

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

*MEMO is produced by the **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities** in partnership with **BEMIS - empowering Scotland's ethnic and cultural minority communities**. It provides an overview of information of interest to minority ethnic communities in Scotland, including parliamentary activity at Holyrood and Westminster, new publications, consultations, forthcoming conferences and news reports.*

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

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

There will be no MEMO next week.

The next issue will be circulated on 13 December.

Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Question

Asylum Seekers

Johann Lamont (Glasgow Pollok) (Lab): To ask the Scottish Executive whether it plans to hold discussions with the UK Border Agency regarding the ending of its contract with Glasgow City Council for asylum seekers in light of the impact on services in Glasgow. (S3W-37463)

Reply from Alex Neil: The ending of the contract is a matter between the UK Border Agency and Glasgow City Council. However, the Scottish Government is clear that asylum seekers dispersed to Scotland are treated fairly and humanely and whilst they are in Scotland must be welcomed and supported.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/Business/PQA/default.aspx?pg=S3W-37463>

Westminster Ministerial Statement

Controlling Migration

Lengthy statement followed by question and answer session

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101123/debtext/101123-0001.htm#1011233300003>

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Foreign Workers

Daniel Poulter: To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer what estimate he has made of the level of (a) income earned, (b) income tax paid and (c) benefits claimed by non-EU migrants in the UK in the most recent tax year. [24718]

Reply from David Gauke: The information is not available as the UK's tax, tax credit and benefit systems do not capture the necessary details of nationality and immigration status.

Non-EU migrants in the UK are generally not entitled to income-related and non-contributory social security benefits or to the child and working tax credits because they are subject to immigration controls which preclude access to public funds. This follows long-standing Government policy.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101119/text/101119w0002.htm#10111965000108>

Immigration

Lord Harris of Haringey: To ask Her Majesty's Government what representations they have received from information technology companies and organisations about the impact of the proposed cap on non-European Union immigration.[HL3787]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Neville-Jones): The Home Secretary launched a consultation over the summer to ensure that we took a wide range of views and evidence on board and into account before announcing our plans for the first full annual limit. The consultation is now closed and the responses, including those from information technology companies and organisations, are being carefully assessed.

The Government announced on 23 November the operation of the immigration limit as regards tiers 1 and 2.

Lord Lucas: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether a pass at grade C or above in GCSE or International GCSE English is accepted for all immigration purposes as sufficient proof of English language ability. [HL3881]

Reply from Baroness Neville-Jones: Having a GCSE or an International GCSE in English is not one of the ways in which we measure knowledge of English for immigration purposes. ...

Lord Taylor of Warwick: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they plan to increase the immigration cap for immigrants coming from outside Europe.[HL4129]

Reply from Baroness Neville-Jones: In June the Home Secretary commissioned the independent Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to advise on the level of next year's limit. The MAC has published its report. The Government announced their decisions as regards tier 1 and 2 of the points-based system on 23 November.

Lord McConnell of Glenscorrodale: To ask Her Majesty's Government what discussions have taken place with Scottish Ministers in relation to (a) the temporary cap on immigration, and (b) the proposed permanent arrangements for a cap on immigration to the United Kingdom.[HL4222]

Reply from Baroness Neville-Jones: On 28 June the Home Secretary announced the interim limit and launched a consultation to ensure that we took a wide range of views and evidence on board and into account, before announcing our plans for the first full annual limit.

The Government wrote to Scottish Ministers on the same day, and Scottish Ministers have participated in the consultation.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101124w0001.htm#10112460000763>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Migration

Douglas Carswell: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what assessment she has made of progress since May 2010 towards her objective for reduction of net migration; and if she will make a statement. [23090]

Reply from Damian Green: The Government are committed to reducing net migration to the tens of thousands. On 28 June we launched a 12 week consultation with businesses and other interested sectors on our plans for implementing annual limits. At the same time, my right hon. Friend the Home Secretary commissioned the independent Migration Advisory Committee to advise the Government on the level at which the first annual limit should be set. We will announce the findings in due course.

We also introduced interim limits on 19 July to prevent a surge in applications, following the announcement of the limits consultation. This would have led to an increase in net migration, undermining the purpose of the limit. The limit included a very modest reduction in numbers, just 5% below the equivalent period in 2009-10.

In addition, we are reviewing other routes of non-EU migration (students, settlement, family etc) as action on these too will be needed, and we will be applying transitional measures to new EU accession states.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101123/text/101123w0001.htm#10112331000015>

Immigration: Home Office Procedures

Baroness Gardner of Parkes: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will review the procedures and paperwork required by the Home Office from applicants for immigration or residential status.

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Neville-Jones): My Lords, online forms containing guidance have already been introduced on the UK Border Agency website to make things easier for applicants. Next year, tier 4 student applicants, which comprise the largest category, will be able to create their own customer account to assist them to complete their online application, pay for it and view its progress. All immigration application forms will be available online by 2015, and the aim is to simplify and clarify application procedures in all categories.

