

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.

Supported by



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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.uk and requests to be added to circulation to mail@bemis.org.uk

During the Scottish and UK Parliament summer recess MEMO will be issued fortnightly. The Scottish Parliament returns on 31 August, and the UK Parliament on 6 October.



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scotland**
SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

We are delighted to announce that MEMO has received funding for the next three years from the Scottish Government Race, Religion, and Refugee Integration Fund as part of a grant to the Scottish Council of Jewish Communities.

MEMO will continue to be published as a joint project of the Scottish Council of Jewish Communities and BEMIS.

Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

Hugh O'Donnell (S3W-14928): To ask the Scottish Executive what assessment has been made of the Fresh Talent initiative and what costs have been incurred since its inception, broken down by month.

Reply from Linda Fabiani: A *Progress Report On The Fresh Talent Initiative* was produced by the University of Strathclyde and published on the Scottish Government's website on 30 October 2006. As part of the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the initiative, the Scottish Government's analytical services intend to publish a further evidence review of the Fresh Talent: Working in Scotland scheme shortly.

The Fresh Talent initiative was launched in February 2004. A detailed breakdown of expenditure to date is included in the table below. In addition, a further £400,000 per annum was allocated to support the relocation advisory service under the Initiative in each of the financial years 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08.

Fresh Talent Initiative

	Financial Year				
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Apr	£13,525.28	-£11,180.00	-£115,126.68	£116,481.76	£106,691.18
May	£5,318.50	£10,118.05	£5,165.53	-£114,456.17	£5,834.73
Jun	£50,497.91	£85,234.14	£89,967.61	£25,998.61	£10,826.57
Jul	£15,572.76	£6,094.11	£74,871.75	£17,136.36	
Aug	£38,423.87	£25,534.29	£154,347.09	£25,374.03	
Sep	£102,254.42	£61,911.67	£48,346.48	£112.50	
Oct	£16,992.22	£8,077.35	£88,728.55	£64,302.83	
Nov	£184,885.14	£125,629.75	£69,741.04	£159,723.43	
Dec	£98,436.09	£29,532.80	£6,928.00	£41,048.90	
Jan	£16,006.87	£947.72	£327,898.39	£351,440.96	
Feb	£100,531.17	£50,583.63	£61,092.71	£64,705.11	
Mar	£84,391.41	£579,252.26	£471,311.03	£154,755.15	
Total	£726,835.64	£971,735.77	£1,283,271.50	£906,623.47	£123,352.48

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-08/wa0807.htm>

Hugh O'Donnell (S3W-14929): To ask the Scottish Executive how many people have returned to their country of origin in each of the last five years, having failed to meet the financial threshold which allows them to extend their stay under the Fresh Talent initiative.

Reply from Linda Fabiani: This is a matter for the UK Government and the Scottish Government does not hold the data requested. Data on the successful applications to other managed migration schemes is held by the UK Borders Agency (UKBA). The Scottish Government is currently in discussion with UKBA about access to this data.

Immigration and Asylum Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

The Fresh Talent initiative includes a broad range of measures to support and attract migrant workers to live and work in Scotland, including the Fresh Talent: Working in Scotland scheme. The scheme allows international students to remain and work for up to 2 years after graduation. Since June 2005 over 8,300 graduates have successfully applied to remain.

The scheme has now been subsumed into tier one of the UK's new managed migration arrangements as tier one: post study and continues to be managed for the whole of the UK by the UKBA. At any point during the two years' leave to remain individuals can apply to extend their stay under one of the other UK managed migration routes.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-08/wa0807.htm>

Press Releases

Supporting international students

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2008/08/11095527>

Points-based system - service standards for tiers 2 and 5

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2008/pbs2and5standards>

Employers told to prepare for points-based system

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

Points-based system - apply for your sponsor licence by 1 October

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsfragments/sponsorlicence>

New publication

Outsourcing abuse: The use and misuse of state-sanctioned force during the detention and removal of asylum seekers

