



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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Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

Shirley-Anne Somerville (S3W-14192): To ask the Scottish Executive what action it has taken to improve opportunities for asylum seekers and their families in Scotland.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-08/bb-06-16e.htm>

Shirley-Anne Somerville (S3W-14193) : To ask the Scottish Executive whether failed asylum seekers are able to access NHS treatment while they remain in Scotland.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-08/bb-06-16e.htm>

Holyrood Parliamentary Motions

Joe FitzPatrick (S3M-2217): **Josie Pasane** —That the Parliament condemns the Home Office's decision to separate Josie Pasane from her family, with whom she has been living for seven years in Broughty Ferry, and to deport her to South Africa; expresses concern over reports that Josie received incorrect advice from the Home Office over her status which has led to the order for deportation; notes that Josie, a graduate of the University of Abertay, is in employment and is a valued member of the local community, and calls on the UK Government to urgently review her case.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-08/bb-06-19f.htm>

Immigration and Asylum (continued) Westminster Debates

Immigration and Nationality (Fees) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2008

Lord West of Spithead rose to move, That the Grand Committee do report to the House that it has considered the Immigration and Nationality (Fees) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2008.

The noble Lord said: In February 2008, we began the rollout of the points-based system. At that time, we also announced our proposals for all the immigration and nationality fees we intended to charge during 2008-09. These regulations specify the fees for the next part of the points-based system to be implemented.

The Government are determined to continue to drive through the real improvements to the immigration system that we have said that we will deliver. We will protect our border and our national interests, tackle immigration crime and implement fast and fair decisions. These fees will help contribute to us delivering the biggest shake-up to our border protection and immigration system for over 45 years.

We have made substantial progress and are seeing the results. Stronger border controls are delivering falls in annual asylum claims, which are now the lowest for 14 years. Anyone applying for a visa now has his fingerprints checked against UK databases. So far, we have enrolled 1.7 million sets of fingerprints—that is, people—detecting 1,600 cases of identity swaps. In 2007, we removed an immigration offender from this country every eight minutes. Britain is the richer for migration, culturally, socially and economically. However, if migration is to continue to bring benefits to this country, it must be carefully controlled, and we are delivering that through the continued roll-out of the points-based system.

To continue reading the debate see

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200708/ldhansrd/text/80617-gc0002.htm#08061798000007>

Britishness

Lord Taylor of Warwick rose to call attention to the concept of Britishness in the context of the cultural, historical, constitutional and ethical tradition of the peoples of these islands; and to move for Papers.

The noble Lord said: My Lords, a British national newspaper once asked its readers what it means to be British. One of the responses that it received was:

“Being British is about driving in a German car to an Irish pub for a Belgian beer, then travelling home, grabbing an Indian curry or a Turkish kebab on the way, to sit on Swedish furniture and watch American shows on a Japanese TV. And the most British thing of all? Suspicion of anything foreign”.

That is a vivid example of why being British is not defined or explained by narrow national, ethnic or geographical origin. However, we need to understand the concept in order to adequately face the challenges of modern Britain in a fast-changing world. The question of British identity in the context of its culture, history, constitution and ethical tradition is topical and important. That is why the issue has been addressed in recent speeches by the Prime Minister, the leaders of the two main opposition parties and, two days ago, by the former Attorney-General, the noble and learned Lord, Lord Goldsmith.

There is a saying, “We should all choose our parents carefully”. For understandable reasons, that advice, though well intended, is difficult to follow. However, my parents had the good sense to ensure that I was born and brought up in a place that some regard as paradise. It is arguably one of the most beautiful and exotic spots in the world. It is called Birmingham, just off the M6 motorway, by the old gas works. This link to Birmingham I proudly share with the Minister.

What Birmingham in the 1950s perhaps lacked in scenic beauty, it made up for in its new

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Debates (continued)

vitality and diversity. My parents were part of the “Windrush” generation that came from a genuine paradise: Jamaica in the West Indies. They came from a group of islands in the Caribbean whose inhabitants arguably had a stronger sense of what “British” meant than those actually born and raised here. My mother’s ancestry was part Anglo-Irish. My father served as a sergeant in the British Eighth Army, otherwise known as the Desert Rats. Among his proudest possessions were medals that he won for his part in the battle of Anzio in Italy during the Second World War.

To continue reading the debate see

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200708/ldhansrd/text/80619-0002.htm#08061967000002>

Westminster Ministerial Statements

Jacqui Smith (Secretary of State for the Home Department): This year sees the biggest shake-up of our immigration system for 45 years. As part of these changes, I am today setting out reforms to the way the new UK Border Agency enforces the immigration law in communities up and down the UK.

The UK Border Agency leads Her Majesty’s Government’s work to ensure that newcomers to the UK—as well as businesses and others—play by the rules. The vast majority do, adding tremendous value to the UK. The UK Border Agency’s job is to take action when they do not. To achieve this objective we have fundamentally reorganised the UK Border Agency’s work:

Putting in place a cross-Government strategy.

Strengthening the law, with automatic deportation for those sentenced to 12 months or more and civil penalties against employers who employ illegal workers.

Increasing by ten-fold the resources dedicated to the removal or deportation of foreign nationals who have committed serious offences, and focusing over 1000 additional immigration staff on enforcement duties.

Exploiting new technology and introducing compulsory ID cards for foreign nationals, trials for which are now in place.

Strengthening new international alliances to help us secure returns, backed by a £40 million joint Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Department For International Development and Home Office fund.

That fundamental shift in resources has delivered important results. In 2007-08 we: removed over 4,200 foreign national prisoners from the UK, exceeding the Prime Minister’s target;

removed over 13,000 failed asylum seekers;

arrested over 5,000 suspected immigration offenders as a result of around 6,300 illegal working operations; and

delivered over 2,000 successful prosecutions and sanctions.

Today I am publishing the UK Border Agency’s business plan for enforcing the immigration laws over the next 12 months: “Enforcing the Deal: Our plans for enforcing the immigration laws in the United Kingdom’s communities”, a copy of which I have placed in the Libraries of both Houses.