Baroness Gardner of Parkes: I thank the Minister for that reply. My question relates to long-term residency in the UK ... Why were new regulations introduced in 2006 requiring everyone to resubmit documents? In 1985 I had a letter saying that no repeat would ever be required, but in 2009 I was told that I must resubmit all originals. I am getting the same complaint from many people. Will the Minister also comment on the Canadian lady who, just this week, after 60 years in the UK, was stopped at the airport as an illegal immigrant?

Reply from Baroness Neville-Jones: My Lords, the aim of the 2006 regulations, which were brought into effect by our predecessors, appears to have been to cut down on fraudulent claims to the right of abode by ensuring that the validity of the certificate of entitlement which applicants have to have was limited to the lifetime of the passport to which it was attached. Requiring new certificates of entitlement enables a further check on the genuineness of the eligibility to take place. As regards the Canadian lady, on the basis of the press reports-and I have no other information-it would appear that this lady, who was allowed into the country, will be able to claim her right of citizenship through descent. I think that she will have no problem in doing that, and of course she will not have to pay. ...

Lord Pearson of Rannoch: ... have the new Government amended the guidelines which the last Government gave to immigration officers instructing them to allow the

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

second, third and fourth wives of Muslim men, together with their attendant children, to live in this country, "even if that sets up a polygamous marriage in the United Kingdom"?

Reply from Baroness Neville-Jones: My Lords, I am afraid that I am not familiar with that provision. I understand why the noble Lord is asking the question; I fear that I will have to look into the matter and perhaps write to him. ...

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101123-0001.htm#10112323000865>

Immigrants: Children

Julian Huppert: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many children were detained for immigration purposes (a) on each of the last 14 days for which figures are available, (b) in each of the last 12 weeks, (c) in each of the last 12 months and (d) in each of the last five years. [25397]

Reply from Damian Green: The requested information is not available as figures on persons entering detention have been published only since the beginning of 2009. The following tables show the number of children who entered detention each month, solely under Immigration Act powers, between January 2009 and June 2010. Statistics published in the Quarter 2 Control of Immigration publication state that at 30 June 2010 there were five children detained solely under Immigration Act powers. The figure in the publication is rounded to the nearest five to preserve data confidentiality and so represents a number between three and seven. Information on children detained solely under Immigration Act powers are available in the Control of Immigration: Quarterly Statistical Summary, United Kingdom, April-June 2010 in the Library of the House and the Home Office's Research, Development and Statistics website at:

www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration-asylum-stats.html

The next quarterly publication will be released on 25 November 2010 which will show the number of children, detained solely under Immigration Act powers, at 30 September 2010.

To read the lengthy tables see

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101119/text/101119w002.htm#10111965000102>

Asylum: Glasgow

Pete Wishart: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what assessment she has made of the effects of asylum seekers moving from Glasgow city council accommodation on requirements for individuals to report at reporting centres or police stations. [23931]

Reply from Damian Green: We are very hopeful that the vast majority of service users will be able to remain in their current accommodation. Where this is not possible accommodation will be sourced by alternative providers operating in Glasgow and they will take into account the need for service users to be within a reasonable distance of a reporting centre.

Pete Wishart: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what the value was of the UK Border Agency's housing contract with Glasgow city council; and what the value is of contracts with the replacement suppliers. [23935]

Reply from Damian Green: The current estimated annual value of the contract held with Glasgow city council is £8.610 million. The estimated current annual values for Glasgow YMCA and Angel Group (Scotland) are for £6.516 million and £2.706 million respectively. The value of the YMCA and Angel Group contracts will increase as and when the Glasgow CC service users transfer to one or both providers but we cannot estimate what the future contract values will be at the

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

present time. The additional costs paid to Glasgow YMCA and/or the Angel Group will be significantly less than the current expenditure to Glasgow city council.

Pete Wishart: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what the minimum notice period will be for asylum seekers being moved from accommodation with Glasgow City Council; and whether tenants will have any right of appeal. [23938]

Reply from Damian Green: The intention is to give any affected asylum seekers who need to move accommodation minimum notice of between three and five months. However, given the common use of Glasgow Housing Association by both Glasgow city council and YMCA the UK Border Agency hope that the numbers who have to move property will be minimal. Where a move has to take place accommodation is provided on a no choice basis and there is no right of appeal, just as it is on initial dispersal.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101119/text/101119w0002.htm#10111965000098>

Asylum: Social Services

William Bain: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if she will publish her Department's assessment of the cost effectiveness and quality of social care services provided by Glasgow city council in respect of asylum seekers based in the city of Glasgow; and if she will make a statement. [25332]

Reply from Damian Green: There is no assessment with regards to the quality of social care services provided by Glasgow city council in respect of asylum seekers based in the city of Glasgow. The Secretary of State has no plans to make a statement.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101119/text/101119w0002.htm#10111965000099>