<http://www.ncadc.org.uk/emmaginnsfolder/emmaginnsfolder/july%2008/Outsourcing%20Abuse.pdf>

News

Anger over asylum seeker's deportation

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2418342.0.Anger_over_asylum_seekers_deportation.php

Farmer falls foul of border control

<http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/776450>

Empower immigrant women, don't punish them

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/aug/08/france.religion>

Migrants savour slice of Scottish culture

<http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/781418>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Asylum seekers on hunger strike

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/oxfordshire/7556290.stm>

Some migrant workers in fishing industry earning just £1 an hour

<http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/785305>

Conditions of migrant workers

<http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/784451>

Funding to retain international talent

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2008/08/13141248>

UK firms face migrant work fees

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7561880.stm>

Border guards refuse to use passport robots

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article4547507.ece>

Sharp fall in removals of asylum seekers

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstoppers/politics/2571140/Sharp-fall-in-removals-of-asylum-seekers.html>

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Race Relations

New publications

Report on the Situation of the Roma Community in Govanhill, Glasgow

http://www.oxfam.org.uk/resources/ukpoverty/downloads/roma_report.pdf

DecadeWatch 2007 Update: Roma Activists Assess the Progress of the Decade of Roma Inclusion

[http://demo.itent.hu/roma/portal/downloads/DecadeWatch/DecadeWatch%202007%20Update%20-%20Final%20\(30-07-08\).pdf](http://demo.itent.hu/roma/portal/downloads/DecadeWatch/DecadeWatch%202007%20Update%20-%20Final%20(30-07-08).pdf)

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Equality

News

Police told to boost minority recruitment

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/latestnews/Police-told-to-boost-minority.4371543.jp>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

Johann Lamont (S3W-15167): To ask the Scottish Executive what its position is on the view, expressed in a recent British Academy-funded study by academics from the universities of Strathclyde and West of Scotland, that anti-sectarian policies and initiatives need to be put back on the political agenda in Scotland.

Reply from Stewart Maxwell: We welcome this research report, which is a very useful small scale study providing information about young people's experiences of sectarianism in areas of Glasgow and adds to our body of knowledge on sectarianism. The Scottish Government fully recognises the importance of tackling all forms of religious intolerance, including sectarianism, and is committed to eradicating sectarianism from Scottish society.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-08/wa0808.htm>

George Foulkes (S3W-15233): To ask the Scottish Executive how many complaints there have been in each of its directorates and agencies of (a) race discrimination, (b) gender discrimination and (c) harassment in the last year.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-08/bb-08-04e.htm>

New publications

Study on discrimination on grounds of religion and belief, age, disability and sexual orientation outside of employment

Summary

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/fundamental_rights/pdf/org/exstudsum_en.pdf

Report

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/fundamental_rights/pdf/org/exstud_en.pdf

Annexes

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/fundamental_rights/pdf/org/exstudnex_en.pdf

News

Nipping prejudice in the bud

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/aug/07/raceineducation.race>

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

Pressure grows on Met boss after fresh claims of racism

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2008/aug/10/race.police>

Family abused in racial assault

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/surrey/7547562.stm>

Whites fear discrimination by public services

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2544391/Whites-fear-discrimination-by-public-services.html>

'No foreigners' advert condemned

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/northern_ireland/7556499.stm

Met chief 'tried to stop Muslim officer who was head of security for 2012 going to Beijing'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1043764/Met-chief-tried-stop-Muslim-officer-head-security-2012-going-Beijing.html?ITO=1490>

Sectarianism still rife, claims Kelman

http://www.theherald.co.uk/politics/news/display.var.2425989.0.Sectarianism_still_rife_claims_Kelman.php

Are we now blind to our own racism?

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/ireland/article4547953.ece>

Head of Met had his rival bugged

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article4547603.ece>

Call for Met's adviser on race cases to quit

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2008/aug/17/race.law>

Report raises concerns of racism at solicitors' watchdog

<http://business.timesonline.co.uk/tol/business/law/article4529713.ece>

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Other Holyrood

Parliamentary Questions

Bill Butler (S3W-15060): To ask the Scottish Executive what awards it has made from its Race, Religion and Refugee Integration funding since its inception, broken down by (a) recipient, (b) amount awarded and (c) date of award.