The document sets out three key advances which we intend to make in 2008-09:

We will expel more illegal immigrants than last year, enforcing the contract with newcomers by first removing those who have abused our hospitality and broken the law, and implementing the Prime Minister’s commitment to deport those who use guns or sell drugs, regardless of the length of their sentence.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Ministerial Statements (continued)

We will begin the reorganisation of around 7,500 UK Border Agency staff into between 70 and 80 new Local Immigration Teams to serve every community in the UK, bringing our people closer to the communities we serve and backed by Immigration Crime Partnerships with the police, local authorities and other local partner agencies. We will back our new strategy by doubling the resources we spend on enforcement (2009-10 versus 2006-07).

We will publicly take action against more organised criminals, facilitators and employers who break the law, working in partnership with other business enforcement agencies, rigorously implementing the new civil penalty regime, for the first time publishing information about rogue employers, and introducing ID cards for foreign nationals to make it easier for employers to comply with the law.

Reforms set out in the business plan include:

From today, the UK Border Agency publishing information about employers who hire illegal immigrants.

From this summer, the most serious business offenders will be targeted jointly by UKBA and Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) in a new intelligence sharing and joint targeting partnership which will come into force from July.

Employers and colleges applying for carefully policed licences to hire migrants.

There will be a joint investment and business plan between UKBA and the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA).

Automatic deportation will be introduced for those sentenced to 12 months in prison or more, and deportation will be imposed for those who use guns or sell drugs regardless of their sentence.

Watch-lists of immigration offenders will be shared with DWP, HMRC and, subject to parliamentary approval, with the private sector fraud prevention agency CIFAS.

By January 2009:

UKBA will have increased the number of foreign national prisoners removed to over 5,000 during 2008;

Local Immigration Teams will be up and running in each region;

a UKBA Criminal Investigation Division will be in place;

90 per cent. of constabularies in England and Wales will have Immigration Crime Partnerships in place; and

five local authority partnerships will have been deployed and evaluated.

In addition, I am today laying an Order under section 20 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 to provide a legislative gateway for the sharing of data by the Department for Work and Pensions, the Department for Transport—in relation to the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency—and the British Transport Police with the UK Border Agency.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080619/wmstext/80619m0001.htm#08061981000013>

Liam Byrne (Minister for Borders and Immigration): We are this year undertaking the biggest reform of Britain's immigration and border security system for 45 years.

Alongside the introduction of a points system for migrants who want to work and study, we are modernising the visa system for short-term visits and marriage.

Today I am publishing the results of our consultation on reform to spouse visas published in December 2007: "Marriage to Partners from Overseas", and "Marriage Visas: Pre-entry English requirement for spouses". Copies are being placed in the Library of the House.

Our ambitions in preparing reform were two-fold: first to strengthen our work to prevent

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Ministerial Statements (continued)

forced marriage; and secondly to ensure that our policy supports our wider ambitions to aid newcomers to integrate rapidly and happily into British life.

A small majority of consultation responses were in favour of increasing the minimum age at which a person may sponsor or be sponsored as a spouse from 18 to 21. There was also support for the proposal that those intending to sponsor a spouse should declare their intention before leaving the UK; for a Code of Practice to provide consistency and a safeguard to protect the vulnerable; and for stronger measures to allow the UKBA to revoke indefinite leave to remain following abandonment of spouse or evidence of abuse of the marriage route to gain settlement. Respondents also suggested to us a range of signs that might signal a vulnerability to a forced marriage but highlighted the need to avoid discrimination.

Although a majority of consultation respondents did not favour a requirement for spouses to demonstrate English before they enter the UK, there was a strong appreciation of the need for newcomers to speak English. A key theme expressed by many was that English is best learnt in the UK where facilities are available and the spouse is immersed in the British way of life.

We are very grateful for the responses to the consultation. We will now consider carefully the recent report of the Home Affairs Select Committee, the summary we publish today, and the views of the Parliamentarians before setting out proposals for reform before the summer.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080619/wmstext/80619m0001.htm#08061981000014>

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

James Clappison [205759]: To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (1) what international (a) immigration, (b) emigration and (c) net migration was for (i) each Government Office region in England, (ii) each local authority area in England, (iii) Wales and (iv) Scotland in each five year period since 1987; and what proportion per 1,000 population these figures represent;

(2) [205785] what net international migration was for those living in the UK and born (a) in the UK and (b) elsewhere in the periods (i) 1987 to 1997 and (ii) 1997 to the most recent year for which figures are available;

(3) [205786] how many and what proportion of those immigrating to the UK were employed in manual and clerical occupations prior to arrival in the UK in each year since 1997;

(4) [205790] what proportion of the resident population was born abroad in (a) 1987, (b) 1997 and (c) the most recent year for which figures are available; and what forecast has been made of future trends in the proportion of the population born abroad;

(5) [205791] what the net change in the number of foreign-born residents in the UK was between (a) 1987 and 1997 and (b) 1997 and the most recent year for which figures are available; and which 10 countries were the most frequent countries of origin of foreign-born UK residents in each such period.

Reply from Tom Watson: The information requested falls with the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the Authority to reply.

