



MEMO is produced by the [Scottish Council of Jewish Communities \(SCoJeC\)](#) 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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Useful Links

Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month, and that the Scottish and UK Parliament and Government websites have been redesigned, so that links published in previous 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

UK Parliament Debate

See also the debate on “Citizenship and Civic Engagement (Select Committee Report)” which is listed in the “Community Relations” section below.

UK Entry Visas

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-11-19/debates/46FE7216-72C0-4D9C-AF10-C7B1793634A1/UKEntryVisas>

Displaced Children

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-11-22/debates/1037721D-F641-446C-8071-5C9A663D5509/DisplacedChildren>

UK Parliament, Ministerial Statement

Immigration

The Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes) [HCWS1102] I am today publishing a review of applications by tier 1 (general) migrants refused under paragraph 322(5) of the immigration rules.

The review responds to claims that hundreds of highly skilled workers—who entered the UK under this now closed route—were facing removal due to making minor errors in their tax returns.

Our review has examined 1,697 applications refused since January 2015. The discrepancies between the earnings declared to the Home Office and those shown by their tax records were over £10,000 in 88% of cases (1,490). The pattern of behaviour in amending tax records, often close to making a further Home Office application, was sufficiently unusual for HM Revenue and Customs to draw it to the Home Office's attention.

Applicants were given the opportunity to explain these discrepancies. In many cases, having taken all the evidence and applicants' explanations into account, we were not satisfied that these were minor tax errors as claimed, but attempts to misrepresent self-employed earnings, most likely for the purposes of obtaining leave or settlement in the UK.

Where the explanation given was not, in our view, satisfactory, applications were refused under paragraph 322(5). There has been some criticism that the use of this rule has been disproportionate. I want to be clear that we are not claiming these applicants are a threat to national security. Refusal under this rule covers a wide range of character and conduct issues and its use is appropriate in these types of cases where the evidence supports it (a point that the courts and tribunals have acknowledged).

The review has looked at litigation outcomes in both statutory appeals and judicial reviews. The picture here is mixed. Some courts and tribunals have accepted applicants' explanations for discrepancies that the Home Office had previously rejected. Others, faced with broadly similar arguments, often around the role of applicants' accountants, have supported the Home Office's position. We look forward to the Court of Appeal providing clarity on some of these issues in upcoming hearings early next year and will consider in the light of these further rulings.

Aside from cases which have been allowed by the courts and tribunals, the review has identified 12 decisions which we intend to overturn, and a further 19 cases where we will seek more information from applicants before reconsidering their cases. The Home Office will contact each of the 31 individuals concerned to resolve their cases by the end of December. Errors of this kind are always regrettable, and I do not seek to minimise the impact that the error may have had on the individuals concerned. I will also ensure that the findings in this small minority of cases are used to inform our future decision making, to ensure that similar errors are not repeated.

Skilled migrants make an important contribution to our economic wellbeing and our society. The Government recognise the need to attract and retain them, and our immigration system will continue to do so. However, it is important that people play by the rules to preserve the integrity of the immigration system.

I will arrange for a copy of the review and accompanying guidance to be placed in the Library of the House and for them to be made available on gov.uk.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-11-22/debates/18112230000008/Immigration>

The review referred to above can be read at

http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2018-1155/2018-11-22_Tier_1_General_paragraph_322_5_report.pdf

UK Parliament, Home Affairs Committee

Asylum Accommodation Inquiry: evidence session

<http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/home-affairs-committee/asylum-accommodation/oral/92748.html>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Home Office: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [183821] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many citizens of non-UK EU countries work in (a) his Department, (b) its agencies and (c) its non-departmental public bodies.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: All Government Departments are bound by legal requirements concerning the right to work in the UK and, in addition, the Civil Service Nationality Rules.

Evidence of nationality is checked at the point of recruitment into the Civil Service as part of wider pre-employment checks, but there is no requirement on departments to retain this information beyond the point at which it has served its purpose.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183821/>

Migration

Clive Efford (Labour) [193358] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions he has had with the Prime Minister since 13 April 2016 on delivering the Government's policy to reduce net migration to the tens of thousands; and when those discussions took place.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We remain committed to reducing net migration to sustainable levels.

Net migration has fallen since peaks in 2015 and 2016 and we will continue to reform our immigration routes to ensure that they work in the best interests of the country.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-20/193358/>

Migration

Nicholas Soames (Conservative) [190740] To ask the Secretary of State for International Development, what contribution the Government plans to make to the Global Compact for Migration.

Reply from Alistair Burt: The UK Government is supportive of the UN's Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, as a step forward in international co-operation to tackle irregular migration and as a framework to help us deliver our commitments under the sustainable development goals.

We believe that the final document sets out a better international framework for action and co-operation on migration, whilst importantly respecting a State's sovereign right to determine its own migration policy. The Compact also contains important commitments and actions to help us tackle human trafficking and people smuggling.

Moreover, our aim is to use the Compact to further our Migration priorities within multilateral fora. This includes: reducing modern slavery; upholding migrant's human rights; and addressing irregular migration through improved border management and safer and more productive legal migration.

We remain committed to working closely with European and Global partners to build on the momentum we have gathered thus far to ensure effective

implementation of the Compact.

We look forward to the formal launch of the Compact in Marrakech this December.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190740/>

Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration: Publications

Afzal Khan (Labour) [190959] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when he will plans to publish the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration's reports on (a) Asylum Accommodation, (b) Country of Origin Information, (c) Vulnerable Adults and (d) Home Office (Borders, Immigration and Citizenship System) collaborative working with other government departments and agencies.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The ICIBI's report on the Home Office's Management of Asylum Accommodation Provision was published on 20 November, along with the Government's response. The Home Secretary is considering the reports on the Country of Origin Information and Vulnerable Adults, which will be published shortly.

The Home Secretary is also considering the report on the Home Office (Borders, Immigration and Citizenship System) collaborative working with Other Government Departments and Agencies, which was received on 30 October 2018. This will be published in due course.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190959/>

The report referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/757285/ICIBI_An_inspection_of_the_HO_management_of_asylum_accommodation.pdf

Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration: Publications

Afzal Khan (Labour) [190960] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the capacity of his Department to publish independent chief inspector of border and immigration reports within the eight week timeframe.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Wherever possible, the Department will lay Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration (ICIBI) reports before Parliament within 8 weeks of receipt, or as soon as possible thereafter.

It is important that the Department and Ministers give full consideration to the serious recommendations made in ICIBI reports. In some circumstances, this will take longer than 8 weeks due to the complexity or importance of the recommendations.

In order to provide full transparency, reports will only be laid in Parliament when both Houses are sitting. This will sometimes necessitate a longer timeframe between submission of the report and publication.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190960/>

British Nationality: Children

Harriet Harman (Labour) [191248] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the fee was for submitting an application to register a child as British in each of the last seven years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Child registration fees from 2012 to 2018 are detailed within the table below:

DATE	FEE
Financial Year 2018-19	£1,012
Financial year 2017-18	£973
Financial year 2016-17	£936
Financial year 2015-16	£749

Financial year 2014-15	£669
Financial year 2013-14	£673 1st child, £505 each subsequent child
Financial year 2012-13	£551 1st child, £276 each subsequent child

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-14/191248/>

UK Visas and Immigration: Staff

Jo Stevens (Labour) [190911] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 12 November 2018 to Question 188216 on Immigrants: EU Nationals, how many of those 1,500 UKVI European Casework staff are in post.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We currently have 1,215 UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) European Casework staff in post and we expect to have all of the 1,500 in post before the end of the year.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190911/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-05/188216/>

Health Services: Immigrants

Jo Stevens (Labour) [191946] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what assessment he has made of the potential effect of doubling the immigration health surcharge on (a) recruitment and (b) retention of non-UK staff in the NHS.

Reply from Stephen Hammond: There is no evidence to suggest there has been any negative impact on the number of applications made to come to the United Kingdom as a result of the surcharge.

The surcharge currently is and will remain excellent value for new and existing workers, particularly in comparison to the alternatives, including the cost of private insurance, as it provides near full access to the comprehensive range of services and treatments that our National Health Service provides.

We do not envisage the increase in the surcharge to have any negative effect on the UK's competitive position in attracting and retaining skilled workers and students.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-15/191946/>

EU Nationals: Health Services

Afzal Khan (Labour) [193583] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 19 November 2018 to Question 191448, whether the immigration health surcharge will apply to EU citizens arriving in the UK during the transition period.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The immigration health surcharge will not apply where EU citizens make immigration applications during the implementation period after the UK leaves the EU.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-20/193583/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-14/191448/>

Visas: Applications

Martyn Day (SNP) [190506] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if his Department will undertake a review of time taken for visa application decisions to be

expedited for those applying for leave to remain on under Article 8 of the European Convention of Human Rights, and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Where an applicant provides credible evidence of the life-threatening illness or death of a close family member overseas, UKVI will expedite the application regardless of its date of submission, unless there are serious countervailing factors which necessitate holding the case. The speed with which a decision can be despatched on an expedited case depends on the completeness of the supporting evidence submitted. No review is planned.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-12/190506/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Musicians: Visas

James Frith (Labour) [189798] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, what discussions he has had with his Cabinet colleagues on the Incorporated Society of Musicians' proposal for a multi-entry touring visa for UK musicians touring the EU after the UK leaves the EU.

Musicians: British Nationals Abroad

James Frith (Labour) [189799] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, what estimate he has made of the number of musicians in the UK that travel regularly to Europe to perform; and what discussions he has had with that sector on the potential effect of changes to travel after the UK leaves the EU.

Reply from Margot James: Whilst the government is clear that free movement will end as we leave the EU, we are aware that continued access to international talent and the ability for UK talent to tour are key concerns for the cultural and creative sectors. As set out in the White Paper on our future relationship with the EU, the UK will make a sovereign choice to seek reciprocal mobility arrangements with the EU in a defined number of areas, for example to allow business professionals to move to provide services, or tourists to continue to travel visa-free. We have been collaborating closely with other government departments to help them to understand the particular needs of the music sector.

My department benefits from research carried out by trade organisations and umbrella bodies.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-09/189798/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-09/189799/>

Arts and Sports Competitors: Visas

Cat Smith (Labour) [193515] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many creative and sporting tier 5 visa applications (a) were subject to an administrative review and (b) had the original decision overturned following an administrative review in each year from 2012 to 2017.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The published information relates to total grants and refusals of entry clearance visas for Tier 5 creative and sporting, published in the quarterly Immigration Statistics, Visas volume 1, table vi_01_q, latest edition at:

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

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-20/193515/>

Visas: Overseas Students

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [189678] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many credibility interviews have been carried out for students by Entry

Clearance Officers in academic year (a) 2017-18 (b) 2016-17, (c) 2015-16, (d) 2014-15 and (e) 2013-14.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office does not publish data relating to credibility interviews. All published data available for International operations can be found at the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/international-operations-transparency-data-august-2018>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-09/189678/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Visas: Overseas Students

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [189680] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many members of staff are employed as Entry Clearance Officers assessing Tier 4 student visa applications.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [189681] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many staff were employed as Entry Clearance Officers assessing Tier 4 student visa applications in the (a) 2017-18, (b) 2016-17, (c) 2015-16, (d) 2014-15 and (e) 2013-14 academic years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: On 30 September 2018, the following numbers of Entry Clearance Officers and Entry Clearance Assistants were employed in relation to the processing of overseas visa applications:

EO/ECO	AO/ECA
497	724

These staff can work on a range of case types and are not solely employed to process Tier 4 applications.