Reply from Stewart Maxwell: The Race, Religion and Refugee Integration funding stream will run from 2008 to 2011. Applicants were informed of the result of their application by letter on 28 July 2008. The successful applicants are as follows;

Other Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Recipient	Amount Awarded	Date of Award
Highland Diversity Project – Inverness Citizens Advice Bureau	£80,000	28 July 2008
Community Law Centre in Govanhill – Govan Law Centre Trust	£244,000	28 July 2008
"Me Included" – Multi Ethnic Aberdeen Ltd	£165,000	28 July 2008
Happy to Translate Logo Initiative– Trust Housing Association	£36,566	28 July 2008
Race, Religion and Refugee Integration Work – Bridging the Gap	£186,000	28 July 2008
Minority Communities Service Development Project – Dumfries and Galloway Citizens Advice Service	£68,670	28 July 2008
Workplace ESOL Project – Glasgow ESOL Forum	£185,000	28 July 2008
Black Community Skills Project – Skillnet Edinburgh	£250,000	28 July 2008
Integration and Orientation programme – Integrating Toryglen Community Ltd	£165,000	28 July 2008
Ladders to Employability and Integration – Bridges Programme	£240,000	28 July 2008
Integration Network – Maryhill Integration Network	£190,000	28 July 2008
Asylum Seeker and Refugee Project – Maryhill Citizens Advice Bureau	£187,000	28 July 2008
Good Community Relations Project – West of Scotland Race Equality Council	£240,000	28 July 2008
Govanhill Together – Crossroads Youth and Community Association	£160,000	28 July 2008
Race and Religion Relations Support Service – Dundee Citizens Advice Bureau	£109,000	28 July 2008
Empowering Youth: Future Leaders – Scottish Islamic Foundation	£190,000	28 July 2008
Connecting and Empowering Communities – Scottish Council of Jewish Communities	£100,000	28 July 2008
Inter-Faith Development Project – Edinburgh Interfaith Association	£190,000	28 July 2008
National Development Programme (Phase 2) - Minority Ethnic Carers of Older People	£195,000	28 July 2008
Youth – Faith Exploration Services - Youth Community Support Agency	£190,000	28 July 2008
Volunteer and Learning Development Project - Greater Pollok Integration Network	£130,000	28 July 2008

Other Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Improving Access For All – Ethnic Minorities Law Centre	£236,000	28 July 2008
Gypsy/Traveller Advice and Support Project – Gypsy Traveller Education and Information Project	£105,000	28 July 2008
Women and Children’s Project – Legal Services Agency	£27,000	28 July 2008
Festival of Spirituality and Peace – Church of St John the Evangelist	£130,000	28 July 2008
Empowering Individuals Media Skills – Awaz FM	£190,000	28 July 2008
Partners in Mental Health – Saheliya	£165,000	28 July 2008
One Workplace Equal Rights Project – Scottish Trades Union Congress	£165,000	28 July 2008
New Migrants Action Project - Positive Action in Housing	£160,000	28 July 2008
Family Counselling, Mediation and Advocacy project – Amina	£126,000	28 July 2008
DIWC Integration Project – Dundee International Women’s Centre	£160,000	28 July 2008
3R Project – Young Scot	£330,000	28 July 2008
Building Partnerships Work - Scottish Alliance of Racial Equality Councils (working through Central Racial Equality Council, Edinburgh and Lothians REC, Grampian REC and West of Scotland REC)	£330,000	28 July 2008
Total	£5,625,236	

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-08/wa0806.htm>

Johann Lamont (S3W-15170): To ask the Scottish Executive whether it will confirm that over £1.9 million of the Race Equality, Integration and Community Support Fund was allocated in 2006.