Letter from Karen Dunnell, dated 13 June 2008:

As National Statistician, I have been asked to reply to your questions on international migration and foreign born residents in the UK. The following questions are all answered by this letter:

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

What international (a) immigration, (b) emigration and (c) net migration was for (i) each government office region in England, (ii) each local authority area in England, (iii) Wales and (iv) Scotland in each five year period since 1987; and what proportion per 1,000 population these figures represent. (205759)

What net international migration was for those living in the UK and born (a) in the UK and (b) elsewhere in the periods (i) 1987 to 1997 and (ii) 1997 to the most recent year for which figures are available. (205785)

How many and what proportion of those immigrating to the UK were employed in manual and clerical occupations prior to arrival in the UK in each year since 1997. (205786)

What proportion of the resident population was born abroad in (a) 1987, (b) 1997 and (c) the most recent year for which figures are available; and what forecast has been made of future trends in the proportion of the population to have been born abroad. (205790)

What the net change in the number of foreign born residents in the UK was between (a) 1987 and 1997 and (b) 1997 and the most recent year for which figures are available; and which 10 countries were the most frequent countries of origin in each such period. (205791)

Tables A1, A2, and A3 give figures for Parliamentary Question number 205759 between mid-1986 and mid-2006, the latest year for which figures are available based on the International Passenger Survey (IPS). The international immigration and emigration data for local authorities are only available from mid-2001 onwards. The footnotes to the tables provide the basis for the figures. (205759)

Table B gives an estimate of net international migration by country of birth (UK and elsewhere) between 1987 and 2006. Data from 1991 to 2006 are based on Total International Migration (TIM) whilst data from 1987 to 1990 are based solely on the IPS, as estimates of TIM are not available prior to 1991. TIM is the measure of long term international migration introduced from 1991 and which is based mainly on data from the IPS supplemented with other data and adjustments for people not counted by the IPS. (205785)

The number and proportion of immigrants to the UK employed in manual and clerical occupations prior to their migration between 1997 and 2006 is shown in Table C, based on TIM. (205786)

Estimates from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) show that 7 per cent of the UK population was born abroad in 1997, and 11 per cent of the UK population was born abroad in 2007, the latest year for which figures are available from the LFS. No comparable estimates are available for 1987 as prior to 1992 the LFS was not conducted throughout the year, and thus it is not possible to provide an average over four quarters for 1987. No projection has been made of future trends in the proportion of the population to have been born abroad. (205790)

Between 1997 and 2007 there was an increase of 2,323,000 UK residents who were born abroad. Table D gives the ten most common countries of birth of foreign born UK residents in 1997 and 2007. No comparable estimates are available for 1987. (205791)

Copies of the tables have been placed in the House of Commons Library.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080613/text/80613w0010.htm#08061363000049>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

James Clappison [208820]: To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster pursuant to the answer of 19 May 2008, *Official Report*, column 49W, on migration, what estimate the Office for National Statistics has made of the direct and indirect contribution of net migration to population growth by (a) 2031 and (b) 2056; and what proportion of total population growth each figure represents.

Reply from Tom Watson: The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the authority to reply.

Letter from Karen Dunnell, dated 13 June 2008:

As National Statistician I have been asked to reply to your question regarding what estimate has been made of the direct and indirect contribution of net migration to population growth by (a) 2031 and (b) 2056; and what proportion of total population growth each figure represents. (208820)

Net migration affects population growth both through the immediate direct impact of migrants themselves and the indirect impact through future births and deaths of migrants.

As part of the latest (2006-based) national population projections from ONS, a full analysis has been made of the impact of the assumed level of net migration on population growth in the period to 2031. This is available at

http://www.gad.gov.uk/Demography_Data/Population/2006/methodology/mignote.asp.

The following table summarises the results and shows corresponding figures for the period to 2056.

<i>Projected population growth by component, United Kingdom, 2006-56</i>		
<i>Million</i>		
	<i>Between 2006 and 2031</i>	<i>Between 2006 and 2056</i>
Total population increase	11	18
Resulting from:		
Assumed net migration	5	10
Natural change assuming no migration	—	1
Additional natural change from assumed level of net migration	2	7

As previously advised in my replies to earlier PQs from you (207695 and 177459), the underlying assumptions for the projections are demographic trend based and should not be seen as predictions. Long-term projections should be treated with particular caution. Population projections become increasingly uncertain the further they are carried forward.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080613/text/80613w0010.htm#08061363000049>

John Hayes [167713]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many people were prosecuted for employing illegal immigrants in each year since 1997.

Reply from Liam Byrne: Statistics showing the number of defendants proceeded against and found guilty under section 8 of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996, from 1997 to 2006, in England and Wales, are shown in the following table. All defendants found guilty of this offence were given a fine; with the exception of one defendant in 2005 who was given a conditional discharge.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Information on persons proceeded against for offences under Immigration Acts 1971 to 2004 during 2007 will be available in the autumn of 2008.

We are committed to bringing forward the implementation of measures contained in the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 to tackle illegal migrant working, which has provided the Border and Immigration Agency with a wider and more effective range of tools with which to tackle non-compliance. The 2006 Act introduced a system of civil penalties for employers who employ illegal migrants through less than diligent practices, alongside a tough new offence for those who knowingly employ illegal migrants, which carries a maximum two year prison sentence and/or an unlimited fine. These new measures came into force on 29 February 2008.

Published statistics on immigration and asylum are available from the Library of the House and from the Home Office Research, Development and Statistics website at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration1.html>.

Number of defendants proceeded against at magistrates courts and found guilty at all courts under Section 8 of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996 in England and Wales, 1997 to 2006^(1, 2) : Employing a person aged 16 and above subject to immigration control

Number of persons

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 ⁽³⁾	2006 ⁽³⁾
Proceeded against	0	1	4	10	5	2	2	11	23	11
Found guilty	0	1	1	4	1	1	1	8	13	7

⁽¹⁾ Principal immigration offence.

⁽²⁾ Every effort is made to ensure that the figures presented are accurate and complete. However, it is important to note that these data have been extracted from large administrative data systems generated by the courts and police forces. As a consequence, care should be taken to ensure data collection processes and their inevitable limitations are taken into account when those data are used.

⁽³⁾ Figures are provisional.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080613/text/80613w0018.htm#08061363000091>

John Hayes [167714]: To ask the Secretary of State for Justice how many employers have been (a) prosecuted for and (b) convicted of an offence under section 8 of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996 in each of the last 10 years; and what penalties were imposed in each case.

Reply from Liam Byrne: Statistics showing the number of defendants proceeded against and found guilty under section 8 of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996, from 1997 to 2006, in England and Wales, are shown in the following table. All defendants found guilty of this offence were given a fine; with the exception of one defendant in 2005 who was given a conditional discharge.