Asylum: Public Finance

William Bain: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) what assessment she has made of the likely effects on the (a) cost to the public purse and (b) quality of services provided to asylum seekers of the proposed amendment to the asylum seekers dispersal programme which would relocate asylum seekers away from Glasgow; and if she will make a statement; [25331]

(2) what provision will be made for asylum seekers in Glasgow whose applications have been fully determined under contractual arrangements with new housing and social care service providers. [25334]

Reply from Damian Green: The termination of the contract with Glasgow city council will lead to savings for the public purse as Glasgow city council are the most expensive housing provider outside London. There are no plans to move asylum seekers away from Glasgow and the alternative providers operating within Glasgow are contractually bound to provide the same quality of services as Glasgow city council. The Secretary of State has no plans to make a statement.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101122/text/101122w0003.htm#10112234000008>

Asylum Seekers

Lord Laird: To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answers by Baroness Neville-Jones on 8 November (WA 4-5) and 21 October (WA 201-2), whether they will state the precise annual figures for those applicants granted asylum or turned down for asylum each year since 2000 in the various categories mentioned; and what is the overall total for those years, as was stated in relation to dependants, rather than making reference to a web page where the precise figures are not present.[HL3835]

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Neville-Jones): The attached table shows applications received for asylum in the United Kingdom and initial decisions for the years 2000 to 2009, for main applicants, dependants and the overall total. I also refer the noble Lord to my letter of 16 November, and will place a copy into the Library.

The figures in the table are for initial decisions on asylum applications made at port and in country and exclude all subsequent decisions. They are shown by year of decision, initial decisions by year of application not being available. These data are from published National Statistics (Table 2.2 Control of Immigration: Statistics United Kingdom, 2009).

Data stating the annual figure for the outcome of these asylum claims grouped by the categories referred to in the Written Answer of 21 October (Official Report, col. WA201-2) cannot be provided. Data are not available prior to 2004 because a bio-metric identifier was not taken from visa applicants at that time and it is not possible to link the visa application to a subsequent asylum application. Data covering the period since 2004 are held on two separate databases, not collated centrally and could only be obtained at disproportionate cost.

To read the lengthy tables see

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101122w0001.htm#1011225001126>

Immigrants: Detention

Julian Huppert: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many people who were (a) detained for immigration purposes and then deported and (b) detained for immigration purposes and then released were detained for more than (i) three months, (ii) six months, (iii) one year and (iv) two years. [25398]

Reply from Damian Green: The information requested is recorded in the following table:

Individuals leaving the immigration detention estate^(1, 2) between 1 January 2010 and 30 June 2010

	Removed ⁽³⁾	Released ⁽⁴⁾	Total
Under 3 months	7,265	3,980	11,245
Over 3 months, but under 6 months	577	323	900
Over 6 months, but under 1 year	239	167	406
Over 1 year, but under 2 years	46	62	108
Over 2 years	15	21	36
All	8,142	4,553	12,695

⁽¹⁾ These figures are based on internal management information. Figures used are subject to change and may under or over record due to data cleansing and data matching exercises that take place after extracts were previously taken. They have not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols, and may not agree with previously published information.

⁽²⁾ These numbers do not refer to those individuals who would have been held under immigration powers within the prison estate, nor does the length of detention indicated include any time previously spent in immigration detention within the prison estate prior to transfer to the UK Border Agency detention estate.

⁽³⁾ Those individuals listed as "removed" includes persons who were deported or removed by the UK Border Agency, and those who departed voluntarily from the United Kingdom.

⁽⁴⁾ Those individuals listed as "released" includes persons who were granted immigration bail, received a form of leave, were released unconditionally, were removed to custodial detention, or held under the Mental Health Act in appropriate institutions.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

From this data it is clear that, in approximately 90% of cases, those individuals held under Immigration Act powers within the immigration detention estate, were either removed or released within three months of entering the estate.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101122/text/101122w0003.htm#10112234000019>

Immigration: Detainees

Lord Dubs: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many minors have been detained under immigration powers in each of the past five years.[HL4088]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Neville-Jones): The requested information is not available as figures on persons entering detention have been published only since the beginning of 2009. The attached table shows the number of children who entered detention, solely under Immigration Act powers, between January 2009 and June 2010.

Children entering detention ^{(1)(2)(M)} held solely under Immigration Act powers, by place of initial detention, (excluding Harwich), 2009-Q2 2010 ⁽³⁾⁽⁴⁾			
Number of children			
Children entering detention			
Place of initial detention	2009	Q1 2010	Q2 2010
Yarl's Wood	695	180	60
Tinsley House	235	20	45
Dungavel	100	20	5
Oakington Reception Centre	35	5	5
Campsfield House	5	*	-
Haslar	5	-	-
Brook House	*	-	-
Harmondsworth	*	-	-
Dover Immigration Removal Centre	*	-	-
Lindholme	-	-	-
UK Border Agency Short Term Holding Facilities			
Dover Harbour	30	10	-
Colnbrook Short Term	10	*	-
Pennine House	*	-	*
Total	1,120	230	115

(1) Some detainees may be recorded more than once if, for example, the person has been detained on more than one separate occasion in the time period shown, such as a person who has left detention, but has subsequently been re-detained.

