

MEMO



Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

MEMO is produced by the [Scottish Council of Jewish Communities](#) in partnership with [BEMIS](#).

It provides an overview of information of interest to minority ethnic communities in Scotland, including parliamentary activity at Holyrood and Westminster, new publications, consultations, forthcoming conferences and news reports.

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Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month.

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

Please note that the Scottish and UK Parliaments were in recess last week.

HMle review gives BEMIS an “excellent” report

A newly published HMle review rates the impact made by BEMIS in local communities as “excellent”, and praises BEMIS for making a significant difference to the organisations it supports. Organisations contacted by HMle expressed an extremely high rate of satisfaction, with 96.3% rating the overall service provided by BEMIS as good to excellent.

HMle identified BEMIS’s strong commitment to inclusion and diversity as one of its key strengths. In addition to its work with established minority ethnic communities, BEMIS proactively seeks to engage with new, and hard-to-reach groups, “empowering communities [and] working towards an inclusive society by establishing structures which recognise diversity”.

HMIe review gives BEMIS an “excellent” report (continued)

BEMIS is committed to ensuring that all minority communities are enabled to speak for themselves, rather than being spoken for by gatekeepers, and initiatives such as “MEMO” and “MEMO+” have encouraged minority communities to participate in consultations and external events, and led to a significant increase in consultation responses from minority ethnic communities.

This commitment to organisations speaking for themselves is also evidenced by the energy BEMIS devotes to capacity building, which ensures that local projects become self sustaining, and no longer require significant support from BEMIS staff.

The report also praises BEMIS’s highly committed board of directors and staff who bring with them an excellent range of professional skills and a clear understanding of their responsibilities. Together they work “to ensure that the diverse ethnic minorities voluntary sector and the communities that this sector represents are fully recognised and supported as a valued part of civic society and a multicultural Scotland.”

To read the report see

<http://www.hmie.gov.uk/documents/inspection/BEMIS.html#4>

Immigration and Asylum

Press Release

A comprehensive vision for an integrated European border management system for the 21st Century

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/08/215&format=HTML&aged=0&language=en&guiLanguage=en>

News

Protest at deportation dawn raids

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/bristol/7240374.stm>

Curry houses 'need more migrants'

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7242095.stm>

30 saved from sex traffickers in Scotland

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2042954.0.30_saved_from_sex_traffickers_in_Scotland.php

Hospital defends treatment in asylum seeker death

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2008/feb/13/nhs.immigrationandpublicservices>

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Race Relations

Press Release

Colleges to play a greater role in promoting community cohesion and preventing extremism

<http://www.dius.gov.uk/press/11-02-08.html>

News

Mixed schools 'help communities'

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/lancashire/7244965.stm>

Let multiculturalism speak for itself

<http://www.independent.co.uk/opinion/commentators/john-rentoul/john-rentoul-let-multiculturalism-speak-for-itself-783280.html>

We can't put the blame for terrorism solely on our multicultural society

<http://www.independent.co.uk/opinion/commentators/deborah-orr/deborah-orr-we-cant-put-the-blame-for-terrorism-solely-on-our-multicultural-society-782986.html>

'I don't hate Muslims. I hate Islam,' says Holland's rising political star

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2008/feb/17/netherlands.islam>

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Equality

New publication

Black, Migrants and Ethnic Minority Women Scientists Position in Research and Academic Careers in Europe

<http://newscientist.ulb.ac.be/NEWSFinalreports/NEWSreport.pdf>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Press Release

Civil Liberties Committee backs Morten Kjaerum for director of the Fundamental Rights Agency

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress_page/017-20964-042-02-07-902-20080211IPR20868-11-02-2008-2008-false/default_en.htm

Racism and Religious Hatred (continued)

New publication

Antisemitic Incidents Report 2007

http://www.thecst.org.uk/docs/Incidents_Report_07.pdf

News

New concerns over BNP finances

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/file_on_4/7239316.stm

Six years for woman who knifed Asian boy

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2041050.0.six_years_for_woman_who_knifed_asian_boy.php