Information on persons proceeded against for offences under Immigration Acts 1971 to 2004 during 2007 will be available in the autumn of 2008.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

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Published statistics on immigration and asylum are available from the Library of the House and from the Home Office Research, Development and Statistics website at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration1.html>.

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<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080613/text/80613w0018.htm#08061363000101>

David Lidington [208576]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many asylum cases included in the Legacy Cases Review are awaiting allocation to a case worker.

Reply from Liam Byrne: In December 2007, we allocated over 330,000 principal applicant cases to around 60 case owners. At that date, 52,000 cases had been concluded and we believe that the caseload also includes around 60,000 to 70,000 dependants.

Some cases were not allocated at that time and so we are continuing to refine our processes for allocating cases.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080616/text/80616w0008.htm#08061620000003>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

David Lidington [208577]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether she has set the UK Border Agency a target for the review under the Legacy Cases Review of asylum claims first made in 2000; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Liam Byrne: The work to clear the backlog of unresolved asylum cases was announced in July 2006 with the aim to clear these cases in five years or less. We remain confident that we are on track to conclude these cases by the summer of 2011.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080616/text/80616w0008.htm#08061620000003>

Lord Roberts of Llandudno asked Her Majesty's Government:

What is their estimate of the number of Polish citizens who were resident in the United Kingdom in 1980, 1990, 2000, 2005 and 2007. [HL3936]

Reply from Lord Davies of Oldham: The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the authority to reply.

Letter from Karen Dunnell, National Statistician, to Lord Roberts of Llandudno dated June 2008.

As National Statistician, I have been asked to reply to your Question concerning the estimate of the number of Polish citizens who were resident in the United Kingdom in 1980, 1990, 2000, 2005 and 2007. (HL3936)

Estimates of the numbers of Polish nationals living in the UK are provided in the table below. The estimate for 1990 is based on the Labour Force Survey, all other estimates are from the Annual Population Survey. 2006 is the latest calendar year for which data are available. No comparable estimates are available for 1980.

Year	Estimate of Polish nationals living in the UK
1990	32,000
2000	29,000
2005	131,000
2006	246,000

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200708/ldhansrd/text/80616w0003.htm#08061636000027>

Lord Patten asked Her Majesty's Government [HL3894]: Whether, in determining applications for asylum, the Home Office takes into account information on the situation facing apostates from Islam to Christianity in their home country.

Reply from Lord West of Spithead: All asylum applications are considered with great care on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the criteria set out in the 1951 United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and 1967 Protocol by fully trained decision-makers, taking account of the latest country information and case law. Information about the situation of apostates is reflected in the country information that is made available to decision-makers by the UK Border Agency Country of Origin Information (COI) Service.

The COI Service provides accurate, objective, sourced and up-to-date information on asylum seekers' countries of origin.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200708/ldhansrd/text/80616w0004.htm#08061636000036>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Lord Roberts of Llandudno asked Her Majesty's Government [HL3933]: What information about life and challenges in the United Kingdom is made available in Eastern European communities for those planning to work in the United Kingdom.

Reply from Lord West of Spithead: Several leaflets inform migrants from Eastern Europe of their rights and responsibilities when coming to work in the UK some of which are available in the languages of the target audiences. The leaflets provide information on how to meet the requirements to work legally in the UK, as well as information on workers' rights such as the minimum wage and health and safety. Also included are contact details of useful organisations that can provide further advice.

The publications are:

Living and Working in the UK: Rights and responsibilities of nationals from the new member states from 1 May 2004. This can be found online at: [www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/workingintheuk/wrs/workers/Living and Working in the UK: Rights and responsibilities of nationals from Bulgaria and Romania from 1 January 2007](http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/workingintheuk/wrs/workers/Living%20and%20Working%20in%20the%20UK%20Rights%20and%20responsibilities%20of%20nationals%20from%20Bulgaria%20and%20Romania%20from%201%20January%202007). This leaflet can be found online at: [www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/workingintheuk/bulgariaromania/liveworkuk/Working in the UK: Know your rights and how to get help and advice](http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/workingintheuk/bulgariaromania/liveworkuk/Working%20in%20the%20UK%20Know%20your%20rights%20and%20how%20to%20get%20help%20and%20advice). This leaflet can be found online at: www.berr.gov.uk/employment/migrant-workers/index.html *Working in the UK: Your rights at work.* This leaflet can be found online at: www.tuc.org.uk/international/index.cfm?mins=288

There is also an extensive question and answer section on the UKBA website for Bulgarian and Romanian nationals, which covers their free movement rights and work authorisation requirements.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200708/ldhansrd/text/80616w0003.htm#08061636000026>

Karen Buck [210021]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what arrangements have been made by the Government to evaluate the testing arrangements for new citizens through the Life in the UK test.

Reply from Liam Byrne: We are currently considering the most appropriate way to assess the arrangements for migrants to demonstrate sufficient knowledge of life in the UK and of the language with citizenship courses that new citizens with less developed language skills are encouraged to undertake. We attach great importance to these policies and want to take the time to ensure that they are properly evaluated.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080616/text/80616w0009.htm#08061620000005>

Mark Oaten [210469]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how much revenue was received from people taking the Life in the UK test in each year since its introduction.

Reply from Liam Byrne : Candidates taking the Life in the UK test pay a fee of £34. This is calculated on a cost recovery basis and is not therefore designed to generate revenue for the Government.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080616/text/80616w0009.htm#08061620000005>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Mark Oaten [210470]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what percentage of applicants have failed the Life in the UK test at least once in each of the last three years; and how many times on average an applicant took the Life in the UK test before passing in each year.