(2) Figures for children will overstate if any applicants aged 18 or over claim to be younger.

(3) Figures rounded to the nearest 5 (- = 0, * = 1 or 2) and may not sum to the totals shown because of independent rounding. Figures exclude persons recorded as entering Harwich Short Term Holding Facility, police cells and Prison Service establishments, those recorded as detained under both criminal and immigration powers and their dependants.

(4) Figures include dependants.

(M) Management information

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Lord Dubs: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many minors have been detained under immigration powers since 21 July 2010.[HL4089]

Reply from Baroness Neville-Jones: The requested information is not available. Data for children entering detention under Immigration Act powers for July 2010 to September 2010 will be available from 25 November 2010 when data for the third quarter of 2010 are published. The Home Office publishes statistics on the number of children detained solely under Immigration Act powers on a quarterly and annual basis, which are available from the House Library and from the Home Office's research, development and statistics website at:

www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration-asylum-stats.html.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101124w0001.htm#10112460000765>

Immigration: Deportation

Lord Hylton: To ask Her Majesty's Government which states fail to provide travel documents for their nationals awaiting deportation from the United Kingdom; and what measures they are taking to overcome this.[HL3793]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Neville-Jones): Virtually all countries accept their obligation to accept back their nationals when their removal is enforced, provided nationality (and often, identity) can be satisfactorily established. This is often the key challenge to removing and/or deporting individuals from the UK. Effective co-operation with the country of origin is therefore essential to agree and implement documentation arrangements and methods of return. Where a country declines to issue a document, in any circumstance, UKBA and FCO invest considerable effort to understand their concerns and help secure co-operation. As we continue to engage with such countries on migration issues, it would be inappropriate to name them.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101124w0001.htm#10112460000763>

Human Trafficking

Peter Bone: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what the average length of sentence given to a person originally charged with offences related to human trafficking and subsequently prosecuted for a lesser charge was in each of the last five years. [21737]

Reply from Damian Green: The following figures are provided by the UK Human Trafficking Centre's analysis of the Police National Computer as at 31 August 2010. The averages include consecutive sentences but do not include concurrent and suspended sentences. The figures relate to year of conviction.

Trafficking for Forced Labour (including conspiracy to traffic)

2006-0

2007-Two years

2008-Two years seven months

2009-Two years

2010-Three years

Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation (including in some cases additional offences)

2006-Seven years seven months

2007-Four years three months

2008-Four years nine months

2009-Five years seven months

2010-Four years

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101119/text/101119w0002.htm#10111965000101>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Asylum: Deportation

David Nuttall: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many failed asylum seekers there were in (a) 2008, (b) 2009 and (c) 2010; and how many have subsequently been deported. [23342]

Reply from Damian Green: We have interpreted the first question to mean the number of asylum applications in 2008, 2009 and 2010 who were refused asylum, humanitarian protection or discretionary leave.

We have interpreted the second question to mean the number of asylum claimants in 2008, 2009 and 2010 that was subsequently removed.

Published data are not available for 2010. However figures for 2008 and 2009 can be found on the Control of Immigration: United Kingdom 2009 which is available from the Library of the House and from the Home Office Research, Development and Statistics Directorate web site at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration-asylum-stats.html>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101119/text/101119w0002.htm#10111965000097>

Press Releases

Annual limit for Tier 1 and Tier 2 visa applications

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsfragments/35-t1-t2-annual-limits>

Limit for non-European workers set out

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/non-european>

Government sets the first annual limit for non-European workers

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/press-releases/non-european-workers>

Immigration cap

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2010/11/23162746>

New application form and guidance for naturalisation

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2010/nov/56-new-an-form-guidance>

New versions of application forms and changes to application fees

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2010/nov/68-new-application-forms>

Europe should accept more refugees in need of safe resettlement

<https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?Ref=PR880%282010%29&Language=lanEnglish&Ver=original&BackColorInternet=F5CA75&BackColorIntranet=F5CA75&BackColorLogged=A9BACE>

Europe should accept more refugees in need of safe resettlement

<https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?Ref=PR880%282010%29&Language=lanEnglish&Ver=original&BackColorInternet=F5CA75&BackColorIntranet=F5CA75&BackColorLogged=A9BACE>

Immigration and Asylum (continued) **New publications**

Migration Advisory Committee: Limits on Tier 1 and Tier 2 for 2011/12 and supporting policies