Historic data for staffing levels in a respect of academic year periods is not held.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-09/189680/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-09/189681/>

Overseas Students: Immigration

Steve McCabe (Labour) [191270] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, pursuant to the Answer of 23 July 2018 to Question 165451, Overseas Students: Immigration, what criteria his Department uses to assess whether an individual's residence in the UK and Islands has been wholly or mainly for the purpose of receiving full-time education.

Reply from Sam Gyimah: Generally, to meet the eligibility requirements for student support, a student should be resident in England, have 'settled' status or a recognised connection with the UK and have been a resident of the UK and Islands (Channel Islands and the Isle of Man) for the three years prior to the start of the course.

Residence in the UK and Islands must not have been wholly or mainly for the purpose of receiving full-time education, a requirement that has been in place since the 1960s.

Student Finance England determines whether an individual has met the residency requirements by considering applications for student support and accompanying evidence. Applications are considered on a case by case basis.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-14/191270/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-18/165451/>

Windrush Generation: Compensation

Stephen Twigg (Labour Co-op) [190332] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he plans to impose a cap on compensation payments for the Windrush generation and their descendants.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government has published a consultation paper on the Windrush compensation scheme. Among the range of issues covered in the consultation, we are seeking views on whether a cap or maximum amount should be applied to a payment made under the scheme.

We encourage people to respond to the consultation, which closed on 16 November, and welcome views on this matter.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-12/190332/>

Windrush Generation: Compensation

Kate Hollern (Labour) [191433] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department is taking to provide assistance to victims of the Windrush scandal who report difficulty with the compensation process.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government consultation on the Windrush Compensation Scheme was extended to 16 November. We are committed to establishing the scheme as quickly and carefully as possible, taking into account the outcome of that consultation. Further details on compensation will be made available when the scheme is established, including who is eligible to apply for compensation and how they can access the scheme.

Ahead of the scheme coming into operation, the Home Office has already put measures in place to help those who are affected. This includes a dedicated team for vulnerable people within the Windrush taskforce, providing assistance where an urgent need for support or advice has been identified.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-14/191433/>

EU Nationals: Health Services

Afzal Khan (Labour) [191448] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether the immigration health surcharge will apply to EU citizens arriving in the UK after the UK leaves the EU.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government are clear that any EU citizen who is resident in the UK before we leave the European Union in March 2019 will not pay the surcharge. We will set out our plans for a future global immigration system in due course.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-14/191448/>

EU Nationals: Children

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [188690] To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, whether children resident in the EU will be able to travel to the UK on identity cards in the event that the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

Reply from Robin Walker: We are considering a number of options in the unlikely event that we reach March 2019 without a deal. The Home Office will set out further information in due course.

As the Immigration Minister has said, we do not intend to require visas from EU citizens in a no deal scenario and we welcome the commitment from the EU Commission that subject to reciprocity they will do the same for UK nationals entering the EU.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-06/188690/>

Migrant Workers: EU Nationals

Jo Stevens (Labour) [190912] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 12 November 2018 to Question 188866 on Immigrants: EU Nationals, what guidance her Department will provide to employers on how to distinguish between a National Identity card from a non-UK EU citizen job applicant who arrived in the UK (a) before and (b) after March 2019.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: As previously stated, the current arrangements for employers carrying out document checks on prospective employees who are EU citizens will not change immediately after the UK leaves the EU. Under these arrangements, employers will not be expected to differentiate between EU citizens who arrived in the UK before and after March 2019.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190912/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-06/188866/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Immigrants: EU Nationals

John Woodcock (Independent) [187006] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to his Department's guidance entitled Existing UK residence documents for EU citizens, published on gov.uk, and with reference to the statement in that guidance that permanent residence documents will not be a valid proof of residence after 31 December 2020 and people will still need to apply for settled status to continue living in the UK after June 2021 even if they have a permanent residence document, whether that is planned to still be the case in the event that the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

John Woodcock (Independent) [187008] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the reason is for the invalidation of permanent residence documents after 31 December 2020.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: In either a deal or no deal scenario, permanent residence (and other) documents which confirm a right to reside under Directive 2004/38EC (the Free Movement Directive) will cease to be valid when EU law ceases to apply. However, EU citizens and their family members who have a documented right of permanent residence can exchange this for settled status free of charge.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-01/187006/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-01/187008/>

The Directive referred to above can be read at

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2004:158:0077:0123:EN:PDF>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Janet Daby (Labour) [176695] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how the fee was determined for settled and pre-settled status applications for EU citizens and their families.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Under Articles 17(1)(g) and (h) of the draft Withdrawal Agreement with the EU the Government agreed that applications to the Scheme will not cost any more than the cost of a comparable document for UK nationals and that applications from holders of valid Permanent Residence documentation or indefinite leave to remain will be free of charge. This was also confirmed in the Prime Minister's open letter to EU citizens in the UK.

The fee of £65 is the same as the current charge for documentation under EU law

and is less than the cost of a British passport. A lower fee (£32.50) for applications from children under the age of 16 is consistent with the age at which reduced fees for a British passport apply. There is also no charge for children in local authority care.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-08/176695/>

The draft Withdrawal Agreement referred to above can be read at

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/draft_withdrawal_agreement_0.pdf

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Afzal Khan (Labour) [190961] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what documentation will be provided to non-EU family members of EU citizens who are granted pre-settled status to enable them to travel to and from the UK.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: As set out in the Statement of Intent published on 21 June, eligible non-EU family members granted status under the EU Settlement Scheme will be issued with a status in a digital form. In addition, they will also be issued with a biometric residence card, where they do not already hold a biometric residence card issued under the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2016.

A biometric residence card, together with a valid passport, will enable non-EU family members to travel to and from the UK.

Until the end of the planned implementation period, EU citizens and their family members living in the UK, will continue to have the same rights and status, and are subject to the same residence and travel requirements as under EU law.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190961/>

The Statement of Intent, referred to above, can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/718237/EU_Settlement_Scheme_SOI_June_2018.pdf

The following three questions all received the same answer

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [185056] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what definition his Department uses for classifying people as vulnerable in relation to eligibility for participation in the private beta testing phase of the EU Settlement Scheme.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [185057] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether the private beta testing phase of the EU Settlement Scheme will include victims of modern slavery identified under the National Referral Mechanism.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [185058] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he has made an assessment of (a) the ability of victims of human trafficking to pay the fee required under the private beta testing phase of the EU Settlement Scheme and (b) the potential merits of waiving the fee for those people.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The EU Settlement Scheme provides a streamlined, user-friendly, digital application system, with multiple service options to meet the needs of a varied customer base, including additional support for the vulnerable.

As outlined in the Immigration Rules for the next private beta testing phase, a child being looked after (within the meaning of section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) by, or a person who was such a child and is eligible for support or assistance under the Children Act 1989 (or under regulations made under that Act) from one of the named local authorities can apply. Additionally, a vulnerable person receiving support from one of the named civil society organisations will be eligible to make an application. These include more than one organisation which works with victims of trafficking.

I am content that our approach to fees is reasonable, proportionate and fair to all EU citizens. However, I will keep the approach on fees under review. More broadly, we are also considering how the EU Settlement Scheme can take into account the specific circumstances of victims of modern slavery and how to support the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) service providers to link victims up with the Scheme while they are in NRM support.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/185056/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/185057/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/185058/>

The following three questions all received the same answer

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [185059] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the ability of people without access to identity documentation to participate in the private beta testing phase of the EU Settlement Scheme.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [185060] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether people without access to identity documentation are included in the private beta testing phase of the EU Settlement Scheme.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [185061] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether chipped identity cards will be accepted as a form of identification in the private beta testing phase of the EU Settlement Scheme.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The EU Settlement Scheme provides a streamlined, user-friendly, digital application system, with multiple service options to meet the needs of a varied customer base, including additional support for applicants who may need it.

In the initial pilot phase (Private Beta 1) applications could be made using a range of ID documents. The second pilot phase, which started on 1 November, aims to test the full digital end-to-end application process, of which the chip checker application is a key component. It allows applicants to prove their identity and the validity of their identity document remotely. We therefore require applicants to use this app when making an application and at this stage they can only do so using a chipped biometric passport.

Non-EU citizen family members must use a biometric residence card issued by the Home Office in order to prove their identity via the app.

The second pilot phase will also include some vulnerable individuals being supported by a small number of local authorities and civil society organisations.

When the Scheme opens more widely, the ID verification app will be only one of three options that applicants can use to verify their identity, along with posting their ID document to us or going to a face-to-face location.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/185059/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/185060/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/185061/>

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [188209] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 25 October 2018 to Question 182186 and with reference to the oral contribution of 5 November 2018 by the Minister for Immigration, what further assessment he has made of the potential merits of waiving the application fee for (a) any victim and (b) any dependent of trafficking or modern slavery with a positive reasonable grounds or conclusive grounds decision when applying for settled status.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: I am content that our approach to fees is reasonable, proportionate and fair to all EU citizens.

However, I will keep the approach on fees under review. More broadly, we are also considering how the EU Settlement Scheme can take into account the specific circumstances of victims of modern slavery and how to support the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) service providers to link victims up with the Scheme while they are in NRM support.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-05/188209/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-22/182186/>

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [189674] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to his Department's announcement of 25 October 2018 of a new fund to support vulnerable EU citizens apply for settled status, what assessment his Department has made of (a) the number of voluntary and community organisations which will be able to receive funds under this scheme, (b) the geographical coverage of those organisations and (c) whether the level of funding will be sufficient to meet demand for that support.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The invitation to tender documents will describe any constraints on what the funding may be utilised for in order to ensure the grant funding is delivered for intended outcomes and any restrictions on which organisations may apply. The grant scheme will enable organisations across the UK to apply for funding to support vulnerable EU citizens. Data modelling and sector engagement have been used to gauge potential geographical coverage and associated volumes that might be supported.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-09/189674/>

The announcement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-fund-to-support-vulnerable-eu-citizens-apply-for-settled-status>

The following six questions all received the same answer

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [191400] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Government's suitability criterion for settled status that the applicant must not be subject to a removal decision under the EEA Regulations on the grounds of their non-exercise or misuse of rights under Directive 2004/38/EC, whether his Department plans for non-working carers to be refused settled status on grounds of suitability.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [191401] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if his Department will carry out comprehensive sickness insurance checks for those who are economically inactive in order to check that applicants meet the suitability criterion for settled status whereby he or she must not be subject to a removal decision under the EEA Regulations on the grounds of their non-exercise or misuse of

rights under Directive 2004/38/EC.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [191402] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Government's suitability criterion for settled status that the applicant must not be subject to a removal decision under the EEA Regulations on the grounds of their non-exercise or misuse of rights under Directive 2004/38/EC, how misuse of rights will be defined.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [191403] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Government's suitability criterion for settled status that the applicant must not be subject to a removal decision under the EEA Regulations on the grounds of their non-exercise or misuse of rights under Directive 2004/38/EC, what steps he is taking to ensure that workers with (a) zero-hours and (b) part-time contracts are not refused settled status as a result of their employment status.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [191404] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Government's suitability criterion for settled status that the applicant must not be subject to a removal decision under the EEA Regulations on the grounds of their non-exercise or misuse of rights under Directive 2004/38/EC, whether the procedural guarantees provided for in Article 17(3) of the Draft Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community will apply to applicants who are refused settled status on suitability grounds.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [191405] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Government's suitability criterion for settled status that the applicant must not be subject to a removal decision under the EEA Regulations on the grounds of their non-exercise or misuse of rights under Directive 2004/38/EC, whether his Department has reviewed its definition of misuse of rights following the case of *The Queen on the application of Gunars Gureckis v Secretary of State for the Home Department*; *The Queen on the application of Mariusz Cielecki v Secretary of State for the Home Department*; *The Queen on the application of Mariusz Perlinski v Secretary of State for the Home Department* [2017] EWHC 3298 (Admin).