Reply from Liam Byrne: Applicants may take the test as many times as they wish. We do not routinely collect information on the number of times a person goes through the system and this information would be available only at a disproportionate cost.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080616/text/80616w0009.htm#08061620000005>

Mark Oaten: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if she will bring forward plans to review the Life in the UK test. [210590]

Reply from Liam Byrne: We are currently considering the most appropriate way to assess the arrangements for migrants to demonstrate sufficient knowledge of life in the UK and of the language with citizenship courses that new citizens with less developed language skills are encouraged to undertake. We attach great importance to these policies and want to take the time to ensure that they are properly evaluated.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080616/text/80616w0009.htm#08061620000005>

Westminster Early Day Motions

Evan Harris (1794) **World Refugee Week** – That this House recognises on the occasion of Refugee Week, that more than 67 million people worldwide are in a situation of forced displacement as a result of conflict and persecution; notes with concern that the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) is the sole body with a global mandate to co-ordinate protection, shelter and assistance for the world's displaced, but remains almost entirely funded by voluntary contributions; expresses dismay that over five million of the world's refugees have been living in exile for more than five years; and calls on the Government and the wider international community to find durable solutions for all long-term refugees.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmedm/80616e01.htm>

Stewart Hosie (1845) **Josie Pasane** – That this House condemns the Home Office decision to separate Josie Pasane from her family, whom she has been living with for seven years in Broughty Ferry, and to deport her to South Africa; expresses concern over reports that Josie received incorrect advice from the Home Office over her status which has led to the order for deportation; notes that Josie a graduate of Abertay University, is a valued member of the local community; and calls on the Government urgently to review her case.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmedm/80619e01.htm>

Press Releases

Local immigration teams launched

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/about-us/news/local-immigration-teams>

Immigration and Asylum Press Releases (continued)

Local immigration teams to be introduced across the UK

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/localimmigrationteamstobe>

Return of illegal immigrants debated as MEPs weigh up "return directive"

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/public/story_page/018-31734-168-06-25-902-20080616STO31733-2008-16-06-2008/default_en.htm

New publication

Enforcing the deal: Our plans for enforcing the immigration laws in the United Kingdom's communities

http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/managingourborders/enforcementbusinessplan08_09/enforcementbusinessplan08_09.pdf?view=Binary

News

MP fights visa case with Home Office

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/output/2008/06/17/newsstory11515296t0.asp>

MP backs bid to fight against deportation

<http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/695490>

Migration tide turns as east Europeans head back home

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Migration-tide-turns-as-east.4190544.jp>

Immigration rules row may split family apart

<http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/693763>

Refugee movie shows at festival

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/7463187.stm>

Immigration offenders flee centre

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/latest-national-news/Immigration-offenders-flee-centre.4205361.jp>

Politicians told of woman's plight

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/output/2008/06/20/newsstory11532418t0.asp>

Broadening support for Josie in visa wrangle

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/output/2008/06/21/newsstory11538176t0.asp>

Crackdown on businesses hiring illegal immigrants

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2353721.0.Crackdown_on_businesses_hiring_illegal_immigrants.php

Thirty million reasons why this day is such an important one

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/opinion/George-Kerevan-Thirty-million-reasons.4205664.jp>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Backing for Polish consulate plan

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/highlands_and_islands/7465623.stm

What happened next? Kurdish girl wins asylum

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/what-happened-next-kurdish-girl-wins-asylum-852037.html>

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Race Relations

Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

Bashir Ahmad (S3M-2189): Glasgow Mela and the Scottish Academy of Asian Arts—That the Parliament welcomes the return of one of the biggest events in Glasgow's cultural calendar, the Glasgow Mela; congratulates the organisers of the Glasgow Mela on its 18th annual celebration; further congratulates the Scottish Academy of Asian Arts for once again providing a great festival full of dancing, music, entertainment and arts; notes that the Mela has become a highlight of the city's cultural calendar, and believes that there is no better way of celebrating multicultural Glasgow.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-08/bb-06-18f.htm>

Westminster Early Day Motion

Keith Vaz (1816) Promoting Multiculturalism –fThat this House believes that multiculturalism is the bedrock for a diverse and inclusive society; further believes that achieving social cohesion depends on sections of society respecting the cultural heritage of others and recognising the principle of being free to follow one's own culture and beliefs while respecting those of others; therefore commends the National Assembly Against Racism's new campaign One Society, Many Cultures to inform people about the meaning of multiculturalism; and calls on the Government to make a robust case for promoting equality and the benefits of multicultural diversity in Britain.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmedm/80617e01.htm>

New publication

Scotland's Jews

http://www.scojec.org/resources/files/scotlands_jews.pdf

News

A feast of diverse cultures at Mela festival

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2345488.0.A_feast_of_diverse_cultures_at_Mela_festival.php

Race Relations

News (continued)

Seeking common ground

<http://cgmg.jour.city.ac.uk/news.php?story=242>

A dialogue between cultures secures the future of civilisation

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/opinion/A-dialogue-between-cultures-secures.4205866.jp>

Young Muslims 'are turning to extremism'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/2171300/Young-Muslims-%27are-turning-to-extremism%27.html>

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Equality

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

George Foulkes (S3W-13852): To ask the Scottish Executive what action it is taking to ensure that more women and ethnic minority appointments are made to the High Court.

Reply from Kenny MacAskill: Since 2002 appointments to the office of judge have been made on the recommendation of the independent Judicial Appointments Board. The board's remit includes considering ways of recruiting a judiciary which is as representative as possible of the community they serve.

The board has set up a Diversity Working Group to assist them in fulfilling this aspect of their remit. The group is tasked with gathering evidence in relation to diversity among the legal profession, and considering ways for increasing the proportion of people from under-represented groups who apply for judicial office, reportings its findings to the board. The Scottish Government is supporting the board in this work.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-08/wa0616.htm>

George Foulkes (S3W-13853): To ask the Scottish Executive what percentage of appointments to the bench at all levels since May 2007 have been (a) women and (b) from ethnic minorities and how this compares with each of the previous three years.

Reply from Kenny MacAskill: The information about female appointments requested is set out in the following table.