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/workingwithus/mac/mac-limits-t1-t2/report.pdf?view=Binary>

English Language Requirement Guidance

<http://www.ukvisas.gov.uk/en/ecg/settlement/englishlanguage requirement>

Children entering detention held solely under Immigration Act powers, by age and place of initial detention, (excluding Harwich), October 2010

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/child-detention-oct2010.xls>

Control of Immigration: Quarterly Statistical Summary, United Kingdom July – September 2010

<http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/immiq310.pdf>

Monthly Asylum Statistics – September 2010

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/asylum-sept2010.xls>

Citizenship education in England 2001-2010: young people's practices and prospects for the future

<http://www.education.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/DFE-RR059-WEB.pdf>

European borders: Controls, detention and deportations

<http://www.migreurop.org/IMG/pdf/rapport-migreurop-2010-en - 2-121110.pdf>

Population by Country of Birth and Nationality

<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/theme/population/estimates/special-populations/country-nationality.html>

News

UK government agrees on non-EU skilled migration cap

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-11816979>

Halving immigration is feasible, Prime Minister insists

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/politics/halving-immigration-is-feasible-prime-minister-insists-1.1070000>

Coalition 'ignoring Scotland in immigrant reforms'

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/politics/coalition-ignoring-scotland-in-immigrant-reforms-1.1070507>

Migrant workers to be cut by a fifth

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/migrant-workers-to-be-cut-by-a-fifth-2141429.html>

Net immigration to UK increases

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-11839356>

Immigration and Asylum News (continued)

Net migration to UK rises as fewer Britons leave

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/net-migration-to-uk-rises-as-fewer-britons-leave-2143427.html>

Net immigration up to 215,000 as Britons stay home

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/nov/25/net-immigration-up>

Foreign brides to face English tests

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/politics/8163702/Immigrants-will-create-83000-extra-households-every-year-for-the-next-25-years-figures-show.html>

Cap on skilled migrants to be lower than level recommended by migration experts

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2010/nov/23/theresa-may-migration-cap-plans>

Immigration cap loophole sees massive surge

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/8164911/Immigration-cap-loophole-sees-massive-surge.html>

Immigration cap: argument within the coalition has only just begun

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/nov/23/immigration-cap-argument-coalition-just-begun>

Universities warn migration limit cuts won't just hurt their finances

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2010/nov/23/universities-migration-limit-cuts-finances>

The Conservatives' immigration cap is a control that seems to suit nobody

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/nov/28/theresa-may-immigration-cap>

Eviction threat to asylum seekers is dropped

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/eviction-threat-to-asylum-seekers-is-dropped-1.1070730>

Asylum seekers in Glasgow face eviction

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2010/nov/24/asylum-seekers-glasgow-face-eviction>

Croydon asylum centre will be as bad as Yarl's Wood, says charity

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/nov/28/asylum-centre-bad-as-yarls-wood>

Foreign brides to face English tests

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/8162492/Foreign-brides-to-face-English-tests.html>

Teenagers 'harden views on immigration as they age'

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/nov/22/teenagers-harden-views-immigration-age>

Speaking out for change

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2010/nov/26/speaking-out-for-change-asylum-seeker>

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Race Relations

Press Releases

Eric Pickles celebrates faiths working together in Inter Faith Week

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/1777176>

Communities unite for Inter Faith Week

<http://wales.gov.uk/newsroom/socialjustice/2010/101123interfaith/?lang=en>

News

Interfaith projects unite people

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2010/nov/22/interfaith-projects-unite-people>

Interfaith is no longer all talk

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2010/nov/26/interfaith-work-break-prejudices>

And a very happy Diwali, to you too! Christmas 2010... and Santa's got competition as multi-faith lights blaze out

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1333764/Christmas-2010-Santas-got-competition-multi-faith-lights-blaze-out.html>

Where Klezmer music meets the Koran

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/faith/article2823456.ece>

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Equality

New publication

Target-setting for improving the socio-economic situation of migrants and ethnic minorities in Europe (Part 2)

http://cms.horus.be/files/99935/MediaArchive/publications/pubTargetSetting_final%20lowres.pdf

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

S3M-7481 Bill Kidd: No Place for Prejudice in Scotland—That the Parliament welcomes that the individual responsible for posting hateful anti-Semitic comments on The Scotsman website in March 2008 has been given a deferred sentence of 12 months, having plead guilty to the charges; commends the work of the police and the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service in bringing this case to court, and considers that this reaffirms the message that racism, or prejudice of any kind, has absolutely no place in Scotland.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/business/motions/Default.aspx?motionid=20294>

Racism and Religious Hatred (continued) Westminster Parliamentary Question

Holocaust Memorial Day

David Amess: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government what progress has been made on arrangements to mark Holocaust Memorial Day in 2011; and if he will make a statement. [25084]

Reply from Andrew Stunell: Holocaust Memorial Day will take place on 27 January 2011 across the United Kingdom, including a national event in central London. The theme for 2011 will be Untold Stories. Millions of stories of individuals and communities have been lost through the Holocaust, Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides. Events will focus on inspiring participants to tell and listen to stories in our own communities today.

