

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

*MEMO is produced by the **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities** in partnership with **BEMIS**.*

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

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

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

The UK Parliament will return from recess on 6 October.

Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Question

Mike Pringle (S3O-4339): To ask the Scottish Executive what representations it will make to the UK Government to ensure that the Immigration and Nationality Directorate is familiar with the relevant Scottish qualifications that meet the requirements of UK citizenship to avoid Scotland-based applications for citizenship being returned unprocessed.

Reply from Fiona Hyslop: I have already written to the Home Secretary asking that she take suitable steps to resolve the inconsistent processing by Home Office officials of applications from learners who have studied SQA qualifications.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-08/wa0925.htm>

Immigration and Asylum (continued) **Holyrood Parliamentary Motion**

Christina McKelvie S3M-2576: Dungavel and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child—That the Parliament welcomes the UK Government's opting-in to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the fact that this will mean the end of the practice of incarcerating asylum seeker children and child migrants without judicial scrutiny; further welcomes the fact that Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre will no longer hold children in close proximity to potentially dangerous adults; encourages the UK Government and the National Asylum Support Service to implement the convention now instead of waiting until domestic legislation is aligned with the convention, and congratulates all those who have campaigned to end child detention at Dungavel on the success of their campaign at last.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-08/bb-09-22f.htm>

Westminster Freedom of Information Releases

Home Office asylum policy towards Iraqi refugees

http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/about-us/freedom-of-information/released-information/foi-archive-immigration/9149_Iraqi_refugees_HO_policy?view=Html

Policy on the cancellation of refugee status

http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/about-us/freedom-of-information/released-information/foi-archive-immigration/9692_refugee_status_cancellation?view=Html

Deportation of asylum seekers failed due to disruptive behaviour by the passenger.

http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/about-us/freedom-of-information/released-information/foi-archive-about-us/9129_asylum_removals?view=Html

Border Control presence at Airports.

http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/about-us/freedom-of-information/released-information/foi-archive-immigration/10113_airport_border_control?view=Html

Handling of suspected 'health tourists'

http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/about-us/freedom-of-information/released-information/foi-archive-immigration/9707_detection_health_tourism?view=Html

Press Releases

First ID card unveiled by Home Secretary as scheme builds momentum

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

ID cards for foreign nationals unveiled

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/about-us/news/id-cards-foreign-nationals>

New publication

Finding Asylum

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/FA_08

Immigration and Asylum (continued) **News**

Group helps families learn English

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/output/2008/09/23/newsstory12000599t0.asp>

Glasgow Girl wins right to stay in Scotland

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2451436.0.Glasgow_Girl_wins_right_to_stay_in_Scotland.php

'All I want to do is help people'

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/focus/display.var.2451478.0.All_I_want_to_do_is_help_people.php

Glasgow Girl says it's so good to be staying

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2451620.0.glasgow_girl_says_its_so_good_to_be_staying.php

Foreign national ID card unveiled

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/7634111.stm

Analysis: The first ID cards

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/7634744.stm

Boost to security, or threat to liberty?

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/focus/display.var.2452954.0.Boost_to_security_or_threat_to_liberty.php

Rejecting ID cards

http://www.theherald.co.uk/features/editorial/display.var.2452871.0.Rejecting_ID_cards.php

Immigrants 'pose threat to jobs'

<http://thescotzman.scotsman.com/latest-national-news/Immigrants-39pose-threat-to-jobs39.4531187.jp>

'In my own country I had an important job with high powered contacts. When I came to Scotland I was told I had to stay unemployed' - Why asylum seekers should be allowed to work

http://www.sundayherald.com/news/heraldnews/display.var.2453800.0.in_my_own_country_i_had_an_important_job_with_high_powered_contacts_when_i_came_to_scotland_i_was_told_i_had_to_stay_unemployed_why_asylum_seekers_should_be_allowed_to_work.php

Tough on migrants, tough on our fruit farms

http://www.sundayherald.com/oped/opinion/display.var.2453821.0.tough_on_migrants_to_tough_on_our_fruit_farms.php

Immigration blunder forces doctor to quit

<http://scotlandonsunday.scotsman.com/latestnews/Immigration-blunder-forces-doctor-to.4535648.jp>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Illegal immigrants worked at border agency

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article4838007.ece>

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Race Relations

Holyrood Committee

Equal Opportunities Committee

Scottish Strategic Framework on Faith and Belief Relations

Evidence from Fergus Ewing (Minister for Community Safety), and Isobel Smyth (Chair, Scottish working group on religion and belief relations)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/equal/or-08/eo08-1202.htm#Col567>

Press Release

"The planet is our common home, Christians and non-Christians"

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/public/story_page/037-37715-338-12-49-906-20080922STO37700-2008-03-12-2008/default_en.htm

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Equality

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

Bill Kidd (S3W-16194): To ask the Scottish Executive what percentage of local authority staff is comprised of black and minority ethnic employees, broken down by local authority and department.