% of Female Appointments

	2007-08	2006-07	2005-06	2004-05
Judges	0	0	33%	20%
Sheriff Principal	Note 1	Note 1	0	Note 1
Sheriffs	0	17%	43%	9%
Part-time Sheriffs	Note 1	30%	33%	Note 1
JPs (new Ministerial Appointments)	Note 1	41%	48%	31%

Note: 1. No appointments made in this period. None of those appointed during the period declared him or herself to be from an ethnic minority. (This information was not routinely requested in appointments to the office of justice of the peace before 2005-06.)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-08/wa0616.htm>

Equality (continued) News

Strange Fruit: Why Both Sides Are Wrong in the Race Debate

http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts_and_entertainment/books/book_reviews/article4164438.ece

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Philip Davies [211102]: To ask the Secretary of State for Justice if he will break down by ethnicity the (a) offender and (b) victim of each racially aggravated offence in each of the last five years.

Reply from Maria Eagle: Figures are available for the ethnicity of people convicted of racially aggravated offences for the five calendar years from 2002 to 2006. These statistics are in the following tables.

From 1 April 2008, police forces have been required to collect figures on the ethnicity of victims of racially aggravated offences. These figures remain subject to further collection and quality assurance work before they can be published by the Ministry of Justice.

To read the very long tables, see

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080617/text/80617w0024.htm#08061796000070>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080617/text/80617w0025.htm>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080617/text/80617w0026.htm>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080617/text/80617w0027.htm>

Lord Monson asked Her Majesty's Government [HL3921]: Further to the Written Answer by Lord West of Spithead on 20 May (WA 174), how they define a hate crime; and whether the term "hate-crime" (whether or not hyphenated) is in any Act of Parliament currently in force.

Reply from Lord West of Spithead: The hate crime definition was agreed by the Association of Chief Police Officers to be:

a hate incident is any incident which is perceived by the victim or any other person as being motivated by hate or prejudice; and a hate crime is any incident which contributes to a criminal offence, perceived by the victim or any other person as being motivated by prejudice or hate.

Hate crime is not specifically mentioned in any Act of Parliament. However, any act of violence will be brought under the appropriate legislation as determined by the Crown Prosecution Service.

Racism and Religious Hatred Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

The law as it stands protects everybody from violence such as assault, criminal damage or harassment. It also protects people from incitement to any offence, including offences such as harassment and criminal damage as well as all forms of violence. Existing legislation ensures aggravated sentencing for any offence which is motivated by hostility on the basis of race, religion, sexual orientation and disability. Guidelines ensure that there are a range of further aggravating factors which the court must take into account when sentencing. These include the vulnerability of the victim, additional degradation of the victim, and the offenders working in a group or gang.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200708/ldhansrd/text/80616w0001.htm#08061636000011>

Louise Ellman (212386): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what recent reports he has received on the arrangements for the Durban review conference on racism to be held in Geneva; and if he will make a statement.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmordbk1/80619w01.htm>

News

Two men injured in racial attack

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/glasgow_and_west/7455869.stm

£4000 win for headscarf Muslim

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/latestnews/4000-win-for-headscarf-Muslim.4191422.jp>

New service to fight discrimination cases

<http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/695233>

Boris adviser quits over race row

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/7468434.stm

Ian McEwan: I despise militant Islam

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2174813/Ian-McEwan-I-despise-militant-Islam.html>

Racism rears its ugly head in Cornwall

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/racism-rears-its-ugly-head-in-cornwall-851605.html>

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Other Holyrood

Committees

Equal Opportunities Committee

Removing Barriers and Creating Opportunities: Review of Progress

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/equal/reports-08/eor08-02.htm>

Justice Committee

Community Policing Inquiry

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/justice/or-08/ju08-1602.htm#Col920>

Press Releases

Reform of law on rape and sexual offences

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2008/06/18101607>

£30 million investment fund

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2008/06/18150321>

Homecoming 2009

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2008/06/16132725>

New publication

Scottish Ministerial Code: A code of conduct and guidance on procedures for Members of the Scottish Government and Junior Scottish Ministers

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/228477/0061852.pdf>

News

SNP derailed for first time in arts vote

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2350610.0.snp_derailed_for_first_time_in_arts_vote.php

Minister under fire as finance for Culture Bill is voted down

http://www.theherald.co.uk/politics/news/display.var.2350889.0.Minister_under_fire_as_finance_for_Culture_Bill_is_voted_down.php

Labour deal damaging blow to SNP legislation

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Labour-deal-damaging-blow-to.4200243.jp>

Culture plans thrown out by MSPs

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/7462151.stm>

Former presiding officers to advise on ministers' conduct

http://www.theherald.co.uk/politics/news/display.var.2350858.0.Former_presiding_officers_to_advise_on_ministers_conduct.php

Salmond defied over ministers' watchdog

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Salmond-defied-over-ministers39-watchdog.4200197.jp>

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Other Westminster

Debate

Gypsy Encampments

James Gray (North Wiltshire) (Con): May I say how pleased I am to have this opportunity to raise a matter that is of huge importance in my constituency of North Wiltshire and across the county of Wiltshire? Other hon. Members from elsewhere in England will be watching the progress of this debate, because many of my arguments would apply in most other counties across the nation of England. So this is a debate with a broader aspect, despite its title. In that context, I am glad to be joined by two colleagues from Wiltshire: my right hon. and learned Friend the Member for Devizes (Mr. Ancram), who has flown in on the red eye from Washington especially to be here, for which we are grateful, and my hon. Friend the Member for Westbury (Dr. Murrison). My hon. Friend the Member for Salisbury (Robert Key) sends his apologies: he has an urgent engagement in Salisbury and has been detained there. He would have been here otherwise and I understand that he supports what we will be saying during the debate.

This is a grave and great matter, particularly in my constituency. In the past month or so North Wiltshire district council has been consulting on whether and where it should allow a new gypsy encampment, currently for 24 pitches but, potentially, for 48: there may be two sites of 24. The excellent firm, Humberts, which carried out a survey into the matter came up with a list of six possible sites for this encampment in my constituency.