Almost 800 events were held to mark Holocaust Memorial Day 2010, and it is expected that there will be an increase in the number of events for 2011. These are listed on the Holocaust Memorial Day website on a daily basis. The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, which is supported by my Department, has received thousands of requests for free materials to help mark the Day, including from teachers, librarians, local authorities, museums, trade unions, arts organisations, youth groups and prisons.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101122/text/101122w0002.htm#10112230000009>

Press Release

Time's up for EU member states to combat racist crime seriously

<http://cms.horus.be/files/99935/MediaArchive/pdfpress/2010-11-26%20implementation%20deadline%20FD%20final.pdf>

New publications

STUC: Scotland United Against Racism

<http://www.stuc.org.uk/files/St%20Andrews%20Day%20March/Anti%20Racist%20prog%2010-3.pdf>

The English Defence League

<http://faith-matters.org/images/stories/fm-reports/english-defense-league-report.pdf>

News

March and rally against racism in Glasgow

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-11851241>

Thousands gather for anti-racism march and rally

<http://scotlandonsunday.scotsman.com/news/Thousands-gather-for-antiracism-march.6642243.jp>

Racism is institutional in upper tiers of British society, says Lord Parekh

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/nov/22/racism-institutional-british-society-report-parekh>

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

BBC's Panorama claims Islamic schools teach antisemitism and homophobia

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/2010/nov/22/bbc-panorama-islamic-schools-antisemitism>

School text book 'advocates anti-semitism'

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/school-text-book-advocates-antisemitism-2140569.html>

Saudi Arabia's intolerable antisemitic textbooks

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2010/nov/24/saudi-arabia-antisemitic-textbooks>

This medieval Saudi education system must be reformed

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2010/nov/26/saudi-arabia-religious-education>

Muslims victims of violence after huge rise in Islamophobia

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/faith/article2822246.ece>

Girl arrested for allegedly burning Qur'an

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/nov/25/girl-arrested-allegedly-burning-quran>

Care home chain says Christmas bonuses 'discriminate' against other religions

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/topics/christmas/8149877/Care-home-chain-says-Christmas-bonuses-discriminate-against-other-religions.html>

Church spokesman writes of "anti- Catholic hostility"

<http://www.scmo.org/articles/church-spokesman-writes-of-anti--catholic-hostility.html>

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Other Holyrood

New publication

Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body Annual Report

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/corporate/anrep-accts/spcb/ar-10/spar10-00.htm>

News

Vote forces SNP budget re-think

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-11835021>

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Parliamentary Questions

Food: Labelling

Andrew Turner: To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs what estimate she has made of the proportion of (a) imported and (b) domestic (i) beef, (ii) sheep and lamb, (iii) goat and kid and (iv) chicken which is (A) labelled in respect of the method of slaughter and (B) not so labelled at the point of sale. [25168]

Reply from James Paice: No such estimate has been made by DEFRA as there is no statutory obligation to indicate the method of slaughter on meat labels.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101122/text/101122w0001.htm#101122900027>

Livestock: Slaughterhouses

Andrew Turner: To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs what estimate she has made of the proportion of (a) cattle, (b) sheep and lambs, (c) goats and kids and (d) chickens slaughtered for meat which was (i) stunned and slaughtered using halal methods, (ii) not stunned and slaughtered using halal methods and (iii) slaughtered by other methods in the latest period for which figures are available. [24982]

Reply from James Paice: The most recent data on halal slaughter was published in March 2004 by the Meat Hygiene Service in its Animal Welfare Review. This reported data was collected through a survey of meat plants which took place between 1 and 7 September 2003. The following table shows the number of animals killed for the production of halal meat during that one week period.

		<i>Stunned</i>	
<i>Species</i>	<i>Not stunned</i>	<i>Pre cut</i>	<i>Post cut</i>
Cattle	0	850	6
Young lambs	5,141	103,944	0
Other sheep	11,454	19,230	0
Goats	62	12	0
Broilers	134,289	1,898,689	0
Hens	11,495	92,296	0
Ducks	36	0	0

More recent data collected by the EU Dialrel project, see:

<http://www.dialrel.eu/images/factsheet-assesment-practices.pdf> shows that for halal slaughter in the UK, 75% of cattle, 93% of sheep and 100% of poultry are stunned before slaughter.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101122/text/101122w0001.htm#101122900032>

Forced Marriage

Lord Sheikh: To ask Her Majesty's Government what additional support they will give to victims of forced marriages. [HL3869]

Reply from the Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Lord Howell of Guildford): There is a cross-government approach to tackle the issue of forced marriages. The Forced Marriage Unit (FMU) will shortly develop its new action plan for 2011-12 in consultation with other government departments and its voluntary sector partners.