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The draft Withdrawal Agreement with the European Union published on 14 November 2018 protects the rights of EU citizens resident in the UK by the end of the planned implementation period on 31 December 2020 and their family members. Article 20 sets out the circumstances in which it may be appropriate to restrict the right of entry or residence to such an EU citizen or their family member.

The draft Withdrawal Agreement does not protect those who are not exercising or are misusing free movement rights, and it means that, while free movement rules continue to operate to the end of the planned implementation period, there will remain scope, consistent with the relevant case law, for a person to be removed from the UK on those grounds. It is logical that this is reflected in the Immigration Rules and published caseworker guidance for the EU Settlement Scheme, as it is in the provisions of and published caseworker guidance for the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2016 which provide for the operation in the UK of the Free Movement Directive (2004/83/EC). The guidance on the Regulations sets out how misuse of free movement rights is assessed and was reviewed following the *Gureckis*, *Cielecki* and *Perlinski* judgments in 2017.

However, the Statement of Intent on the EU Settlement Scheme published on 21 June 2018 made clear that the UK has decided, as a matter of domestic policy, to be more generous than the draft Withdrawal Agreement in certain respects. In particular, those applying under the scheme will not be required to show that they meet all the requirements of current free movement rules, such as any requirement to have held comprehensive sickness insurance or generally to detail the exercise of specific rights under EU law, such as the right to work. This means that an applicant will not be refused status under the scheme because for example they are not economically active, their employment is not full-time or they

do not hold comprehensive sickness insurance.

An applicant refused status under the EU Settlement Scheme on eligibility or suitability grounds will be covered by the procedural guarantees provided for in Article 18(3) of the draft Withdrawal Agreement. Subject to Parliamentary approval of the primary legislation required to establish a right of appeal for the scheme, we intend that, consistent with Articles 18(3) and 21 of the draft Withdrawal Agreement, those applying under the scheme from 30 March 2019 will be given a statutory right of appeal if their application is refused.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-14/191400/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-14/191401/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-14/191402/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-14/191403/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-14/191404/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-14/191405/>

Directive 2004/38/EC, referred to above, can be read at

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2004:158:0077:0123:EN:PDF>

The draft Withdrawal Agreement with the European Union, referred to above, can be read at

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/draft_withdrawal_agreement_0.pdf

The judgement in the court cases referred to above can be read at

<https://www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/r-gureckis-v-sshd-ors-20171214.pdf>

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [192820] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the suitability criterion for Settled Status that the applicant must not be subject to a removal decision under the EEA Regulations on the grounds of their non-exercise or misuse of rights under Directive 2004/38/EC, whether his Department will check whether (a) each applicant for Settled Status is exercising their rights under Directive 2004/38/EC or (b) it is those subject to a removal decision before they make their application for Settled Status who will be refused on suitability grounds.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Statement of Intent on the EU Settlement Scheme published on 21 June 2018 made clear that the UK has decided, as a matter of domestic policy, to be more generous than the draft Withdrawal Agreement with the European Union in certain respects. In particular, those applying under the scheme will not generally be required to show that they are exercising their rights under the Free Movement Directive (2004/38/EC). This means that an applicant will not be refused status under the scheme because for example they are not economically active, their employment is not full-time or they do not hold comprehensive sickness insurance.

However, the draft Withdrawal Agreement does not protect those who are not exercising or are misusing free movement rights. This means that, while free movement rules continue to operate to the end of the planned implementation period, there will remain scope, as a matter of law, for a person to be removed from the UK on those grounds. It is logical that this is reflected in the Immigration

Rules for the EU Settlement Scheme.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-19/192820/>

The draft Withdrawal Agreement with the European Union, referred to above, can be read at https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/draft_withdrawal_agreement_0.pdf

The Statement of Intent referred to above can be read at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/718237/EU_Settlement_Scheme_SOI_June_2018.pdf

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Kate Green (Labour) [190877] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps he plans to take to ensure that EU Settlement Scheme grant funding reaches groups (a) that have a real and established relationship with Roma communities and (b) in geographical areas where Roma communities are concentrated.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office has undertaken extensive engagement with the voluntary and community sector, which includes specific engagement with organisations that work with Roma communities across the UK, through organised meetings, fora, teleconferences and workshops. Evaluation of bids will include criteria on geographical coverage and the range of people to be supported.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190877/>

Information about the grant funding referred to above can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-fund-to-support-vulnerable-eu-citizens-apply-for-settled-status>

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Kate Green (Labour) [190879] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when he plans to publish the findings of the second phase of the testing of settled status applications which includes testing with Roma applicants.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: As set out in the Immigration Rules, the second phase of the private beta testing is open to workers in the health and social care sector across the country, as well as employees of all institutions classified as a Higher Education Institution listed on the Tier 4 sponsor register. This phase will also include some vulnerable individuals being supported by a small number of local authorities and civil society organisations. We will provide further details in due course of the planned phased implementation of the scheme, and we will continue to update Parliament as part of that process. The second phase of this private beta testing runs from 1 November to 21 December.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190879/>

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Kate Green (Labour) [190878] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will consider changing in the EU Settlement Scheme grant funding the eligibility criterion that applications can be for no more than 25 per cent of an organisation's annual income so that smaller community groups are not disadvantaged.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Following market engagement, the Home Office is considering accepting bids from organisations where the grant would exceed 25% of an organisation's annual income and how this might affect evaluation of a bid. The final criteria, including evaluation of financial viability, will be available in the invitation to tender documentation.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190878/>

Information about the grant funding referred to above can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-fund-to-support-vulnerable-eu-citizens-apply-for-settled-status>

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Matthew Offord (Conservative) [191486] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether the rights of EU citizens living in the UK to reside and work in this country will be maintained in the event that the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government does not want or expect a no deal outcome, and we have now reached an agreement, in principle, with the EU. The Prime Minister has been clear that, in any scenario, there is no question of asking EU citizens resident here to leave. On 21 September, the Prime Minister confirmed that, in the event of no deal, all EU citizens resident in the UK before 29 March 2019 will be able to stay, their rights will be protected, and they will be able to live their lives broadly as they do now.

On 30 October, the Prime Minister extended that commitment to citizens of Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein; and we are close to reaching an agreement with Switzerland. We will set out further details shortly, so those affected can have the clarity and certainty they need.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-14/191486/>

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Hywel Williams (Plaid Cymru) [191878] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the potential merits of allowing EU citizens living in the UK to retain dual nationality after the UK leaves the EU.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: In UK law a British citizen is not prevented from having another nationality. The Government has no plans to change this.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-15/191878/>

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Marion Fellowes (SNP) [192832] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether people who have been granted leave to land will have to apply for settled status once the UK leaves the EU.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Immigration Act 1971 provides that a person granted leave to land under earlier (repealed) legislation is treated for the purposes of the 1971 Act as having been granted leave to enter.

Resident EU citizens and their family members with limited or indefinite leave to enter the UK will not need to apply for pre-settled or settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme once the UK has left the EU. They will be able to do so if they wish and there will be no application fee for settled status where an applicant has valid indefinite leave to enter.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-19/192832/>

The following three questions all received the same answer

EU Nationals: Employment

Afzal Khan (Labour) [193613] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what right to work checks employers will have to carry out on EU citizens during the period between March 2019 and December 2020 in the event of the UK leaving the EU (a) with and (b) without a deal.

Afzal Khan (Labour) [193614] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what evidence of an EU citizen's right to work will an employer be required to check during the period between March 2019 and December 2020 in the event of the UK

leaving the EU (a) with and (b) without a deal.

Afzal Khan (Labour) [193615] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what right to work checks employers will be required to carry out on EU citizens in the event that the transition period is extended; and how employers will be able to distinguish between EU citizens who arrived (a) before the UK left the EU in March 2019, (b) during the originally planned transition period between March 2019 and December 2020 and (c) during the period that the transition is extended for after December 2020.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Employers already need to carry out right to work checks on EU citizens, as they do with all prospective employees. Current arrangements, under which EU citizens can demonstrate their right to work in the UK by producing their national passport or identity card, will continue after the UK leaves the European Union and for the entire duration of any implementation period.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-20/193613/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-20/193614/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-20/193615/>

Refugees: Yazidis

Helen Jones (Labour) [190781] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Yazidi women have been admitted to the UK under the vulnerable persons resettlement scheme.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The UK's resettlement programmes follow the humanitarian principles of impartiality and neutrality, which means that we resettle solely based on needs identified by UNHCR through their established processes, rather than on the basis of ethno-religious origin.

We believe that one way to protect the privacy of those being resettled and support their recovery and integration is to limit the amount of information about them that we make publicly available.

We therefore do not routinely publish a religious and ethnic breakdown of those who have been resettled, however internal management information indicates the proportions of refugees who are recommended for resettlement and those who are subsequently accepted for resettlement are broadly consistent across religious denominations.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190781/>

Refugees: Families

Paul Sweeney (Labour Co-op) [190933] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what assessment he has made of the ability of sponsors to meet the legal costs of refugee family reunion (a) applications and (b) subsequent reviews or appeals to those applications.

Reply from Lucy Frazer: The Government does not collect data on the private legal costs of individuals to assist with a refugee family reunion application.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190933/>

Immigrants: Children

Afzal Khan (Labour) [190963] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps he is taking to ensure that minors residing in Calais that have family in the UK are able to access family reunification procedures.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The primary responsibility for children in France lies with the French authorities. It is important that any children present in Calais claim asylum or otherwise engage with French authorities.

Under the EU Dublin Regulation the UK will accept all requests for transfer of an unaccompanied child's asylum claims with qualifying family in the UK and where transfer is in the child's best interests. In order to enter this process, a child must first claim asylum in the Member State in which they are present, and that State must request that the UK takes charge of their asylum claim.

As part of the Sandhurst Treaty, signed between the UK and France on 18 January 2018, we agreed a comprehensive package to support unaccompanied asylum seeking and refugee children. This includes a £3.6 million development fund to support eligible children through the Dublin process and ensures that those without any prospect for transferring to the UK are informed of their options. We have also agreed shorter timescales for acceptance and transfer under the Dublin process and a UK asylum liaison officer has been deployed to France to support this process.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190963/>

The Sandhurst Treaty, referred to above, can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/674885/Treaty_Concerning_the_Reinforcement_Of_Cooperation_For_The_Coordinated_Management_Of_Their_Shared_Border.pdf

Asylum: Standards

Anneliese Dodds (Labour Co-op) [182859] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what performance indicators are used for individual officers dealing with asylum seekers.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The UK has a proud history of providing protection to those who need it, in accordance with our obligations under the Refugee Convention and the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR).

All asylum claims lodged in the UK are carefully considered on their individual merits against a background of relevant case law and up to date country information. We ensure that claimants are given every opportunity to disclose information relevant to their claim before a decision is taken. Where an asylum claimant establishes a well-founded fear of persecution or serious harm in their country of origin, they are normally granted protection and are not expected to return there.