It will be no surprise to hon. Members to hear that the people who live next door to each of those encampments have been expressing their opinion on the subject forcefully. There was a meeting in the town of Calne, in my right hon. and learned Friend's constituency last night, attended by 750 people. That is a bigger public meeting than I have seen in my 11 or 12 years as a Member of Parliament. Similarly, a public meeting in Wootton Bassett last week was so large that it had to be divided into three separate groupings. There was a huge demonstration through the town of Chippenham a couple of weeks back, even though we folk in Chippenham do not have many public demonstrations. Public meetings have been held elsewhere. It is a matter of great and grave concern.

To continue reading the debate see

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080618/halltext/80618h0005.htm#08061892000002>

Parliamentary Questions

Andrew Rosindell [210049]: To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs what regulations are in place to govern the treatment of animals during religious ceremonies.

Reply from Jonathan Shaw: The Welfare of Animals (Slaughter or Killing) Regulations 2005 (as amended) prohibit religious slaughter (slaughter without prior stunning) outside a slaughterhouse. This helps protect the welfare of animals slaughtered for consumption during Muslim or Jewish religious ceremonies, or festivals. In addition the Animal Welfare Act 2006, makes it an offence to cause an animal under the control of man unnecessary suffering. In addition, the Act places a 'duty of care' on any owner or keeper to ensure that the welfare needs of their animals are met. Meeting the needs of animals includes the provision of a suitable environment (place to live); a suitable diet; ability to

Other Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

exhibit normal behaviour patterns; to be housed with, or apart from, other animals (if applicable); and to be protected from pain, injury, suffering and disease.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080617/text/80617w0002.htm#08061774000037>

Jim Cunningham [209713]: To ask the Secretary of State for Innovation, Universities and Skills what steps the Government has taken to prevent religious extremist teaching in universities.

Reply from Bill Rammell: Academic freedom is at the heart of our higher education system. Universities have the primary responsibility for determining course content and maintaining the standards of the awards they deliver and the quality of the education they provide. The standards of degrees awarded by HEIs, and the quality of learning opportunities, are subject to independent review by the Quality Assurance Agency and external examiners.

It is important that universities are able to teach and research the wide range of theological and ideological religious views and that these views are subjected to true academic rigour and scrutiny provided that what is being taught does not break the law by espousing or advocating violent extremism.

In January of this year, we issued guidance to the higher education sector on tackling violent extremism on campus—“Promoting Good Campus Relations, Fostering Shared Values and Preventing Violent Extremism in Universities and Higher Education Colleges”. This document gave practical advice to universities on building resilience to violent extremism in their campus but also emphasised the need for free and open debate around extremist ideologies.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080617/text/80617w0007.htm#08061774000087>

Theresa May [211045]: To ask the Secretary of State for Justice how many prosecutions there have been under the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2004.

Reply from Maria Eagle: There have been no prosecutions under the 2003 Act since it came into force in March 2004. However, the Act is designed to help to prevent this unacceptable practice from happening in the first place and anecdotal evidence suggests that it is doing this. It is also being used to raise awareness among relevant professionals including police forces and others in the Criminal Justice System and those involved with health care, social services and the education sector so that girls at risk can be identified. There is evidence that the law is being pursued vigorously. The Metropolitan Police Child Abuse Investigation Command, for example, has specifically targeted female genital mutilation and produced a comprehensive training pack which has been disseminated widely to London’s schools and many other agencies. Ultimately, educating communities to abandon the practice is the best way forward to break the cycle of mutilation and the Act continues to be widely used for that purpose.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080616/text/80616w0004.htm#0806167000060>

Other Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Theresa May [211066]: To ask the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families what steps his Department (a) has taken and (b) is planning to take, to educate education professionals on female genital mutilation.

Reply from Jim Knight: The Government aim to raise education professionals' awareness of female genital mutilation (FGM), particularly if they work within communities where this practice may once have been adopted. Education professionals may refer to the investigating agencies in the same way they would for any type of abuse. The Professional Standards for Teachers require that anyone who is teaching, or training to teach, must be aware of current legal requirements, national policies and guidance on the safeguarding and promotion of the well-being of children; also that they know how to identify and support children and young people whose progress, development or well-being is affected by changes or difficulties in their personal circumstances, and when to refer them to colleagues for specialist support.

Local authorities may exercise their powers under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 if they believe that a child has suffered, or is likely to suffer, FGM.

"Working Together to Safeguard Children" (April 2006), the main inter-agency guide to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, contains information about FGM. This guidance explains what is meant by FGM, makes clear that it is a criminal offence, and describes the signs that may indicate that a child is being prepared for FGM.

"Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education" came into force in January 2007 and is aimed specifically at the education sector. It also contains guidance about FGM and signposts further sources of information available on the Department's Teachernet website.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080616/text/80616w0033.htm#08061641000073>

Robert Neill [208101]: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government whether Regional Spatial Strategies are required to set targets for Traveller pitches.

Reply from Parmjit Dhanda: Local planning authorities are required to assess the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers in the same way that they assess the housing needs of other members of their local communities.

Local planning authorities do this through Gypsy and Travellers Accommodation Assessments (GTAA's). The GTAA's inform the preparation of policies in the draft Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS).

The RSS identifies the number of pitches required (but not the location), it is for local planning authorities to consider the location of the pitches required for their area, possibly in conjunction with neighbouring local planning authorities.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080616/text/80616w0018.htm#08061631000040>

Paul Goodman (212964): To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, pursuant to the Answer of 27th November 2007, Official Report, column 405W, on community relations: religion, when she expects to announce the independent review to examine with communities how to build the capacity of Islamic seminaries; who she expects to carry out the review; when she plans that it should report; what she estimates it will cost; and if she will make a statement.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmordbk1/80619w01.htm>

Other Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Paul Goodman (212966): To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, pursuant to the Answer of 29th November 2007, Official Report, column 405W, on community relations: religion, what progress her Department has made in establishing an advisory group on citizenship education classes run by mosque schools.
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmordbk1/80619w01.htm>

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New Publications

Housing Aspirations for a New Generation: Perspectives from white and south Asian British women

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/bookshop/eBooks/2236-women-housing-ethnicity.pdf>

Parenting 'mixed' children: negotiating difference and belonging in mixed race, ethnicity and faith families