Stab woman made 'terrorist' claim

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/glasgow_and_west/7242727.stm

6 years for knife attack on Asian teenager

<http://news.scotsman.com/scotland/6-years-for-knife-attack.3776088.jp>

Family 'devastated' over vandalism

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/latest-national-news/Family-39devastated39-over-vandalism.3779157.jp>

Centre Set Up As Tribute To Stephen Lawrence Attacked By Vandals After Just A Week

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/2008/02/14/centre-set-up-as-tribute-to-stephen-lawrence-attacked-by-vandals-after-just-a-week-86908-20319511>

Hearts fan banned for sectarian singing

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/edinburgh/Hearts-fan-banned-for-sectarian.3780980.jp>

Moderator says anti-English bigotry is 'like sectarianism'

<http://scotlandonsunday.scotsman.com/scotland/Moderator-says-antiEnglish-bigotry-is.3786145.jp>

Racism 'rife in fashion industry'

<http://news.scotsman.com/uk/Racism-39rife-in-fashion-industry39.3786190.jp>

Why racism stalked the London catwalk

<http://lifeandhealth.guardian.co.uk/fashion/story/0,,2257518,00.html>

I'm so looking forward to when race is not an issue

<http://lifeandhealth.guardian.co.uk/fashion/story/0,,2257520,00.html>

Fashion is racist: insider lifts lid on 'ethnic exclusion'

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/fashion-is-racist-insider-lifts-lid-on-ethnic-exclusion-782974.html>

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

Models often too afraid to launch a claim

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/models-often-too-afraid-to-launch-a-claim-782975.html>

'Why should catwalks be so white?'

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/why-should-catwalks-be-so-white-782973.html>

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New Publication

EU Annual Report On Human Rights 2007

[http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cmsUpload/2007.5997-EN-EU annual report on human rights 2007.pdf](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cmsUpload/2007.5997-EN-EU_annual_report_on_human_rights_2007.pdf)

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Other News

Ethnic groups urged to give blood

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/7220033.stm>

Danish papers reprint cartoon of prophet

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/foreign/display.var.2042911.0.Danish_papers_reprint_cartoon_of_prophet.php

Danish Muhammad cartoon reprinted

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/7242258.stm>

Mela founder honoured for work in Asian arts

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2046720.0.mela_founder_honoured_for_work_in_asian_arts.php

Treasury plans sharia bonds

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/politics/article3383220.ece>

Darling to decide on use of 'Sharia bonds' for public spending

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/darling-to-decide-on-use-of-sharia-bonds-for-public-spending-783435.html>

Other News (continued)

New sharia row over Chancellor's plans for 'Islamic bonds'

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/pages/live/articles/news/news.html?in_article_id=515248&in_page_id=1770&ct=5

Sharia law at the Treasury and a drift to Islam

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/pages/live/articles/news/newscomment.html?in_article_id=515235&in_page_id=1787&in_a_source=

It's tradition, not religion, that wrecks so many lives

http://women.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/women/relationships/article3380987.ece

Wikipedia defies 180,000 demands to remove images of the Prophet

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/2008/feb/17/wikipedia.islam>

Archbishop ready to defend himself

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latest-national-news/Archbishop-ready-to-defend-himself.3762956.jp>

Archbishop faces church leaders for first time since Sharia controversy

<http://news.scotsman.com/uk/Archbishop-faces-church-leaders-for.3763166.jp>

Was Archbishop of Canterbury right to raise Sharia debate?