Asylum decision makers complete a number of variable events or activities which are weighted and used to calculate performance based on their time spent on casework. The cumulative weighting and total available time is used to calculate and report performance daily, weekly, monthly or for any specified period as required. There are no targets in respect of the number of grants or refusals which decision makers are expected to make each week.

Data on performance against the published service standard can be found on tabs Asy 10 and 11 at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/asylum-transparency-data-august-2018>
<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-23/182859/>

Asylum: Syria

Matthew Offord (Conservative) [191389] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have been resettled under the Syrian Vulnerable Person Resettlement Scheme; and if she will make a statement.

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.

As of June 2018, a total of 12,851 people had been resettled in the UK under the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS) since it began across 288 local authorities. The statistics are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>
<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-14/191389/>

Asylum: North East

Edward Davey (Liberal Democrat) [191260] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Guardian article UK asylum seekers refused housing over social cohesion issues, published 27 September 2018, what information his Department holds on whether local authorities have placed a temporary ban on people seeking asylum from being housed in (a) Durham, (b) Newcastle upon Tyne and (c) Sunderland; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The dispersal of Asylum Seekers across the UK requires the active participation of local authorities working with the Home Office in providing support and accommodation.

Local Authorities work with the Home Office and its partners to manage the housing of asylum seekers in the UK. We can confirm there are no areas where the dispersal of asylum seekers has been suspended on the basis of social cohesion issues. Officials will continue to work with Local Authorities to ensure dispersal of asylum seekers is managed effectively for those seeking international protection and the communities in which they are based.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-14/191260/>

The newspaper article referred to above can be read at

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/sep/27/uk-asylum-seekers-refused-housing-over-social-cohesion-issues>

The following four questions all received the same answer

Asylum: Maternity Services

Alex Sobel (Labour Co-op) [192900] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, whether pregnant asylum seekers with no leave to remain are charged different amounts for maternity services in different parts of the UK.

Alex Sobel (Labour Co-op) [192901] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, how many pregnant failed asylum seekers have been charged for maternity care between January and November 2018; and what the average amount of that charge was.

Alex Sobel (Labour Co-op) [192902] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what the cost to the public purse of invoicing pregnant asylum seekers with no leave to remain for maternity care in 2017-2018 was.

Alex Sobel (Labour Co-op) [192903] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what the proportion was of pregnant asylum seekers who paid in full their invoices for maternity care in (a) 2016 and (b) 2017.

Reply from Stephen Hammond: Asylum seekers and those failed asylum seekers supported by the Home Office under section 4(2) of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 or a local authority under section 21 or Part 1 (care and support) of the Care Act 2014 (Regulation 15(d)) are exempt from charge under the Charging Regulations. Charges for overseas visitors and migrants are set in accordance with national tariff and rules as laid out in the published guidance: 'Guidance on implementing the overseas visitor charging regulations'.

The Department does not hold data on the number of pregnant asylum seekers or failed asylum seekers who have been charged for maternity care for the years requested.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-19/192900/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-19/192901/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-19/192902/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-19/192903/>

Undocumented Migrants: Arrests

Anneliese Dodds (Labour Co-op) [187141] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the Government's policy is on suspected illegal migrants being arrested in public places.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Guidance on when and how Immigration Enforcement officers may arrest suspected illegal migrants can be found at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/537682/Arrest-and-restraint-v1.pdf

All immigration enforcement visits and operations which may involve arrest, require authorisation. Operations in public places are subject to a higher level of authorisation than other types of enforcement visit or operation and require the completion of a comprehensive risk and intelligence assessment. The nature of immigration enforcement activity means that there may be unplanned encounters as part of a planned operation. In such situations, officers will undertake a dynamic risk assessment and any action will be taken within the parameters of the guidance and the powers available to the officer.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-01/187141/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Asylum: Human Trafficking

Vernon Coaker (Labour) [193377] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the implications for his policies of the High Court judgment in respect of *K & Anor, R (on the application of) v Secretary of State for the Home Department* of 8 November 2018; and if he will make a statement.

Vernon Coaker (Labour) [193378] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the High Court judgment in respect of *K & Anor, R (on the application of) v Secretary of State for the Home Department* of 8 November 2018, when all victims of trafficking will have their subsistence rates restored to the higher level as required by that judgment.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The Government is committed to tackling the scourge of modern slavery and supporting those affected by this crime.

In 2017, Home Office Ministers agreed a comprehensive package of reforms to the National Referral Mechanism, which included the introduction of places of safety for those leaving situations of exploitation, trebling the period of move on support to assist victims moving out of government funded support and aligning the subsistence rates paid to potential victims of modern slavery with those received by asylum seekers.

In light of the judgment in *K and AM*, the Home Office has immediately reinstated the top up paid to those in the Victim Care Contract who are also receiving support from the asylum support system, so that they receive a total of £65 per week. We are currently putting in place processes to ensure that those who have been affected receive a full back payment as soon as possible, and will set out

how we plan to respond in due course, including our communications with all those affected.

We will work through the implications of this judgment in respect to our future approach to financial support. We are committed to reforming the National Referral Mechanism to ensure that as many victims of modern slavery as possible get the support they need.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-20/193377/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-20/193378/>

The judgement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/Admin/2018/2951.html>

Asylum: Human Trafficking

Alex Norris (Labour Co-op) [193523] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the High Court Judgement *K & Anor, R (on the application of) v Secretary of State for the Home Department* of 8 November 2018, how the back payments to victims of trafficking will be made; who will be responsible for administering the back payments to victims who have left the National Referral Mechanism; whether the back payments will result in any deduction from any other benefits; and what financial literacy support will be put in place to help victims manage large payments.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The Government is committed to tackling the scourge of modern slavery and supporting those affected by this crime.

In 2017, Home Office Ministers agreed a comprehensive package of reforms to the National Referral Mechanism, which included the introduction of places of safety for those leaving situations of exploitation, trebling the period of move on support to assist victims moving out of government funded support and aligning the subsistence rates paid to potential victims of modern slavery with those received by asylum seekers.

In light of the judgment in *K and AM*, the Home Office has immediately reinstated the top up paid to those in the Victim Care Contract who are also receiving support from the asylum support system, so that they receive a total of £65 per week.

We are currently putting in place processes to ensure that those who have been affected receive a full back payment as soon as possible, and will set out how we plan to respond in due course, including our communications with all those affected. These back payments will not be deducted from the asylum support payments which individuals may be receiving.

We are committed to reforming the National Referral Mechanism to ensure that as many victims of modern slavery as possible get the support they need.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-20/193523/>

The judgement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/Admin/2018/2951.html>

Asylum: Detainees

Kate Green (Labour) [190881] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many women are currently being held in immigration detention while their asylum claims are being processed.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The department currently does not record the information on the criteria as set; the number of women being held in detention while their asylum claims are being processed.

The number of women who were detained from 2010 Q1 to 2018 Q2 is available in table dt_13_q in the latest release of the 'Immigration Statistics, 'Year ending

June 2018', available from the Home Office website at;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-june-2018-data-tables>.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190881/>

Asylum: Detainees

Kate Green (Labour) [190882] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to page 28 of the independent report entitled Welfare in detention of vulnerable persons review: progress report, published on gov.uk in July 2018, what steps his Department is taking in response to the recommendation that it should take steps to identify women claiming asylum who are being held in detention whose cases would be better processed in the community.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Almost all asylum claims are processed in the community. Individuals who have their claim processed in detention have usually claimed asylum after being detained for removal, are detained for public protection reasons or have previously failed to comply with the UK's immigration rules. In response to recommendation 10 in Stephen Shaw's second report, we are considering whether more of those who claim asylum in detention could have their claims processed in the community.

In addition, the Home Secretary has undertaken to establish a pilot to manage vulnerable women in the community who would otherwise be detained in Yarl's Wood and we anticipate that the pilot will have a role in addressing recommendation 10 for women who have claimed asylum in detention.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190882/>

The report referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728376/Shaw_report_2018_Final_web_accessible.pdf

The following two questions both received the same answer

Immigrants: Detainees

Tulip Siddiq (Labour) [192933] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what progress he has made on the review commissioned by his Department earlier this year into the possible introduction of statutory time limits on immigration detention.

Tulip Siddiq (Labour) [192934] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what constitutes a reasonable period of time for a person to be detained at an immigration removal centre.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office has been engaging with international partners on their policies and practices in relation to time limits in detention. The review remains ongoing and once complete, we will consider the next steps.

For immigration detention to be lawful, there must be a realistic prospect of removal from the UK in a reasonable timescale. What is considered reasonable is fact-specific and will vary from case to case. It may be longer in cases involving foreign national offenders than in non-criminal cases, given the need to protect the public from harm by those whom we are seeking to deport. In all cases, detention is kept under regular review to ensure that it remains both necessary and appropriate.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-19/192933/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-19/192934/>

Deportation

Peter Bottomley (Conservative) [190742] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what advice his Department has received related to the policy and practice of the removal to another country of a person who last lived there as a young child.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The deportation of a foreign criminal is subject to the UK's obligations under the ECHR and the Refugee Convention. Where an Article 8 claim is made, consideration is given to the public interest in deportation to determine if it is outweighed by a foreign criminal's private or family life. The more serious the offence committed by a foreign criminal the greater the public interest in deportation.

In the case of a foreign criminal sentenced to a period of imprisonment of less than four years, the public interest requires deportation unless the exceptions to deportation, set out in paragraphs 399 and 399A of the Immigration Rules, are met.

In the case of a foreign criminal sentenced to a period of imprisonment of at least four years, the public interest requires deportation except where there are very compelling circumstances.

The Article 8 public interest considerations were approved by Parliament during the passage of the Immigration Act 2014.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190742/>

Deportation: Children

Afzal Khan (Labour) [190962] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether Calais leave status will be extended to minors present in Calais months before the demolition of the Calais camp in 2016 and who entered the UK through the family reunification route and now face deportation.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Calais leave is a bespoke form of leave, introduced specifically for those children transferred to the UK between 17 October 2016 and 13 July 2017 as part of the Calais camp clearance to reunite with family and who did not qualify for leave to remain in the UK under existing Immigration Rules. It was created in recognition of the specific circumstances that surrounded the clearance of the camp and the transfer of children to the UK.

In agreement with the French Government, the UK took unprecedented action to remove children from a dangerous situation to reunite them with their family in the UK. A total of 549 children were brought to the UK to join family members as part of this process. Granting leave to those transferred from Calais is in keeping with our ongoing commitment to those individuals.

The Dublin Regulation determines the Member State responsible for assessing an asylum claim and does not confer any right to remain in the UK. An unaccompanied child who is transferred to the UK to reunite with family here under the Dublin Regulation will have their asylum claim considered in line with our published policy and guidance. It would not be possible for the UK to unilaterally alter the purpose of transfers under the Dublin Regulation

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190962/>

Offenders: Deportation

Peter Bottomley (Conservative) [191246] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to Stephen Shaw's report entitled Assessment of Government progress in implementing the report on the welfare in detention of vulnerable persons, published in July 2018, what public comment other than his statement of 24 July 2018 he has made on Stephen Shaw's finding that it is disproportionate to deport foreign national offenders who were last resident in their country of origin when very young; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Since the Home Secretary's statement to Parliament on 24 July, he has made no further public statement about this finding. As set out in the Immigration Act 2014, Parliament has stated that the deportation of foreign criminals is in the public interest. The more serious the offence committed by a foreign criminal the greater the public interest in a deportation. However, this is subject to the UK's obligations under the ECHR and the Refugee Convention.