Other Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

If a person is at risk of forced marriage or has already been forced into marriage they can seek support from the Forced Marriage Unit (FMU), a joint Home Office and Foreign and Commonwealth Office unit; and by applying for a forced marriage civil protection order under the Forced Marriage (Civil Protection) Act 2007. The FMU also provides funding to local projects, through its annual Domestic Programme Fund.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/101122w0001.htm#1011225001147>

Press Releases

PM speech at Eid reception

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/news/speeches-and-transcripts/2010/11/pm-speech-at-eid-reception-57450>

Prime Minister launches Big Society Awards

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/news/topstorynews/2010/11/big-society-awards-57376>

New publication

Count of Gypsy and Traveller Caravans - July 2010

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/corporate/statistics/caravancountjul2010>

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Other News

Minority Voices Young Journalist Award

Closing date for entries: 31 December 2010

<http://www.minorityrights.org/10350/press-releases/minority-voices-young-journalist-award.html>

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Bills in Progress ** New or updated this week

Holyrood

** Certification of Death Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/58-CertDeath/index.htm>

Written evidence

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/hs/inquiries/CertificationOfDeathBill/evidence.htm>

Bills in Progress

Holyrood (continued)

**** End of Life Assistance Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/38-EndLifeAssist/index.htm>

Sponsoring MSP's response to the Stage 1 Report

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/endLifeAsstBill/evidence/documents/20101122Responsefromthememberincharge tostage1report.pdf>

The date of the Stage 1 Debate has been changed to 1 December

**** Forced Marriage etc. (Protection and Jurisdiction) Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/53-forcedMarriage/index.htm>

Stage 1 evidence from Scottish Women's Aid, the Ethnic Minorities Law Centre, ACPOS, the Law Society of Scotland, BEMIS, and the Council of British Pakistanis

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/equal/or-10/eo10-2102.htm#Col2169>

Local Electoral Administration Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/57-LocalElecAdmin/index.htm>

Palliative Care Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/50-PalliativeCare/index.htm>

Public Records Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/56-PublicRecords/index.htm>

Bills in Progress

Westminster

**** Face Coverings (Regulation) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/facecoveringsregulation.html>

Bill

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/020/2011020.pdf>

**** Fixed Term Parliaments Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/fixedtermparliaments.html>

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/064/amend/pbc0642411m.1223-1229.html>

Committee Stage Proceedings

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/064/pro0642411p.327-329.html>

House of Lords Reform Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/houseoflordsreformhl.html>

Human Trafficking (Border Control) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/humantraffickingbordercontrol.html>

Identity Documents Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/identitydocuments.html>

Bills in Progress

Westminster (continued)

**** Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/parliamentaryvotingsystemandconstituencies.html>

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldbills/026/amend/am026-c.htm>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldbills/026/amend/am026-e.htm>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldbills/026/amend/am026-f.htm>

Return of Asylum Seekers (Applications from Certain Countries) Bill

[http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-](http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/returnofasylumseekersapplicationsfromcertaincountries.html)

[11/returnofasylumseekersapplicationsfromcertaincountries.html](http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/returnofasylumseekersapplicationsfromcertaincountries.html)

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Consultations

(closing date)

**** new or updated this week**

**** closes this week!**

The Future of the Citizenship Survey (30 November 2010)

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/communities/pdf/1756366.pdf>

**** closes this week!**

Shaping Bereavement Care (2 December 2010)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/327965/0105922.pdf>

Equality and Human Rights Commission: Draft Code of Practice on Further and Higher Education (31 December 2010)

http://live.ehrc.precedenthost.co.uk/cgi-bin/generate.pl?page_id= sx0666i4b&save=screen

UK Extradition Arrangements (31 December 2010)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/views-extradition>

Charity Commission for England and Wales: Views on Future Strategy

(14 January 2011)

http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/RSS/News/pr_strategic_review.aspx

Introducing fee charges for appeals in the Immigration and Asylum Chambers of the First-Tier Tribunal and the Upper Tribunal (21 January 2010)

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/consultations/fee-charges-appeals-consultation-211010.htm>

Prevent Review (closing date not stated)

<http://preventreview.homeoffice.gov.uk/>

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Job Opportunities

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

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**** this week!**

Scottish Interfaith Week

28 November – 5 December 2010

The theme for Scottish Interfaith Week 2010 is *Faith in Action*. Details of events will be posted at <http://www.scottishinterfaithcouncil.org/32.html> as they become available.

