scots. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y8pdh8l7>

### **Breaking Down Borders through Children's Books**

18 June 2018 in Glasgow (4.00-5.00)

University of Glasgow School of Education interactive workshop exploring texts related to migration and human rights, ranging from historical journeys through to multicultural books telling tales of migration from around the world. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y7robz39>

### **\*\* Inclusion Fundamentals Training**

19 June 2018 in Kinghorn (10.00-4.00)

Fife Centre for Equalities workshop to provide basic guiding principles in understanding the diverse needs of people of different protected characteristics and how these needs can be met. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y6u8p347> or contact 01592 645 310 / [info@centreforequalities.org.uk](mailto:info@centreforequalities.org.uk)

### **Secure borders, Endangered lives. An International Perspective**

19 June 2018 in Glasgow (5.00-7.00)

University of Glasgow panel discussion to discuss the effects of border securitization, and its consequences on children, young people, and refugees more generally. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/ya6swyd9>

### **World Refugee Day Unesco: Rila Lecture – Refugee Integration Through Languages and the Arts**

20 June 2018 in Glasgow (4.00-6.00)

This lecture mines the contested concept of integration for its history, variation and substance. It considers the important work of law and social policy in developing frameworks and duties for integration, especially with regard to the work of *New Scots Integration Strategy, Scotland*. It then moves to examine the place of concepts of integration in conflict transformation, international relations and trauma healing. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y889lyso>

### **New Scots Museum Display**

22 June 2018 onwards in Glasgow

New permanent museum display looking at the lives of a group of refugees and asylum seekers in Glasgow. The display and a new interpretative film is the culmination of a year long engagement programme between the St Mungo Museum and groups of refugees from different religious, ethnic and cultural background living in Glasgow over the past 20 years. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y9oafuxe>

### **Celebrate Gypsy Roma Traveller History Month**

22 June 2018 in Edinburgh (9.30)

Invitation to share the culture, history and contemporary life of Gypsy/Roma/Traveller communities, including a presentation from founding members of the Roma Nation Movement, panel discussion, and performance of *Crystal's Vardo*. For information see <https://actiononprejudice.info/events/celebrate-gypsy-roma-traveller-history-month/>

### **Strangers? – Just Friends We Have Not Met Yet**

22 June 2018 in Glasgow (4.00-7.00)

Religious Society of Friends creative workshops and get-together on themes of asylum and sanctuary. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/ycplp2gu>

### **Untangling Threads**

23 June 2018 in Dingwall (11.00-3.00)

Adults from refugee and immigrant families create a new piece of collaborative art, with the support of Common Threads Sewing Group, and local community artist Lizzie MacDougall. At the same time the children of those participating will work on their own mini masterpieces, with the help of young volunteers from Inverness and the Black Isle. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y7lxhflz>

### **The Hate Crime in our Communities**

23 June 2018 in Glasgow (1.00-6.00)

Africa Future activities for asylum seekers, refugees and the local area. They hope to try to change negative perceptions of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in the community. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y7wvsx2>

### **Tackling Hate Speech in a Youth Setting**

21 June 2018 in Glasgow (9.30-4.30)

17 July 2018 in Edinburgh (9.30-4.30)

Interfaith Scotland training to equip those working in a youth setting with appropriate tools for tackling hate speech, explore issues relating to cultural and religious diversity, learn how to recognise hate speech, and how to manage the situation when it occurs. For information contact Jamie Spurway [Jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:Jamie@interfaithscotland.org) / 07921 439 952

### **\*\* Minority Ethnic Advocacy Project Launch Event**

28 June 2018 in Glasgow (11.00-1.00)

West of Scotland Regional Equality Council event in partnership with Govan Community Project and Pachedu. The Minority Ethnic Advocacy Project will connect vulnerable and isolated minority ethnic people with mainstream services by supporting them to understand their situation and helping them make informed decisions. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y8n3q74c>

### **Organising for Power**

29 June to 1 July 2018 in Fife

10 to 12 August 2018 in Fife

14 to 16 September – venue tba

Training weekends for those tackling the root causes of xenophobia and racism and promoting the rights of migrants/refugees/ asylum seeking people in Scotland to learn how to have a bigger impact and plan campaigns that win. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yb8usv6h> or contact [o4p@tripodtraining.org](mailto:o4p@tripodtraining.org)

### **Talking to Young People about Equality**

6 September 2018 in Kirkcaldy (6.00-9.00)

Fife Centre for Equalities, and Youth 1<sup>st</sup> workshop to help youth workers begin a dialogue about equality with young people, and to understand that good knowledge of equality and inclusion will improve their employability. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yceyr6at>

### **Culture - Religious Diversity and Anti-Discrimination Training**

12-13 September 2018 in Glasgow (9.00-4.30)

Two day training to address diversity and discrimination issues related to religion and belief and increase skills in order to help create a more inclusive diverse environment For information contact Farkhanda Chaudhry 0141 577 8454 / 07950 008 859 / [Farkhanda.Chaudhry@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:Farkhanda.Chaudhry@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk)

## **Black History Month**

October 2018

### ***Call for submissions to the programme: deadline 16 July 2018***

Black History Month aims to raise awareness of the positive role that Black / Minority Ethnic men and women have played in shaping Scotland's history. To submit an event for the 2018 programme complete the form at <https://tinyurl.com/y9zd8xxj> and return it to [zandra@crer.org.uk](mailto:zandra@crer.org.uk)

## **Scottish Interfaith Week**

11-18 November 2018

Scottish Interfaith Week provides an opportunity for interfaith groups, faith communities, schools, organisations and local communities across the country to celebrate Scotland's religious diversity. For information see <http://scottishinterfaithweek.org/>

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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)



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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