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/bookshop/eBooks/2231-parenting-children-difference.pdf>

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator: Meeting the Charity Test Consultation Report

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/DocumentViewer.aspx?ID=8b9fe856-2911-4793-b80a-c5aeef0fa924>

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Other News

Asian culture festival announced

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/edinburgh_and_east/7456592.stm

Piping up for a welcome home

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/focus/display.var.2345484.0.Piping_up_for_a_welcome_home.php

Force denies £100,000 turban cost

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/west_midlands/7456528.stm

Muslim refuses shake, loses prize

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/ireland/article4188508.ece>

Specialist science college status granted to Muslim school

<http://www.birminghammail.net/news/top-stories/2008/06/20/specialist-science-college-status-granted-to-muslim-school-97319-21111108/>

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Bills in Progress

** New or updated this week

Holyrood

**** Creative Scotland Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/07-CreativeScotland/index.htm>

Stage 1 debate

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetingsParliament/or-08/sor0618-02.htm#Col9842>

Financial Resolution

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetingsParliament/or-08/sor0618-02.htm#Col9889>

Points of order relating to the Creative Scotland Bill and associated financial resolution

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetingsParliament/or-08/sor0618-02.htm#Col9901>

Decision time and further points of order

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetingsParliament/or-08/sor0618-02.htm#Col9909>

Although there was cross-party support for the principles of the Bill, the financial resolution was not approved, and the Bill therefore falls.

Judiciary and Courts Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/06-JudiciaryCourts/index.htm>

**** Offences (Aggravation by Prejudice) Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/09-AggPrej/index.htm>

Subordinate Legislation Committee Report at Stage 1

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/subleg/reports-08/sur08-AggragvatedOffences.htm>

Public Health Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/03-PublicHealth/index.htm>

Bill as passed

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

**** Sexual Offences Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/11-sexualOffences/index.htm>

Bill as introduced

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/11-sexualOffences/b11s3-intro.pdf>

Explanatory Notes

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/11-sexualOffences/b11s3-intro-en.pdf>

Policy Memorandum

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/11-sexualOffences/b11s3-intro-en.pdf>

Delegated Powers Memorandum

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/11-sexualOffences/b11s3-introd-dpm.pdf>

Bills in Progress (continued) **Westminster**

Counter-Terrorism Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2007-08/counterterrorism.html>

Draft Bill

The Governance of Britain - Constitutional Renewal

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/docs/draft-constitutional-renewal-bill.pdf>

Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2007-08/humanfertilisationandembryology.html>

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Consultations (closing date)

** New or updated this week

Safeguarding Children in Scotland who may have been Trafficked (3 July 2008)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/219212/0058832.pdf>

UK Parliament draft legislative programme (6 August 2008)

<http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm73/7372/7372.pdf>

Religious and Moral Education (November 2008 *date not specified*)

[http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/Images/religious and moral education outcomes codes to m4-482454.pdf](http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/Images/religious_and_moral_education_outcomes_codes_to_m4-482454.pdf)

Online questionnaire

<http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/curriculumforexcellence/onlinesurveys/religiousandmoraleducation.asp>

Religious Education in Roman Catholic Schools (November 2008 *date not specified*)

[http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/Images/religious education roman catholic outcomes codes tcm4-486155.pdf](http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/Images/religious_education_roman_catholic_outcomes_codes_tcm4-486155.pdf)

Online questionnaire

<http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/curriculumforexcellence/onlinesurveys/religiouseducationinroman Catholicschools.asp>

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Job Opportunities

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Funding Opportunities

**** CashBack for Communities**

Deadline for applications: 26 September 2008

CashBack for Communities provides funding for projects that are targeted at projects for young people in areas of multiple deprivation. For information and application form see <http://www.youthlink.co.uk/cashbackforcommuniti> (bottom half of page).

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Events/Conferences/Training

**** New or updated this week**

**** this week!**

Innovate to Integrate

26 June 2008 in Glasgow

Glasgow Caledonian University event to showcase creative ways that organisations from the public, private and voluntary sectors have used to promote and embed equality and diversity. For information see <http://www.gcal.ac.uk/odonline/InnovatetoIntegrate.html> or contact i2i@gcal.ac.uk / 0141 273 1352.

****deadline for applications this week!**

Our Space

21-25 July 2008 in the Lake District – **Applications must be received by 27 June 2008**

Equalities and Human Rights Commission activity week for 14 and 15 year olds to bring together young people of different backgrounds from England, Scotland and Wales to develop their social interaction and leadership skills through activities such as rafting, first aid, canoeing, trekking, and camping. For information see <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/projects/ourspace/Pages/default.aspx> or contact Sharon King sharon.king@skillforce.org / 01202 417 202.

Home Owner Focus Group

June 2008 (date still to be confirmed) in Glasgow

PAiH focus group to enable Minority Ethnic communities to give their views on changes to Scottish Government policy on helping home owners to look after their properties and make repairs. Participants will receive £30 to reimburse them for their time and travel. For information contact David Reilly david@paih.org / 0141 353 2220. **Note that this event is only for home owners.**

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** Migration Information Sharing Day**

1 July 2008 in Glasgow (10.00-4.00)

International Organisation for Migration event for anyone with an interest in asylum and immigration issues, to share information about the new points-based system for migration, current casework issues, and stories from people who have returned through the Voluntary Return Programmes. For information contact jhampsey@iom.int or fgoddard@iom.int, or see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/08vi_iom.pdf

Diversity in the UK / Diversity in Scotland

1 – 7 July 2008 in Aberdovey (Wales)

13 – 20 October 2008 at Loch Eil (Scotland)

Encompass programmes for young people aged 17-23 from religiously, ethnically, economically, socially and geographically diverse backgrounds. These include challenging outdoor team-building activities, and controversial, hard-hitting discussions focusing on issues such as identity, and stereotypes. For information see http://www.scojec.org/MEMO/Files/08iv_Encompass.doc or contact Erika 020 7493 9739 / erika@encompasstrust.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/>

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

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

Useful Links (continued)

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.scojec.org/>



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>