<http://news.scotsman.com/opinion/Was-Archbishop-of-Canterbury-right.3762987.jp>

Archbishop defends his 'misleading choice of words' in sharia law row

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2036311.0.Archbishop_defends_his_misleading_choice_of_words_in_sharia_law_row.php

Archbishop sorry for 'unclarity' but insists Sharia debate right

<http://news.scotsman.com/uk/Archbishop-sorry-for-39unclarity39-but.3766586.jp>

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Bills in Progress

** New or updated this week

Holyrood

Budget Bill (as passed)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/05-Budget/b5s3-aspassed.pdf>

Glasgow Commonwealth Games Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/04-GlasgowCommGames/b4s3-introd.pdf>

Public Health Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/03-PublicHealth/b3s3-introd.pdf>

Bills in Progress (continued) **Westminster**

Counter-Terrorism Bill

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmbills/063/2008063.pdf>

Explanatory Notes

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmbills/063/2008063.pdf>

Criminal Justice and Immigration Bill

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmbills/015/08015.i-vii.html>

Human Rights Act 1998 (Meaning of Public Authority) Bill

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200607/cmbills/043/2007043.pdf>

Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200708/ldbills/006/2008006.pdf>

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Consultations (closing date)

** New or updated this week

Marriage Visas: Pre-Entry English Requirement For Spouses (27 February 2008)

<http://www.bia.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/preentryenglishrequirement/englishforspouseconsultation.pdf?view=Binary>

Marriage to Partners from Overseas (27 February 2008)

<http://www.bia.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/marriage topartnersfromoverseas/marriagepartnersfromoverseas.pdf?view=Binary>

Paying for water services 2010-14: A consultation on the principles of charging for water services (29 February 2008)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/204476/0054421.pdf>

"Face-to-Face and Side-by-Side": A framework for inter faith dialogue and social action (7 March 2008)

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/communities/pdf/613367>

Consultations (continued)

Diversity Delivers: Consultation on the proposed strategy for enhancing equal opportunities in Scotland's ministerial public appointments process (7 March 2008)

<http://www.ocpa-scot.org.uk/consultations/documents/DiversityDeliversConsultationNov2007FINALPDF.pdf>

- **Annex A: Summary of the Ministerial Public Appointments Process in Scotland**
<http://www.ocpa-scot.org.uk/consultations/documents/AnnexA-TheMinisterialPublicAppointmentsProcessinScotland.pdf>
- **Annex B: Summary of research conducted**
<http://www.ocpa-scot.org.uk/consultations/documents/AnnexB-SummaryofResearchConducted.pdf>
- **Annex C: Stage One Research**
<http://www.ocpa-scot.org.uk/consultations/documents/AnnexC-StageOneResearch.pdf>
- **Annex D: Stage Two Research**
<http://www.ocpa-scot.org.uk/consultations/documents/AnnexD-StageTwoResearch.pdf>
- **Annex E: Summary of Stage Three Research**
<http://www.ocpa-scot.org.uk/consultations/documents/AnnexE-StageThreeResearch.pdf>
- **Annex F: Summary of Previous Research on Diversity in Public Appointments**
<http://www.ocpa-scot.org.uk/consultations/documents/AnnexF-SummaryofPreviousResearchonDiversityinPublicAppointments.pdf>
- **Annex G: Legal Duties**
<http://www.ocpa-scot.org.uk/consultations/documents/AnnexG-LegalDuties.pdf>
- **Annex H: The Public Appointments Hallmark**
<http://www.ocpa-scot.org.uk/consultations/documents/AnnexH-ThePublicAppointmentsHallmark.pdf>
- **Annex I: Rapid Impact Assessment for the Proposed Strategy**
<http://www.ocpa-scot.org.uk/consultations/documents/AnnexH-ThePublicAppointmentsHallmark.pdf>

Visitor Visas (10 March 2008)

<http://bia.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/visitorsconsultationpaper/visitorvisaconsultation.pdf?view=Binary>

Forced Marriage (Civil Protection) Act 2007 – Relevant Third Party (14 March 2008)

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/docs/consultation-31-07.pdf>

Focusing English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) on Community Cohesion (4 April 2008)

<http://www.esolconsultation.org.uk/>

IMPACT Programme: Equality, Diversity and Privacy (4 April 2008)

http://www.npia.police.uk/en/docs/Equality_Diversity_and_Privacy_Consultationv1_0.pdf