Reply from Stewart Maxwell: A two year allocation of £1,982,791 was made in 2006 to projects under the Race Equality, Integration and Community Support Fund covering the financial years 2006-07 and 2007-08.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-08/wa0806.htm>

Johann Lamont (S3W-15171): To ask the Scottish Executive whether any additional money was allocated to the Race Equality, Integration and Community Support Fund in 2007 and, if so, how much.

Reply from Stewart Maxwell: The Race Equality, Integration and Community Support Fund was allocated two years funding of £1,982,791 in 2006. This allocation covered the two financial years 2006-07 and 2007-08.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-08/wa0806.htm>

Other Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Johann Lamont (S3W-15172): To ask the Scottish Executive what the largest sum allocated from the Race Equality, Integration and Community Support Fund has been and which organisation received that money.

Reply from Stewart Maxwell: The Race Equality, Integration and Community Support Fund only permitted a maximum grant of £50,000. The Minority Ethnic Carers of Older People Project and the Ethnic Minorities Law Centre both received the maximum grant of £50,000 per year for two years.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-08/wa0806.htm>

Parliamentary Motion

Bashir Ahmad (S3M-2377): **RNIB Tackling Ethnic Minority Sight Loss**—That the Parliament congratulates the work of RNIB and, in particular, its newly launched project to tackle sight loss among the ethnic minority community; recognises that people of South Asian origin are six times more likely than Caucasians to develop type 2 diabetes, which may lead to retinopathy and eventual sight loss; notes that diseases such as glaucoma are three times more prevalent among people of Afro-Caribbean and Chinese descent; believes that language can often be a barrier, as well as a lack of knowledge, to services that are available to help; applauds RNIB for taking the challenge head on, and is committed to working with RNIB to make our health service as accessible as possible to all, regardless of ethnicity.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-08/bb-08-11f.htm>

Press Release

2007 Scottish Household Survey

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2008/08/07115603>

New publications

Scottish Household Survey:

Annual Report - Results from 2007

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/234648/0064223.pdf>

Methodology and Fieldwork Outcomes 2007

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/234562/0064216.pdf>

Questionnaire January 2006 to December 2008

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/234575/0064218.pdf>

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New Publication

Scotland's Population 2007

<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/files1/stats/scotlands-population-2007-the-register-generals-annual-review-153rd-edition/scotlands-population-2007-the-register-generals-annual-review-153rd-edition.pdf>

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Other News

"For Diversity. Against Discrimination." Journalist Award 2008

The "For Diversity. Against Discrimination." Journalist Award honours online and print journalists in the EU who, through their work, contribute to a better public understanding of the benefits of diversity and the fight against discrimination.

Now in its fifth year, the competition is open to journalists in the EU who write on issues of discrimination on the grounds of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, age, disability and sexual orientation.

All articles must have been published in either a print or an online media outlet in the EU, including the publications of individual companies, associations or universities.

An independent jury of media professionals and anti-discrimination experts will select 27 national award winners. These entries will then be judged by an EU Jury which will choose an overall winner and two runners-up. Winners can look forward to prizes with a value of up to €4,500 consisting of activities or equipment, such as participation at a conference or seminar on discrimination in the EU, a trip to Brussels to meet relevant EU officials, MEPs and other stakeholders or electronic equipment to help with their work.

This year's competition includes a Special Award which will be presented to journalists whose work highlights the treatment of the Roma, a community which frequently suffers from racial violence, hate speech and discrimination in accessing employment, education, health care, and public and social services. The juries will also select national winners as well as one overall European winner in this special category.

All entries must be submitted online via the Journalist Award 2008 website which will be launched at the beginning of August. The deadline for entries is 31 October 2008.