**** this week!**

Beyond Religion and Belief - Addressing Sectarianism in the Workplace in Scotland

30 November 2010 in Glasgow (1.45 – 3.45)

Nil by Mouth launch of a unique workplace scheme created to help build positive cultures in Scotland's workplaces. For information contact Lisa Campbell 0141 225 8008 / mail@nilbymouth.org

**** this week!**

UKBA asylum support - the essentials

30 November 2010 in Glasgow

3 February 2010 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course for people supporting those going through the asylum process. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/325_ukba_formerly_nass_asylum_support_-_the_essentials

**** this week!**

Youth Interfaith Connect Conference

2 December 2010 (10.00 – 3.00)

ACPOS conference for young people to discuss issues such as the impact of faith in Scotland today, the impact of religious and sectarian hate crime on our communities, the role of the media in representing faith communities, religious education in schools, identity faith and belief, and faith and social action. For information contact Fiach OBroin-Molloy 01786 456000 / 07769 920 462 or see <http://www.interfaithconnect.org/> and discussion forum <http://www.interfaithconnect.org/forum/>

**** this week!**

Equality Act 2010: What does it mean for you?

2 December 2010 in Stirling

19 January 2011 in Edinburgh

17 February 2011 in Inverness

Equality and Human Rights Commission conferences to provide information about how the Act works and how to use it, what discrimination means and who is protected. For information contact David Reilly David.Reilly@equalityhumanrights.com / 0141 228 5967 or see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/11ii_ehrc.pdf

**** this week!**

Race Equality in Scotland

2 December at the Scottish Parliament 2010 (6.00 – 8.00)

Runnymede event to mark 10 years since the Commission on the Future of Multi-Ethnic Britain published its landmark report "The Future of Multi-Ethnic Britain". For information contact Vicki Butler Vicki@runnymedetrust.org

Events/Training/Conferences (continued)

**** this week!**

Demands, Challenges, Opportunities: the changing third sector-public policy relationship

3 December 2010 in Edinburgh

SCVO Third Sector Research Conference to bring together Scottish Government, local government, third sector and academic researchers, to showcase their work and discuss a range of findings of relevance to public policy in Scotland. For information contact Helen Swatton 0141 225 8019 / helen.swatton@scvo.org or see

<http://microsites.scvo.org.uk/scvo/SCVOEvents/ViewSCVOEvents.aspx?al=t&EID=1176&from=EventHome>

**** this week!**

Amina Muslim Women's Centre Conference

4 December 2010 (10.30 – 4.30)

Conference to celebrate and empower Muslim women. For information contact Amina 0141 585 8026 / info@mwrc.org.uk.

**** next week!**

Home Sweet Home?

10 December 2010 in Falkirk (9.30 – 1.00)

Seminar to explore particular issues faced by black and minority ethnic (BME) women and children. These include – Forced Marriage; Honour Violence; FGM; Domestic Abuse; No Recourse to Public Funds. For information contact Alicia Kirkwood Alicia.kirkwood@falkirk.gov.uk or see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/10x_home.doc

An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees

17 December 2010 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to explore immigration terminology, main refugee nationalities, why people flee and factors affecting migration, the Refugee Convention - its history and interpretation, the UK asylum process and current implementation in Scotland, how to develop culturally sensitive services, and issues facing practitioners and possible solutions; best practice for support and advocacy. For information contact Jamie Spurway jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 248 9799 or see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/553_an_introduction_to_working_with_asylum_seekers_and_refugees

Scottish Refugee Council AGM

14 January 2010 in Edinburgh (2.00)

Keynote speaker Shami Chakrabarti, Director of Liberty. The year 2011 marks the 60th anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Status of Refugees, and the theme of the AGM will be to recognise the importance of this international agreement which has saved thousands if not hundreds of thousands of lives over the years. For information contact Graeme Corbett Graeme.Corbett@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7930

Working with Interpreters

20 January 2011 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course for those who work with non-English speaking service users, including asylum seekers and refugees, who need a comprehensive understanding of how to work with interpreters. For information see

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=94> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie.spurway@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 248 9799

Events/Training/Conferences (continued)

Violence Against Women Faith, Culture and Practice Training

23 February 2011 in Stirling(10.00 – 4.00)

Amina training to explore the faith and cultural dimensions associated with the perpetration of violence against women in the Muslim and other Communities. For information contact pdu@stirling.gov.uk / 01786 442 562.

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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/>

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.scotlandagainstracism.com/>

Scottish Refugee Council www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Scottish Inter Faith Council <http://www.scottishinterfaithcouncil.org/>

Equality and Human Rights Commission <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/>
Scotland Helpline 0845 604 5510

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

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 (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 Charity SC029438) <http://www.scojec.org/>



BEMIS is the Scottish national Ethnic Minorities led umbrella body, supporting, empowering, and building the capacity of minority third sector community organisations. As a strategic partner with Government, it is proactive in influencing the development of race equality policy in Scotland, and helps develop and progress multicultural Scotland, active citizenship, democracy, and Human Rights Education at the Scottish, UK, and European levels. <http://www.bemis.org.uk/index.html>



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.scotlandagainstracism.com/>