In the case of a foreign national sentenced to a period of imprisonment of at least four years, where the public interest requires deportation unless there are very compelling circumstances, the length of time a person has lived in the UK as well as the strength of their social, cultural and family ties to the UK are all relevant factors taken into account when considering an Article 8 claim.

The Government has no plans to amend the Article 8 public interest considerations approved by Parliament during the passage of the Immigration Act 2014.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-14/191246/>

The report referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728376/Shaw_report_2018_Final_web_accessible.pdf

The Home Secretary's statement referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-24/debates/03FA26A3-90A1-4E58-826A-1341ABA6D146/ImmigrationDetentionShawReview>

Legal Aid Scheme: Slavery

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [191399] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, pursuant to the Answer of 13 November 2018 to Question 188815 on Legal Aid Scheme: Slavery, whether the specific legal aid provision for victims of modern slavery and human trafficking for immigration advice and representation, including assistance with applications for leave to enter or remain, subject to means and merits testing, applies to applications for (a) permanent residence and (b) pre-settled status.

Reply from Lucy Frazer: An application for a residence is not an application for leave to enter or remain and legal aid to assist with such an application is outside the scope of the legal aid scheme.

The EU Settlement Scheme will be a streamlined, user-friendly process, in line with the draft Withdrawal Agreement with the European Union published on 19 March 2018, for resident EU citizens and their family members to obtain the UK immigration status which they will require in order to remain in the UK beyond the end of the planned implementation period on 31 December 2020. For those EU citizens who might need additional help when applying under the scheme, the Home Office has announced a grant scheme for the voluntary and community sector which will help to ensure support is available. An individual will not need to apply to the scheme if they hold either indefinite leave to remain in the UK or indefinite leave to enter. There is specific legal aid provision for victims of modern slavery and human trafficking for immigration advice and representation, including assistance with an application for these forms of leave.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-14/191399/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-06/188815/>

The draft Withdrawal Agreement referred to above can be read at

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/draft_withdrawal_agreement_0.pdf

UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

Asia Bibi

Lord Alton of Liverpool (Crossbench): To ask Her Majesty's Government what response they have made to requests to assist in the (1) safe passage and resettlement of, and (2) granting of asylum to Asia Bibi and her family.

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Williams of Trafford): My Lords, the release of Asia Bibi will be very welcome news to her family and to all those who have campaigned for her freedom. We welcome the ongoing assurances that the Government of Pakistan have given on keeping her and her family safe. As a matter of policy, and in accordance with our duty of confidentiality, the Government do not comment on individual cases. Departing from this policy may put individuals and their family members in danger.

Lord Alton of Liverpool: My Lords, I am grateful to the Minister for that reply. Is it not passing strange that while other Governments, 200 parliamentarians and the leader writers of national newspapers have all spoken powerfully and clearly calling for asylum to be granted to Asia Bibi, we take Trappist vows of silence? Recalling that Shahbaz Bhatti, who was the Minister for Minorities, and Salmaan Taseer, who was the Muslim governor of Punjab, were murdered for insisting on the innocence of Asia Bibi, does the Minister share my huge admiration for Pakistan's Chief Justice Mian Saqib Nisar and Justice Asif Saeed Khan Khosa, both of whom I met recently in Islamabad, who courageously and with great integrity acquitted and exonerated Asia Bibi, who was wrongfully sentenced to death and incarcerated for nine years? Does not their refusal to be dictated to by lynch mobs while we fail to offer asylum because of what Tom Tugendhat, the chairman of the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee, says is a fear of reprisals, undermine our belief in justice, human rights, the rule of law and religious freedom, and endanger us falling foul of, and succumbing, to blackmail?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I know the noble Lord will understand that I cannot comment on most of the points that he has made. ... I cannot, my Lords. Our primary concern is the safety and security of Asia Bibi and her family, and we want to see a swift resolution of the situation. A number of countries are in discussion about providing a safe destination once the legal process is complete. Therefore, it would not be right to comment further at this stage. The noble Lord also talked about religious freedom. I welcome the opportunity to say that we continue to urge all countries to guarantee the rights of all citizens, particularly the most vulnerable, in accordance with international standards.

Lord Anderson of Swansea (Labour): Does not the hesitation of the Government in this sense, either because of a fear of community backlash or because of perceived dangers to our high commission staff, speak volumes about their human rights commitment? Surely as far as Pakistan is concerned, the deal reached with the extremists by the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Imran Khan, tells us something about his human rights credentials and those of the Government of Pakistan.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Noble Lords can draw their own conclusions in this situation, but our prime concern is the safety and security of Asia Bibi and her family and we want a swift resolution of the situation. As I said earlier, I do not want to comment further because I do not want any individual or their family members to be put in danger.

The Lord Bishop of St Albans: My Lords, the Minister is in a very difficult position because the Government feel unable to speak. However, it is not just Christians who are suffering from these blasphemy laws but other groups of Muslims and other religious minorities. What efforts are Her Majesty's Government making to put pressure on the Pakistani Government to ensure that these blasphemy laws do not continue unjustly to affect these communities?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, as I said to the noble

Lord, Lord Anderson, we continue to urge all countries to guarantee the rights of all citizens in accordance with international standards. Our current position on minorities in Pakistan is set out in the Home Office country policy and the information note that we published, *Pakistan: Christians and Christian Converts*, which provides background, but it is important that each case involving asylum is considered on its individual facts and merits.

Lord Beith (Liberal Democrat): My Lords, while there may be things that the Government can do or say behind the scenes, and we hope they are doing so, surely the Minister is not trying to cast doubt on the fact that if someone arrived directly from Pakistan into this country who had been through the experiences that Asia Bibi has been through and faced the threat that she now faces, they would have an irrefutable claim for asylum under international law.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I am not trying to cast doubt on anything. Obviously I will not talk about individual cases. Anyone who arrives in this country and seeks asylum is dealt with on a case-by-case basis. I make the general point that this country has been generous over decades and indeed centuries to people coming here to seek our asylum and take refuge. I do not think the attitude of this country towards people who need our refuge should be in any doubt. ...

Baroness Warsi (Conservative): My Lords, I fully endorse the comments of the right reverend Prelate. I believe that it is not just time for those blasphemy laws not to be operated in a harsh way, it is time for those laws to be brought to an end. There have been press reports that Asia Bibi, if granted asylum in the United Kingdom, would potentially not be safe from some communities here. I wish to give my noble friend and this House full confidence. As someone who is deeply connected to British Muslim communities, I assure her that they are fully supportive of any asylum claim that Asia Bibi may have and that our country may afford her, and that she would be supported as she would be by all other communities in this country.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I thank my noble friend for her point on the various differing media reports on what this country might or might not do. Clearly every asylum claim is treated on its own merits. As I say, and I am sure my noble friend will attest to this, we have a long and proud tradition of granting asylum in this country to those who need it.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-11-20/debates/EC780CC3-1DC2-44FD-B1BC-0384CD1377F3/AsiaBibi>

The information note referred to above can be read at

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/741222/Pakistan - Christians - CPIN - v3.0 September 2018 .pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/741222/Pakistan_-_Christians_-_CPIN_-_v3.0_September_2018_.pdf)

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

British Nationality: Children

Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour) [HL11385] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the answer by Baroness Manzoor on 23 October (HL Deb, cols 763–5), whether they will clarify for which citizenship applications child fee waivers will apply.

Reply from Baroness Manzoor: I am grateful for the opportunity to put the record straight, having reviewed the Official Report with Baroness Lister. Fee waivers are available for immigration applications based on particular specified human rights reasons in which to require a fee before an application for leave to remain is considered would be a breach of that individual's human rights. Fee waivers are not available for citizenship applications, and therefore they are not available for children seeking registration as British citizens.

I fully acknowledge that the answer I gave on 23 October did not provide the complete picture and once again am grateful to be able to remove the ambiguity

my oral answer will have created. I will be writing to those who took part in the oral question to repeat the clarification in this answer.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-12/HL11385/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-10-23/debates/B354EE36-28BB-45ED-A6EA-9846CC39594D/ChildCitizenshipFees>

Human Trafficking: Children

Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative) [HL11272] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the Independent Child Trafficking Advocates scheme will continue to operate in the early adopter sites of Greater Manchester, Hampshire and Wales beyond 31 January 2019; and if so, what additional funding has been provided in respect of the continuation of the scheme in those areas.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Independent Child Trafficking Advocates provision will continue to operate in the early adopter sites in Greater Manchester, Hampshire and Wales up until the end of March 2020

We have invested an additional £2m to expand the ICTA provision into West Midlands, East Midlands and Croydon. This will mean the service will be available in one third of all local authorities by April 2019.

Together with our existing and valuable early adopter sites (Greater Manchester, Hampshire, and nationally in Wales), the new sites will help us to test and revise the ICTA service to ensure we have the right model for national roll-out.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-05/HL11272/>

Slavery: Children

Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative) [HL11273] To ask Her Majesty's Government what is the average length of time taken to make (1) a reasonable grounds decision, and (2) a conclusive grounds decision, for a child referred to the National Referral Mechanism as a potential victim of modern slavery.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The National Crime Agency (NCA) regularly publishes National Referral Mechanism (NRM) data but does not publish data about the timescales for reaching reasonable grounds or conclusive grounds decisions by either UKVI or the Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Unit in the NCA.

The NCA does not publish data regarding the age of potential victims when an NRM decision is made, only whether they were an adult or child at the time when the exploitation took place.

Latest statistics on NRM referrals and decisions are available at the following link:

<http://nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/national-referral-mechanism-statistics/2018-nrm-statistics>

Further information is also available in the 2018 UK Annual Report on Modern Slavery which was published on 18 October 2018.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-05/HL11273/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Human Trafficking: Children

Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative) [HL11274] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 1 November (HL10891), whether they will instruct the Independent Child Trafficking Advocate service to collect data on the status of a child's National Referral Mechanism referral at the point the child leaves the service so that the data can be anonymised and analysed.

Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative) [HL11275] To ask Her Majesty's Government,

further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 1 November (HL10891), (1) how many young people who turn 18 while awaiting a National Referral Mechanism (NRM) decision have been transitioned into services for adult potential victims under the Victim Care Contract provided by the Salvation Army, (2) how many of these young people have entered the adult support services on leaving the Independent Child Trafficking Advocate (ICTA) service, and (3) if this information is not currently available, whether they will instruct the ICTA service and the Salvation Army to collect data on the number of young people entering adult support services having been referred to the NRM as a child but still awaiting a decision and specifically the number of referrals made from the ICTA service to the Salvation Army.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Information on the Independent Child Trafficking Advocate (ICTA) service and children who exited support can be found in the Interim Report published by the Home Office in July, and the accompanying data tables on Gov.UK.

On turning 18, any young person who is awaiting an NRM decision, becomes eligible for support from The Salvation Army through the Victim Care Contract. It is part of the ICTA's role to ensure they effectively transition children turning 18 into appropriate support upon leaving the ICTA service. This can include services procured through The Salvation Army and a range of locally provided adult services. The transition of children out of the ICTA service, including when a child turns 18, is being examined as part of the next phase of the assessment of the ICTA service in early adopter sites and will form part of the final report, to be published in Spring 2019.