Consultations (continued)

Meeting the Charity Test (7 April 2007)

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/DocumentViewer.aspx?id=5455d7cc-a60c-456e-9d06-e623144e8359>

Border and Immigration Agency: Code of practice - Keeping children safe from harm (25 April 2008)

http://bia.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/keepingchildrensafe/uasc_codeofpractice.pdf?view=Binary

**** The Role of Further Education Providers in Promoting Community Cohesion, Fostering Shared Values and Preventing Violent Extremism** (6 May 2008)

<http://www.dfes.gov.uk/consultations/downloadableDocs/Community%20Cohesion%20PDF.pdf>

**** Glasgow 2014 - Delivering a lasting legacy for Scotland** (9 May 2008)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/212495/0056525.pdf>

Cohesion Guidance for Funders (26 May 2008)

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/communities/pdf/681891>

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Job Opportunities

[Click here](#) to find out about job opportunities advertised in MEMO+ Recruitment

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Funding Opportunities

**** 'Youth in the world'**

Closing date for applications: 15 April 2008

European funding to support youth projects to promote the exchange of experience and good practice in the field of youth and non-formal education, contribute to the development of youth policies, youth work and the voluntary sector, as well as to capacity-building and leadership development for youth organisations/structures, and to develop sustainable partnerships and networks between youth organisations. Projects must deal with one of the following themes:

- Strengthening of civil society, citizenship and democracy
- Fight against racism and xenophobia
- Inter-ethnic and inter-religious dialogue
- Post-conflict resolution and reconstruction
- The active role of women in society
- Minority rights

For information see http://www.enar-eu.org/Page_Generale.asp?DocID=16494&langue=EN

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Events/Conferences/Training

**** New or updated this week**

**** *this week!***

Meeting the Charity Test (consultation events)

18 February 2008 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 12.30; 2.00 – 5.00)

25 February 2008 in Aberdeen (10.30 – 1.30)

27 February 2008 in Glasgow (9.30 – 12.30; 2.00 – 5.00)

The Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator published its guidance "Meeting the Charity Test" in 2006, a guide as to how OSCR applies the charity test under the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. Since then there has been considerable development in the application of the charity test, and OSCR is now consulting on its revised draft guidance. For information, and to book a place, contact Martin Tyson on 01382 346892 / consultations@oscr.org.uk

**** *this week!***

An Introduction to Working with Asylum Seekers & Refugees

21 February 2008 in Glasgow

22 May 2008 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course is for people working with asylum seekers and refugees who need a comprehensive understanding of the core issues affecting those seeking sanctuary in Scotland; particularly relevant to people working in social work, housing, welfare, education, employment, health, community development or the justice system. For information contact the Scottish Refugee Council 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=67>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** this week!**

Equalities Awareness Training

21 February 2008 in Kilmarnock (9.30 – 4.30)

28 February 2008 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 4.30)

7 March 2008 in Inverness (10.00 – 4.00)

27 March 2008 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.30)

SCVO training course to raise awareness of the key concepts of equality, and gain an understanding of equalities legislation and its implications. For information contact Cathie Rowall 0141 225 8003 / cathie.rowell@scvo.org.uk

**** this week!**

Diversity Delivers (consultation events)

22 February 2007 in Inverness (10.30-3.00)

The Office for the Commissioner for Public Appointments in Scotland consultation events about enhancing equal opportunities in Scotland's public appointments process. For information contact Corynne MacLean 0131 718 6309 / info@publicappointments.org

Embedding Equalities within your organisation

25 February 2008 in Kilmarnock (9.30 – 4.30)

17 March 2008 in Inverness (9.30 – 4.30)

20 March 2008 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 4.30)

28 March 2008 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.30)

SCVO training for organisations who are looking to broaden their understanding of equalities issues and to those who are looking to incorporate equalities in to their everyday functions, including the design of services. For information contact Cathie Rowall 0141 225 8003 / cathie.rowell@scvo.org.uk