For more information see

http://www.stop-discrimination.info/fileadmin/pdfs/Journalist_Award_2008.pdf

UN rights body's 'think tank' kicks off inaugural session

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=27576&Cr=Human+Rights&Cr1=council>

The benefits of going wild in the country

http://www.theherald.co.uk/features/features/display.var.2417333.0.The_benefits_of_going_wild_in_the_country.php

Eid needs business backing

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2417554.0.eid_needs_business_backing.php

Efforts to stop ethnic sight loss

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/glasgow_and_west/7544704.stm

Other News (continued)

Asian stars call for more bone marrow donors

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/latestnews/Asian-stars-call-for-more.4371622.jp>

Changing the face of Muslim family life

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/aug/08/religion.islam>

First card to comply with Sharia law launched

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/other/display.var.2422949.0.First_card_to_comply_with_Sharia_law_launched.php

Veiled athletes challenge stereotypes in Beijing

<http://www.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idUSPEK28709020080811?pageNumber=2&virtualBrandChannel=0&sp=true>

The Registrar General's Annual Review of Scotland's Population

<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/press/2008-news/the-registrar-generals-annual-review-of-scotlands-population.html>

Sharia car insurance: For the first time, Muslims can buy policies in line with Islamic law

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1045959/Sharia-car-insurance-For-time-Muslims-buy-policies-line-Islamic-law.html>

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Bills in Progress

** New or updated this week

Holyrood

Health Boards (Membership and Elections) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/13-HealthBoards/index.htm>

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>

Sexual Offences Bill

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

Bills in Progress

Westminster

Counter-Terrorism Bill

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

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

** *closes this week!*

European Agency for Fundamental Rights Annual Report 2008 (20 August 2008)
http://fra.europa.eu/fra/index.php?fuseaction=content.dsp_cat_content&catid=48848cb530d4c

** *closes this week!*

European Agency for Fundamental Rights Work Programme 2009
(20 August 2008)
http://fra.europa.eu/fra/index.php?fuseaction=content.dsp_cat_content&catid=48848c9d7795d

** **UK Border Agency international group customer survey** (5 September 2008)
<http://www.ukvisas.gov.uk/en/aboutus/customersurvey>

The Duty to Promote Community Cohesion in Schools Survey 2008 (short online questionnaire – no closing date specified)
http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=DuLrl_2bXuA9e2GClgeKbcwA_3d_3d

Inquiry into the Scottish Parliament public petitions process (26 September 2008)
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/petitions/inquiries/petitionsProcess/Inquiryintothepublicpetitionsprocess.htm>

Election Day: Weekend Voting (26 September 2008)
<http://www.justice.gov.uk/docs/cp1308.pdf>

Forced Marriage Statutory Guidance (15 October 2008)
<http://www.fco.gov.uk/resources/en/pdf/forcedmarriage-consultation>

Strengthening the Common Travel Area (16 October 2008)
<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/strengtheningthecommontravelarea/travelareaconsultation?view=Binary>

No one written off: reforming welfare to reward responsibility (22 October 2008)
<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/welfarereform/noonewrittenoff/noonewrittenoff-complete.pdf>

Religious and Moral Education (November 2008)
http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/Images/religious_and_moral_education_outcomes_codes_tcm4-482454.pdf
Online questionnaire
<http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/curriculumforexcellence/onlinesurveys/religiousandmoraleducation.asp>

Religious Education in Roman Catholic Schools (November 2008)
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

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

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Funding Opportunity

Volunteering Scotland Grant Scheme

Deadline for applications: 30 September 2008

The Volunteering Scotland Grant Scheme can provide grants for up to three years for projects that attract harder to reach volunteers to enable organisations to develop and sustain high quality volunteering opportunities for people who need more support to get involved, and enrich their services with an extra resource of volunteers. Substantial grants for one or two years are available, as well as one-off small grants of £5,000 to smaller organisations. For information and application form see

<http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/grant-schemes/vsgs>

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Events/Conferences/Training

** New or updated this week

**** this week!**

Scottish Parliament Festival of Politics

20-24 August 2008 in Edinburgh and Dunfermline

The theme of this year's Scottish Parliament Festival of Politics is "Global Issues - National Perspectives", and will examine the impact that issues such as climate change, economic stability and national security have on Scotland and the wider UK. For information see <http://www.festivalofpolitics.org.uk/index.htm>. The programme includes:

Human Trafficking – Scotland's 21st Century Slaves 20 August (12.30-1.30)

Pathways to Peace 20 August (3.00-4.00)

Keeping the Faith in Sexual Health 22 August (12.30-1.30)

Cultural Identity 22 August (2.30-3.45, and 4.15-5.15)

Youth Politics Festival 23 August (11.00-4.00)

**** this week!**

Islam Festival

1 – 31 August in Edinburgh

Festival to promote awareness and understanding of Muslim faith and life through the *Discover Islam* Exhibition and a variety of talks, performances, and artistic events. For information see <http://www.islamfestival.com/>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** next week!**

Meeting the Mental Health Needs of Different Black & Minority Ethnic Faith Communities

26 August 2008 in Glasgow (9.00 – 1.00)

Conference organised by the NHS with to raise awareness of mental health services. Aimed at faith leaders and others with a role in a role in signposting individuals and families, challenging stigma through their practice, and supporting awareness training. For information contact Ayisha Azam 0141 201 9772 / ayisha.azam@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

**** next week!**

Become An Exemplar in Equalities Practice

28 August 2008 in Glasgow (12.00 – 2.00)

Information day about a new SCVO project targeting personal skills development of minority ethnic women, disabled women and women returners in the workplace, and strategic implementation of equalities mainstreaming within third sector organisations. The project begins in October, and will provide a forum to discuss and debate contemporary equality issues, share best practice, develop the knowledge and skill base of individual participants and organisations, offer mentoring and peer support, and increase knowledge and understanding of leadership skills in the workplace. For more information contact Linda or Dee on 0141 225 8000 / equalities@scvo.org.uk

**** Attitudes to Learning within the BME Communities**

9 September 2008 in Glasgow (10.00 – 3.30)

Conference and launch of new research organised by BEMIS and Learn Direct. For information contact Tanveer Parnez 0141 548 8047 / tanveer.parniez@bemis.org.uk or Pat Crook 0141 285 6047 / patriciac@learndirectscotland.org.uk

OSCR Meet the Regulator Roadshow

[23 September 2008 in Edinburgh](#) (9.15 – 1.30)

[1 October 2008 in Edinburgh](#) (9.15 – 2.00)

[2 October 2008 in Kelso](#) (9.15 – 1.30)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator training events aimed at charity trustees and administrators of smaller charities with an income less than £100,000. For information contact the OSCR communications@oscr.org.uk or follow above weblinks.

Sharing Experience – Sharing Concern

2 October 2008 in Perth (10.00 – 3.00)

National Commission for Pastoral and Social Care conference for faith communities on the theme of raising awareness on domestic abuse. For information contact 0141 847 6137 / nacosoca.admin@btconnect.com or see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/08vii_national_commission.doc

Volunteer Recruitment Fair

2 October 2008 in Edinburgh (11.0 – 7.00)

Recruitment and networking event organised by volunteer Centre Edinburgh to promote volunteering. For more information, or to book a stall contact Ellis Ciruello ellis.ciruello@volunteeredinburgh.org.uk or see <http://www.volunteeredinburgh.org.uk/news/pressreleases/BookingForm2008comp.doc>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Scottish Churches and Contemporary Migration

8 October 2008 in Edinburgh (9.30-4.15)

Conference organised by ACTS and the Scottish Churches to explore issues around migration, and to identify key themes and challenges to which the Churches in Scotland can make a positive contribution. For information contact Nelu Balaj 01259 216980 / ecumenical@acts-scotland.org or see

<http://www.acts-scotland.org/events/2008events/migrationconferenece.shtml>

**** Leadership Development Day**

12 November 2008 in Glasgow

Radar Disability Network training day designed to help disabled people and those with long-term health conditions realise their leadership potential and thus increase the number of disabled people in positions of leadership and influence around the UK. For information contact Judith Simpson Judith.Simpson@radar.org.uk

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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

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/>

Useful Links (continued)

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>



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/>