The Government has also commissioned an Independent Review of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 which is examining section 48 of the Act, which provides for ICTAs.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-05/HL11274/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-05/HL11275/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-22/HL10891/>

The report referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/730098/assessment-of-independent-child-trafficking-advocates-horr101.pdf

Slavery and Trafficking Reparation Orders

Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative) [HL11276] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many Slavery and Trafficking Reparation Orders under the Modern Slavery Act 2015 have been made in each year since the passing of the Act; how many victims have received compensation as a result of those reparation orders; and what was the (1) total, and (2) average, amount of those compensation awards.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: To the end of the calendar year 2017, the latest period of data that is available shows that no slavery, trafficking and reparation orders have been made.

We are currently using the review of the Modern Slavery Act to assess the effectiveness of these powers.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-05/HL11276/>

Press Releases

£500,000 fund launched to celebrate Windrush Generation throughout the year [England only]

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/500000-fund-launched-to-celebrate-windrush-generation-throughout-the-year>

and

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/windrush-day-grant-2019>

Chief Inspector publishes his report on the Home Office's management of asylum accommodation provision

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chief-inspector-publishes-his-report-on-the-home-offices-management-of-asylum-accommodation-provision>

UN General Assembly President defends 'landmark' migration compact

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2018/11/1026341>

New Publications

Briefing: Constituency casework: asylum, immigration and nationality

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN03186/SN03186.pdf>

An inspection of the Home Office's management of asylum accommodation provision February – June 2018

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/757285/ICIBI_An_inspection_of_the_HO_management_of_asylum_accommodation.pdf

The Home Office response to the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration's report: An inspection of the Home Office's Management of Asylum Accommodation Provision

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/757725/Formal_Response_Asylum_Accommodation.pdf

Asylum Support - Assurance Action Plan

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/757724/Action_Plan.pdf

Review of Applications by Tier 1 (General) Migrants Refused Under Paragraph 322(5) of the Immigration Rules

http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2018-1155/2018-11-22_Tier_1_General_paragraph_322_5_report.pdf

Operational instruction relating to earnings discrepancies and applications by Tier 1 (General) migrants

http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2018-1155/2018-11-22_Tier_1_General_paragraph_322_5_-_casework_guidance.pdf

News

Cutting EU migration could cost Scotland £2billion, according to Government

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2018/11/25/cutting-eu-migration-could-cost-scotland-2billion-according/>

Government accused of massaging immigration statistics in run up to Brexit vote
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/11/24/government-accused-massaging-immigration-statistics-run-brexit/>

Brexit: Backlash over May's EU nationals 'queue jumping' vow
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-46274118>

My deal will control migration without hitting jobs, says PM
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-11-19/news/my-deal-will-control-migration-without-hitting-jobs-says-may-h0c8x5lt9>

Theresa May accused of fuelling hate crime over claims EU migrants 'jump the queue'
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/theresa-may-eu-migrants-hate-crime-jump-queue-cbi-speech-conservatives-a8643456.html>

May has proved she can't be trusted over immigration
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-11-20/comment/may-has-proved-she-can-t-be-trusted-over-immigration-dxh879nfv>

Home Office 'wrongly tried to deport 300 skilled migrants'
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/nov/23/home-office-tried-to-deport-300-skilled-migrants-under-terrorism-law>

Language tests for foreign nurses to be made easier, regulator proposes
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/11/21/language-tests-foreign-nurses-made-easier-regulator-proposes/>

Language requirements for foreign nurses to be relaxed amid staffing crisis
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/health/english-language-requirement-nurses-lowered-nhs-staffing-crisis-a8645876.html>

Migrant workers send home £8bn to families
<https://www.bbc.com/news/education-46223217>

Migrants sending money home are being charged far too much – it's time we stopped taking their hard-earned cash
<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/unesco-remittances-migrants-money-abroad-foreign-aid-a8642876.html>

Scottish Guardianship Service becomes founding member of European Guardianship Network
http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3370_scottish_guardianship_service_becomes_founding_member_of_european_guardianship_network

Serious failings in provision of asylum accommodation
http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3369_serious_failings_in_provision_of_asylum_accommodation

Asylum seekers in 'damp, dirty, vermin-infested' housing
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-46282158>

Asylum seekers housed in dirty accommodation that fails to meet basic needs, finds government report
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-asylum-accommodation-housing-chief-inspector-borders-immigration-david-bolt-a8643256.html>

Migrants in rush to beat Brexit deadline

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-11-23/news/migrants-in-rush-to-beat-brexit-deadline-f0ksnjkjz>

Choose Love: the shop where customers buy gifts for refugees

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2018/nov/23/choose-love-pop-up-shop-london-customers-buy-gifts-refugees>

Ipswich school triggers inquiry into 'pupil aged 30'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-suffolk-46325248>

Asylum seeker 'schoolboy' is grown man, Home Office concludes

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/11/23/home-office-concludes-teenage-asylum-seeker-school-pupil-fact/>

Refugee schoolboy is an adult, says Home Office after pupils raise alarm

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/refugee-schoolboy-is-an-adult-says-home-office-after-pupils-raise-alarm-pvspf6t>

On the anniversary of the Kindertransport, we should reflect on why we're failing child refugees today

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/yvette-cooper-labour-refugees-kindertransport-anniversary-syria-alf-dubs-calais-children-a8644556.html>

Man who has lived in UK since age of 10 and has two British children facing imminent deportation

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/uk-man-facing-deportation-hilary-ineomo-marcus-nigeria-london-a8647401.html>

'They've robbed me of my life': Jamaican woman who has lived in UK since she was a child facing deportation after losing court battle

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/windrush-scandal-shanke-stewart-jamaica-court-home-office-deport-a8641761.html>

Polish men in Scotland twice as likely to take their own lives - job insecurity blamed

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17233768.polish-men-in-scotland-twice-as-likely-to-take-their-own-lives-job-insecurity-blamed/>

TOP

Community Relations

UK Parliament Debate

Citizenship and Civic Engagement (Select Committee Report)

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-11-19/debates/D29EB370-3646-4B7D-956F-ED63FD10DA33/CitizenshipAndCivicEngagement\(SelectCommitteeReport\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-11-19/debates/D29EB370-3646-4B7D-956F-ED63FD10DA33/CitizenshipAndCivicEngagement(SelectCommitteeReport))

Note that this debate also includes large sections relating to immigration.

The report which is the subject of the debate can be read at

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201719/ldselect/ldcitizen/118/118.pdf>

News

Mitzvah Day: Jews and Muslims come together to cook chicken soup

https://www.bbc.com/news/video_and_audio/video_experience_headlines

Mitzvah Day Brings Communities Together

<https://mcb.org.uk/mcb-updates/mitzvah-day-brings-communities-together/>

TOP

Equality

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Young Offenders: Ethnic Groups

Richard Burgon (Labour) [189759] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, pursuant to the Answer of 23 July 2018 to Question 165113 on Young Offenders: Ethnic Groups, if he will update that table with each month up to the most recently available figures.

Reply from Edward Argar: The information requested is in table 1 below relating to under 18 year olds in custody and is taken from provisional figures included within the regularly published Youth Custody data;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/youth-custody-data>

We are committed to tackling the over-representation of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic children in the youth justice system. In building on the Lammy Review, we are taking a broader view of how we can tackle the systemic causes of disproportionality across the system and engaging with key stakeholders, including other government departments, to develop proposals for intervention.

	Jun-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Sep-18
BAME young people in custody	413	415	409	400
% BAME of total under-18 custodial population (excluding unknowns)	48%	48%	47%	47%

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-09/189759/>

New Publications

Sir Mota Singh Memorial Lecture: Racial Equality and the Law

<https://www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/speech-lord-j-singh-racial-equality-and-the-law-lecture-13-nov2018.pdf>

Diversity and Judgecraft A talk by Sir Ernest Ryder, Senior President of Tribunals, United Kingdom

<https://www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/speech-by-spt-mpi-ejtn-wiesbaden-12112018.pdf>

News

'I don't want to be the UK's only black female history professor'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-46247776>

TOP

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Oral Answers

Hate Crime

Tom Arthur (SNP): To ask the Scottish Government what it is doing to tackle hate crime. (S5O-02570)

Reply from the Cabinet Secretary for Justice (Humza Yousaf): Hate crime has hugely damaging effects on victims, their families and communities, and we must all play our part in challenging it. We are doing a number of things as part of our ambitious programme of work to tackle hate crime and build community cohesion. That includes the recent launch, on 14 November, of our consultation “One Scotland: Hate Has No Home Here”, which will inform the content of modernised hate crime legislation that is fit for the 21st century.

In addition, on 26 September, our campaign to tackle hate crime was launched in partnership with Police Scotland. The campaign aims to encourage witnesses to report hate crime and sends a clear message that hatred and prejudice will not be tolerated in Scotland.

Our consultation is open to all individuals, communities and organisations, and it will inform future legislation to address identified needs and afford sufficient protection for those who need it. I hope that everyone with an interest will participate in the consultation process. ...

Tom Arthur: I welcome the work that the Scottish Government is undertaking. The day after this Parliament rose for the summer recess, my constituent Blair Wilson, who is from Neilston, was subject to homophobic abuse and a physical assault. Had we been subject to such an experience, many of us would have run, hidden or cowered, but Blair did not. He took out his phone. He took a selfie, and that image of his bloodied but smiling and defiant face sent a clear message that resonated not just across Scotland but around the world. Will the cabinet secretary join me in paying tribute to Blair? Does he agree that it is because of the dignity, compassion and values of people like Blair and countless others that, together, we will consign hate crime to history?

Reply from Humza Yousaf: I could not have articulated that point better than Tom Arthur. I add my own admiration for Blair Wilson and how he conducted himself in the aftermath of that terrible hate crime. A number of other people came out with their support for and admiration of Blair.

I have been the victim of hate crime and know how difficult it is to deal with. I know how much of a personal and emotional effect it can have. Nobody would have faulted Blair if he had chosen to deal with the situation in a personal way. However, as Tom Arthur says, instead he defiantly chose to tell his story and put out there some of the terrible hatred that gay people have to deal with and the homophobic abuse that he went through. So, yes, I join Tom Arthur in putting on record my admiration for Blair and for the countless others who stand defiantly in the face of hatred. There is simply no home for hatred in Scotland.

Liam Kerr (Conservative): Lord Bracadale’s expert review recommended that statutory aggravators rather than stand-alone offences should continue to be the core method of prosecuting hate crimes in Scotland. Why does the Scottish Government appear to be departing from that recommendation?

Reply from Humza Yousaf: We are not. We are going to consult on Lord Bracadale’s recommendations. We still think that statutory aggravators are the right way to go.

I do not know from where the member’s question stems. If it is about misogyny, we will consult and take views on that. The views that come back to us may well suggest that the issue of misogyny, which is deeply ingrained in our society and our institutions, may be looked at outwith the hate crime framework. I will wait to see the consultation responses, and I will shortly meet Engender and other

organisations that are vocal on the issue.