Let's improve Equal Opportunities in rural Scotland

26 February 2008 in Inverness (10.00 – 4.00)

SCVO conference to take stock of barriers to social inclusion and draw up a list of practical suggested improvements that will inform the future vision of the Equality & Human Rights Commission, the Scottish Government and Community Planning Partnerships. For information contact Morag Redwood 01463 258800 / morag.redwood@scvo.org.uk

**** Research into funding priorities of the Equalities and Human Rights Commission**

4 March 2008 in Glasgow (2.00 – 4.00)

SCVO-organised focus group on behalf of the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) to identify examples of good funding practice and key areas where there are gaps in funding awarded to equality organisations. This research has the potential to influence the EHRC's policy in how it prioritises funding to organisations working on the equalities issues in the voluntary sector. For information contact Janice Ralston 0141 225 8032 / janice.ralston@scvo.org.uk

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Working with Interpreters

4 March 2008 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to address the practical, ethical and professional issues regarding working with interpreters, including briefing on legal obligations and entitlement to services. For information contact the Scottish Refugee Council 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=61>

An Introduction to the Needs of Refugee Women

6 March 2008 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to develop a gender perspective to inform all work with refugee and asylum seeking communities, examine how the UN Refugee Convention relates to women's asylum claims, improve understanding of barriers which prevent refugee women from accessing services, and explore practical ways of improving service provision for refugee women. For information contact the Scottish Refugee Council 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=65>

**** BEMIS / Community Health Exchange (CHEX)**

Begins April 2008 in Glasgow (half day/week for 6 months)

Recent developments in health and social inclusion policy within Scotland have resulted in an increase in programmes/initiatives that target health inequalities and community involvement in health (e.g. community health projects and healthy living centres). Health Issues in the Community, a national training resource, is ideally suited to help equip local people who find access to mainstream educational difficult, for the real challenges that they face in developing community responses to health issues and becoming more active citizens. Accredited by the University of Edinburgh. For information contact Adnan Miyasar 0141 548 8047 / adnan.miyasar@bemis.org.uk

European Anti-Discrimination & Diversity Training

8-9 April 2008 in Glasgow

Two-day Runnymede Trust seminar, in association with the STUC, on the role of Non-Governmental Organisations and trade unions in the UK in combating discrimination on the grounds of racial and ethnic origin, age, disability, religions or belief and sexual orientation. For information see <http://www.runnymedetrust.org/news/10/30.html> or contact Sarah Isal 020 7377 9222 / sarah@runnymedetrust.org

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Useful Links

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

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

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

Useful Links (continued)

Directgov (links to UK Government Departments)

http://www.direct.gov.uk/DI1/Directories/AToZOfCentralGovernment/fs/en?CONTENT_ID=10013528&chk=8b2gQw

European Parliament <http://www.europarl.eu.int/parliament/public.do?language=en>

One Scotland Many Cultures

http://www.onescotland.com/onescotland/osmc_display_home.jsp?pContentID=2&p_applic=CCC&pElementID=1&pMenuID=1&p_service=Content.show&

Equality and Human Rights Commission

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/Pages/default.aspx>

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

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

Volunteer Development Scotland www.vds.org.uk

Social Economy Scotland <http://www.socialeconomyscotland.info/content/index.asp>

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

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

Disclosure Scotland <http://www.disclosurescotland.co.uk/>

BBC News24 <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/default.stm>

BBC Parliament online

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/bbc_parliament/default.stm

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The **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities** 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. <http://www.j-scot.org.uk/>



BEMIS is the umbrella body for ethnic minority organisations in Scotland. It aims to strengthen the capacity of the ethnic minority voluntary sector; raise the profile and coordinate the voice of this sector; and take a lead on policy issues to ensure that issues of concern are raised with government and other relevant bodies. <http://www.bemis.org.uk/index.html>