We are definitely consulting on the statutory aggravator that Lord Bracadale thought was the best approach to tackling hate crime. However, I will wait for the consultation responses on misogyny to come back before we undertake detailed consideration and define the best approach to tackling that issue.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11794&i=106683#ScotParlOR>

The consultation referred to above can be read at

<https://consult.gov.scot/hate-crime/consultation-on-scottish-hate-crime-legislation/>

Information about the campaign to tackle hate crime, referred to above, can be read at

<https://onescotland.org/campaigns/hate-crime-campaign/>

Lord Bracadale's review, referred to above, can be read at

<https://tinyurl.com/yaw2agps>

Hate Crime

Patrick Harvie (Green): To ask the Scottish Government whether it expects to legislate on hate crime during the current parliamentary session, following the end of the consultation process in 2019. (S5O-02575)

Reply from the Cabinet Secretary for Justice (Humza Yousaf): Our intention is to legislate on hate crime during the current parliamentary session. However, before doing so, it is essential that we have heard the voices of communities so that we are sure that the legislation we introduce is relevant, appropriate and fit for the 21st century.

Balancing new legislation with rights to free speech and civil liberties is also essential and we need to look carefully at the outcomes of our consultation—which is open to all individuals, communities and organisations—so that our legislation addresses identified needs and affords sufficient protection for those who need it. I hope that everyone with an interest will participate in the consultation process.

Patrick Harvie: I certainly agree that we should encourage everyone to participate in the consultation and I recognise the importance of that process. However, it is pretty much a decade since the arguments were first made for a comprehensive approach to hate crime instead of the piecemeal approach that we had seen before then, so the commitment to legislation during this parliamentary session is welcome.

I have a question about one of Lord Bracadale's review recommendations. He concluded that specific measures in relation to anti-immigrant sentiment would not be needed because that was already covered under racial grounds. Does the Scottish Government yet have a view on that? We have clearly seen an uptick in anti-immigrant and other far right sentiment, and it seems that a case can be made for some specific measures so that those matters can be dealt with as a distinct strand of hate crime.

Reply from Humza Yousaf: I am not the only one in this chamber who is the child of an immigrant. Many of us have seen that rise in anti-immigrant sentiment right across Europe, so Patrick Harvie's point is an important one to make.

In terms of the specifics of whether there should be a statutory aggravator, for example, for anti-immigrant prejudice, there is a section in the consultation that allows for an open, general question on what other issues we need to consider.

I will keep an open mind on the issue that Patrick Harvie raises. I have not taken a view one way or the other. The issue has been raised with me previously. As I say, there is a section in the consultation that allows for additional points to be raised. I encourage the member and others who have an interest in this particular question to respond positively to the consultation.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11794&i=106688&c=2130057#ScotParlOR>

Sectarian Vandalism

Fulton MacGregor (SNP): The First Minister will be aware of the attack on the Coatbridge cenotaph at the weekend, which was vandalised with sectarian graffiti. There were also reports of vandalism on the same day at a nearby church and at an Irish heritage centre in the town.

Will the First Minister outline the action that the Government is taking to combat sectarianism, and join me in condemning those incidents? Does she agree that an attack on a war memorial that commemorates people of all faiths and none, who lost their lives for our future, is totally unacceptable?

Reply from the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon): I agree whole-heartedly with Fulton MacGregor, and I condemn those disgraceful and despicable acts. There is no place in our society for any form of sectarianism, anti-Irish prejudice, racism or religious intolerance in any shape or form.

We recently launched a consultation on our hate crime legislation. I urge everyone to participate in the consultation in order to help us to improve our legislation and ensure that it is fit for purpose.

Legislation alone will not rid society of prejudice, which is why we have since 2012 invested record sums in work to tackle sectarianism, including funding the first national education resource on tackling sectarianism, which is freely available to all teachers.

I am sure that the whole Parliament will unite to condemn the disgraceful acts that Fulton MacGregor has described.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11795&i=106720#ScotParlOR>

UK Parliament, Home Affairs Committee

Hate Crime and its violent consequences Inquiry: evidence session

<http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/home-affairs-committee/hate-crime-and-its-violent-consequences/oral/92650.html>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Hate Crime: Convictions

Matthew Offord (Conservative) [191905] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what the conviction rate is for hate crime in the most recent period for which figures are available.

Reply from Lucy Frazer: In 2017, the most recent year for which figures are available, 7,888 defendants were proceeded against where the principal offence was one of the specific racially or religiously aggravated offences. Of those proceeded against, 6,084 defendants (77%) were convicted.

The conviction rate for other hate crime offences, where there is evidence of hostility or motivation against a person because of their perceived membership of a racial or religious group, or because of a perceived disability, sexual orientation or transgender identity are not separately recorded and could only be collected at disproportionate cost.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-15/191905/>

The following three questions all received the same answer

EU Nationals: Hate Crime

Hywel Williams (Plaid Cymru) [191873] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many cases of hate crime have been reported by European citizens living in the UK since the EU referendum 2016.

EU Nationals: Community Relations

Hywel Williams (Plaid Cymru) [191875] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the treatment of EU citizens living in the UK since the EU referendum 2016.

EU Nationals: Safety

Hywel Williams (Plaid Cymru) [191876] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps he has taken to ensure the wellbeing and safety of EU citizens living in the UK since the EU referendum 2016.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The Home Office does not hold data on the citizenship of the victims of hate crime.

The Government is committed to tackling all forms of hate crime, including that directed at EU citizens because of their nationality or race. The Hate Crime Action Plan refresh published in October 2018 sets out a comprehensive plan for doing so.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-15/191873/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-15/191875/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-15/191876/>

The Hate Crime Action Plan referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/748175/Hate_crime_refresh_2018_FINAL_WEB.PDF

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Hate Crime

Lord Pearson of Rannoch (UKIP) [HL11282] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 29 October (HL10678), whether the police and the Crown Prosecution Service definition of a hate crime includes hate speech.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Police and Crown Prosecution Service definition for flagging and identifying hate crime is:

"Any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice, based on a person's disability or perceived disability; race or perceived race; or religion or perceived religion; or sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation; or transgender identity or perceived transgender identity."

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-05/HL11282/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-15/HL10678/>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Luciana Berger (Labour Co-op) (1875) Sara Conference 2018 – That this House notes the commencement of the Sara Conference on women and antisemitism; supports the aims and efforts of the APPG Against Antisemitism and Antisemitism Policy Trust in seeking to highlight concerns about this gendered racist abuse; welcomes the cross-party nature of the initiative and the positive engagement of a wide range of stakeholders

in the process; further welcomes the opportunity the conference provides to address concerns about gendered antisemitic abuse and the barriers this presents for entry to public life; condemns the particular, targeted abuse of Jewish women; notes the support of Her Majesty's Government for the conference and further calls on the Government, relevant agencies, and others in civil society, to associate themselves with the Sara principles published for the conference including commitments to improve and enhance discourse both online and offline.

<https://www.parliament.uk/edm/2017-19/1875>

Press Release

Show Racism the Red Card call for Respect

<https://www.theredcard.org/news/2018/11/20/srtrc-call-for-respect>

New Publication

Racism in football

<https://blog.forzafootball.com/kick-it-out/>

News

Penny Mordaunt: female Jewish MPs 'a magnet for venom'

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/female-jewish-mps-a-magnet-for-venom-9msqfzd8g>

Labour's Jenny Rathbone suspended over Jewish comments

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-politics-46275221>

Brexit talk MP slams anti-EU letter as 'filth'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-cornwall-46247485>

Tide of violence prompts call to adopt definition of Islamophobia

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/tide-of-violence-prompts-call-to-adopt-definition-of-islamophobia-rmtr2rcqc>

'Who let this happen?': students rediscover antisemitism on Auschwitz field trip

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/nov/21/who-let-this-happen-students-rediscover-antisemitism-on-auschwitz-field-trip>

Holocaust denial is changing – the fight against it must change too

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/nov/21/holocaust-denial-changing-antisemitism-far-right>

Students visit death camps to tackle antisemitism rise

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-11-21/news/students-visit-death-camps-to-tackle-antisemitism-rise-z0lkwvch2>

£1m payout for victim of racial bias at King's College Hospital

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/1m-payout-for-victim-of-racial-bias-at-king-s-college-hospital-vxf3h6kv5>

Racism in football: Study finds half of UK fans have witnessed racism while watching matches

<https://www.bbc.com/sport/football/46283853>

54% of football fans have witnessed racist abuse at matches, report says

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2018/nov/21/football-fans-racist-abuse-report-kick-it-out>

Sheku Bayoh family lead anti-racism march in Glasgow

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17254308.sheku-bayoh-family-lead-anti-racism-march-in-glasgow/>

Nightclub denies racism after black friends turned away

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/nightclub-denies-racism-after-black-friends-turned-away-mk0ftt978>

Drunken racists beat up Italian barman because they thought he was Muslim

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/italian-barman-muslim-racist-attack-drunk-dario-antonioni-london-crown-court-trial-a8644541.html>

Charlie Brown cartoon labelled racist over depiction of Thanksgiving dinner

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/charlie-brown-thanksgiving-special-racist-episode-friends-the-simpsons-snoopy-franklin-a8650021.html>

TOP

Other UK Parliament and Government

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Schools: Meat

John Spellar (Labour) [190757] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what discussions his Department has had with Lancashire County Council on the Council's ban on halal and kosher meat in school meals.

Reply from Nadhim Zahawi: The department has had no discussions with Lancashire County Council with regards to their ban on halal and kosher meat in school meals. The government sets out required minimum standards for school food in the School Food Standards to ensure that children are served healthy, nutritious meals at school. The standards do not specify food requirements in terms of cultural and religious needs.

Headteachers, governors and their caterers are best placed to make decisions about their school food policies, which includes acting reasonably to provide choices that take account of cultural, religious and special dietary needs. Schools that choose to arrange their school meals through a local authority or another catering organisation may wish to take this into consideration. Schools may consider providing both halal and non-halal or kosher food each day, or ensuring that dishes are clearly labelled to allow pupils to select the appropriate choice.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190757/>

Religious Buildings: VAT

Graham P Jones (Labour) [190861] To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether he has plans to remove VAT from services and items included for the repair and maintenance of (a) churches and (b) other religious buildings.

Reply from Mel Stride: Under the current EU rules, the government cannot

remove VAT on the repair and maintenance of places of worship.

The government recognises the importance of places of worship in our communities and provides funding to cover the cost of repairs and maintenance of listed places of worship through The Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme, managed by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190861/>

Information about the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <http://www.lpwscheme.org.uk/>

Forced Marriage

Philip Davies (Conservative) [191895] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 15 October 2018 to Question 174014 on Force Marriage, if he will provide that same information by geographical location.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The UK is a world leader in the fight to stamp out the brutal practice of forced marriage, with our joint Home Office and Foreign and Commonwealth Office Forced Marriage Unit (FMU) leading efforts to combat it both at home and abroad. We made forced marriage a criminal offence in 2014 to better protect victims and send a clear message that this abhorrent practice is totally unacceptable and will not be tolerated in the UK. To date, there have been four convictions under the offence.

Due to the small numbers of referrals, charges and convictions this information is not available by geographic location to prevent the risk of victims being identified. This is important as victims of Forced Marriage may have the protection of lifetime anonymity.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-15/191895/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-09-12/174014/>

Female Genital Mutilation

Anneliese Dodds (Labour (Co-op)) [190934] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what assessment has been made of the effect of the legal duty to inform police of FGM on the rates of (a) disclosure of FGM and (b) medical treatment on the after-effects of FGM.

Reply from Jackie Doyle-Price: The decision by a patient to disclose female genital mutilation (FGM) to a healthcare professional is complex, and depends on many considerations. The FGM Mandatory Reporting duty (which applies only when the patient is under 18) is just one aspect of this.

The Home Office amended the police Annual Data Requirement (ADR) to allow police forces the opportunity from April 2018 to record, on a voluntary basis, offences of FGM which were initially reported to the police under the FGM Mandatory Reporting Duty. Subject to data quality checks, we expect the first dataset under this new voluntary ADR collection to be published in late 2019.

With this information in combination with the FGM Enhanced Dataset, published by NHS Digital, we will be able to consider whether there is evidence of impact of the FGM Mandatory Reporting duty.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190934/>

Female Genital Mutilation

Anneliese Dodds (Labour Co-op) [190936] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps his Department is taking to tackle barriers to patient information being reported to the statutory database of people who have been subjected to FGM.

Reply from Jackie Doyle-Price: The Female Genital Mutilation Enhanced Dataset is collected via the NHS Digital Clinical Audit Platform (CAP), which is an easy to use, intuitive, data submission tool that needs no specific training. NHS Digital has published clear guidance online to support National Health Service organisations to register to access CAP and to submit information on the system. In 2017, the process was simplified and streamlined to further support primary care practices to register on the CAP, and it was confirmed that the Senior Partner or Caldicott Guardian at a practice can submit the registration to access CAP.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190936/>

Female Genital Mutilation

Anneliese Dodds (Labour Co-op) [190935] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment his Department has made of the effectiveness of the approaches taken by different police forces when they are notified by a body which is legally bound to report FGM that a girl or woman has been subject to FGM.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a crime and it is child abuse. The Government is clear that we will not tolerate a practice that can cause extreme and lifelong suffering to women and girls.

The Serious Crime Act 2015 introduced a new FGM mandatory reporting duty requiring all regulated health, social care and teaching professionals to report known cases of FGM in under 18s directly to the police.

The Home Office has published information for the professionals subject to the duty and the police on GOV.uk. This makes clear that upon receipt of a report the police will record the information and initiate a multi-agency response, in line with local safeguarding arrangements.

To improve understanding of the prevalence of so-called 'Honour Based Violence' including FGM, we amended the police Annual Data Requirement (ADR) to allow police forces the opportunity from April 2018 to record on a voluntary basis where a crime has been committed in the context of preserving the 'honour' of a family or community. This new voluntary collection is also capturing police recorded offences of FGM which were initially reported to the police under the duty.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-13/190935/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Black Cultural Archives

Baroness Bull (Crossbench) [HL11373] To ask Her Majesty's Government what consideration they have given to supporting the Black Cultural Archives as a unique national heritage centre for African and Caribbean communities in Britain.

Reply from Lord Ashton of Hyde: The Black Cultural Archives (BCA) makes an important contribution to preserving and celebrating the diverse cultural heritage of Britain, as well as supporting the local community in Lambeth.

BCA has received significant support, including over £4 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund to restore and develop Raleigh Hall in Brixton as a permanent home and heritage centre for BCA's archives and collections.

DCMS is working with BCA, alongside The National Archives and other DCMS public bodies, to help it to become financially sustainable and to seek to develop its ambitions to become a national resource.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-12/HL11373/>

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Brexit

New Publications: Scottish Government and Parliament

Brexit cost

<https://www.gov.scot/news/brexit-cost/>

The UK's Departure from the European Union - An overview of the Withdrawal Agreement

<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdnep.azureedge.net/published/2018/11/26/The-UK-s-Departure-from-the-European-Union---An-overview-of-the-Withdrawal-Agreement/SB%2018-78.pdf>

New Publications: UK Government

Prime Minister's letter to the nation: 24 November 2018

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pm-letter-to-the-nation-24-november-2018>

Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community, as endorsed by leaders at a special meeting of the European Council on 25 November 2018

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/759019/25_November_Agreement_on_the_withdrawal_of_the_United_Kingdom_of_Great_Britain_and_Northern_Ireland_from_the_European_Union_and_the_European_Atomic_Energy_Community.pdf

Political declaration setting out the framework for the future relationship between the European Union and the United Kingdom

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/37059/20181121-cover-political-declaration.pdf>

Explainer for the agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/756376/14_November_Explainer_for_the_agreement_on_the_withdrawal_of_the_United_Kingdom_of_Great_Britain_and_Northern_Ireland_from_the_European_Union_1.pdf

Prime Minister call with First Minister Sturgeon: 20 November 2018

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-call-with-first-minister-sturgeon-20-november-2018>

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New Publications

Updated Guidance: Making changes to your charity

<https://www.oscr.org.uk/media/3350/2018-11-19-making-changes-to-your-charity.pdf>

Briefing: Polygamy

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN05051/SN05051.pdf>

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Other News

Parents left in dark over 'inhumane' meat

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/parents-left-in-dark-over-inhumane-meat-fjpkcpmj8>

Meet the traumatised Asian men who are trapped in forced marriages

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/meet-the-traumatised-asian-men-who-are-trapped-in-forced-marriages-9n2cl5tsr>

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Bills in Progress ** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

Human Tissue (Authorisation) (Scotland) Bill

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/108681.aspx>

Vulnerable Witnesses (Criminal Evidence) (Scotland) Bill

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/108702.aspx>

UK Parliament

**** Border Control Bill**

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

Bill as introduced

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2017-2019/0042/18042.pdf>

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>

Third Reading, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-11-19/debates/705F1F05-EDB8-4D7C-ADBD-527BEFB91BEC/ChildrenAct1989\(Amendment\)\(FemaleGenitalMutilation\)Bill\(HL\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-11-19/debates/705F1F05-EDB8-4D7C-ADBD-527BEFB91BEC/ChildrenAct1989(Amendment)(FemaleGenitalMutilation)Bill(HL))

EEA Nationals (Indefinite Leave to Remain) Bill

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

Gypsy and Traveller Communities (Housing, Planning and Education)

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

Online Forums Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/onlineforums.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

The future of civil partnership in Scotland (closing date 21 December 2018)

<https://consult.gov.scot/family-law/the-future-of-civil-partnership-in-scotland/>

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Bill (closing date 4 January 2018)

<https://consult.gov.scot/violence-against-women-team/female-genital-mutilation/>

Shortage occupation list review 2018 (closing date 6 January 2019)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/754865/SOL_call_for_evidence_Final_Version_for_publication.pdf

Equality and Human Rights Commission Draft Strategic Plan 2019 to 2022 (closing date 7 January 2019)

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work-have-your-say>

Ethnicity pay reporting (closing date 11 January 2019)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/747546/ethnicity-pay-reporting-consultation.pdf

Preventing and tackling forced marriage (closing date 23 January 2019)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/756200/Forced_Marriage_Consultation.pdf

One Scotland: Hate Has No Home Here (closing date 24 February 2019)
<https://consult.gov.scot/hate-crime/consultation-on-scottish-hate-crime-legislation/>

Social inclusion, loneliness and belonging in society (closing date not stated)
<http://app.surveymethods.com/EndUser.aspx?B397FBE3BAF0E3E2B3>

Teaching Migration & Empire Survey (closing date not stated)
<http://app.surveymethods.com/EndUser.aspx?88ACC0D881CBDDD882>

Raising skills and standards of supporters of refugees and asylum seekers
(closing date not stated)
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3R8SDYN>

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>

Cyber grants now available to Scottish charities **Closing date for applications: 18 December 2018**

The cyber grants help charities to meet the costs of preparing for and receiving Cyber Essentials accreditation. Eligible organisations can receive up to £1,000 towards the costs of achieving Cyber Essentials accreditation. For information and to apply see

<https://scvo.org.uk/digital/evolution/cyber-resilience>

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**** this week!**

Diversity Works - Inclusive Business Project

26 November 2018 in Glasgow (9.30-1.30)

Adopt an Intern launch of a project providing an opportunity for Private, Public and Third Sector businesses to examine their current diversity recruitment practices in the context of the labour market in Scotland. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y7j3mkh3>

**** this week!**

Dementia in BME Communities

27 November 2018 in Stirling (10.30-12.30)

Central Scotland Regional Equality Council awareness session for BME people affected by dementia and their carers, healthcare providers, public and private sector staff, and voluntary organisations. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y8okfe37>

**** this week!**

Bullying – It's never acceptable

28 November 2018 in Inverness (9.30-4.30)

RespectMe training on bullying behaviours and practical strategies which can be used to address bullying behaviour wherever it occurs. For information see

<https://actiononprejudice.info/events/bullying-never-acceptable-multiple-dates-locations/>

**** this week!**

Scotland's Census 2021 Questions and Outputs

29 November 2018 in Aberdeen (9.30-4.00)

5 December 2018 (9.30-4.00)

National Records of Scotland event to provide an update on the development of questions and outputs for the 2021 census, including the ethnicity, national identity, and religion questions. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/ydyh6778>

**** this week!**

Defending Human Rights

29 November 2018 in Edinburgh (2.00-4.00)

Human Rights Consortium Scotland round table to hear about what it means to defend human rights in Scotland and overseas. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/ya5oqk5y>

One Scotland: Hate Has No Home Here

4 December 2018 in Lockerbie (10.00-1.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/y85utdlh>

6 December 2018 in Inverness (12.00-3.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/yc4q8k4h>

16 January 2019 in Glasgow (10.00-1.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/y7aqqavn>

17 January 2019 in Stornaway (10.00-1.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/yczkv4gm>

22 January 2019 in Dundee (10.00-1.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/y93w7aq4>

24 January 2019 in Galashiels (10.00-1.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/y9jlfzds>

31 January 2019 in Edinburgh (10.00-1.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/y9rygo77>

6 February 2019 in Aberdeen (12.00-3.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/y9a9x6h8>

7 February 2019 in Shetland (10.00-1.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/yahlmwvm>

Scottish Government Hate Crime consultation meetings to provide information about the proposals, and enable individuals and communities to give their views. For information and to book a place, please click on the relevant link above.

EU Citizens' Rights after Brexit

5 December 2018 in Glasgow (2.00-4.00)

Scottish Government workshop to provide an understanding of upcoming changes to EU

citizen rights after Brexit, including what we know about applying for the new settled status. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y8po738g>

Equalities and Hate Crime Public Awareness

6 December 2018 in Cupar (6.00-8.00)

Fife Centre for Equalities sessions to find out about the Equality Act 2010, learn about how to report hate crime and how to get advice and support, and to share any concerns you may have about something that has happened to you or someone you know. For information about the Kirkcaldy event see <https://tinyurl.com/ybszq9wv> and about the Cupar event see <https://tinyurl.com/ydedubvb>

Overcoming Unconscious Bias

11 December 2018 in Kirkcaldy (9.30-4.00)

Fife Centre for Equalities training to help those in positions of leadership to understand hidden factors that contribute to the success or failure of organisational policy and strategy. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y97ofh8b>

Discrimination Law in 2019

21 January 2019 in Edinburgh (9.00-4.00)

Equality and Human rights Commission conference to provide authoritative guidance on important recent and proposed changes to discrimination legislation. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y775nbkz>

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Useful Links

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Interfaith Scotland <https://interfaithscotland.org/>

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

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

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

ACAS <http://www.acas.org.uk/>

SCVO <https://scvo.org.uk/>

Volunteer Scotland <https://www.volunteerscotland.net/>

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

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

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

Volunteer Scotland Disclosure Services <https://www.volunteerscotland.net/for-organisations/disclosure-services/>

BBC News <https://www.bbc.com/news>

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