Bill Kidd (S3W-16196): To ask the Scottish Executive what percentage of local authority housing department staff is comprised of black and minority ethnic employees, broken down by local authority.

Bill Kidd (S3W-16197): To ask the Scottish Executive what percentage of local authority senior staff posts are filled by black and minority ethnic employees, broken down by local authority.

Reply from Jim Mather: The Scottish Government does not hold information on the percentage of local authority staff comprising of black and minority ethnic employees by department or grade of post. Information from local authorities on the ethnic composition of their total staff was recently requested as part of the Joint Staffing Watch survey. Having received such information from a majority of local authorities, further quality assurance work needs to be undertaken with the statistics before any analysis can be produced. Dependent on the outcome of this work, new analysis on the ethnicity of local authority staff may be published later in the year. Prior to this, individual local authorities may be able to provide further information on the ethnicity of their staff.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-08/wa0923.htm>

Equality

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Bill Kidd (S3W-16195): To ask the Scottish Executive what percentage of local authority social work staff is comprised of black and minority ethnic employees, broken down by local authority.

Reply from Jim Mather: The following table provides a breakdown of the percentage of local authority social work services staff who were reported as being of an ethnic minority in the Annual Local Authority Social Work Services Staffing Census for October 2007.

The ethnic minority group includes the following ethnic backgrounds: Mixed, Asian, Asian: Scottish, Asian: British, Asian: Indian, Asian: Pakistani, Asian: Bangladeshi, Asian: Chinese, Asian: Other, Black, Black: Scottish, Black: British, Black: Caribbean, Black: African, Black: Other, Other Ethnic Group

Also supplied is the percentage of staff for each local authority who were reported as having an unknown/not disclosed ethnicity.

Local Authority	Ethnic Group	
	Minority (%)	Not Known / Not Disclosed (%)
Aberdeen City Council	1.4	47.2
Aberdeenshire Council	0.3	47.6
Angus Council	0.0	2.3
Argyll and Bute Council	0.9	17.0
Clackmannanshire Council	0.6	10.9
Dumfries and Galloway Council	1.0	0.0
Dundee City Council	0.0	100.0
East Ayrshire Council	0.0	0.0
East Dunbartonshire Council	1.2	14.0
East Lothian Council	0.7	7.8
East Renfrewshire Council	0.6	0.3
City of Edinburgh Council	3.0	2.7
Comhairle nan Eilean Siar	0.0	100.0
Falkirk Council	0.1	36.1
Fife Council	0.8	7.3
Glasgow City Council	2.0	5.0
The Highland Council	0.0	100.0
Inverclyde Council	0.3	1.1
Midlothian Council	1.3	4.4
The Moray Council	0.2	69.3
North Ayrshire Council	0.1	38.9
North Lanarkshire Council	0.3	1.5
Orkney Islands Council	0.0	13.4

Equality Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Perth and Kinross Council	0.5	8.1
Renfrewshire Council	1.4	0.0
Scottish Borders Council	0.1	24.3
Shetland Islands Council	0.7	37.1
South Ayrshire Council	0.1	0.0
South Lanarkshire Council	0.6	1.8
Stirling Council	1.0	19.4
West Dunbartonshire Council	0.0	100.0
West Lothian Council	1.1	19.4
Scotland	1.0	21.6

Source: Staff of Scottish Local Authority Social Work Services, 2007.

Notes:

Figures reported in the table should be treated with caution for the following reasons.

1. Overall for Scotland, the ethnicity of just over one fifth of staff (21.6%) was unknown/not disclosed in October 2007.
2. Information regarding the ethnic background for all staff in Dumfries and Galloway, Dundee City, Eilean Siar and West Dunbartonshire is currently not known/disclosed.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-08/wa0923.htm>

Bill Kidd (S3W-16198): To ask the Scottish Executive what measures it is taking to achieve fair representation of black and minority ethnic employees in the local authority workforce, including fair representation in promoted posts.

Reply from John Swinney: Responsibility for employing staff or promoting staff in local authorities is a matter for the local authorities themselves. Local authorities are required to take such action as is necessary to meet their obligations under existing equal opportunities legislation.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-08/wa0923.htm>

Hugh O'Donnell (S3W-16494): To ask the Scottish Executive whether it recognises the role that the Equality and Diversity Education Officers Network Scotland plays in equality and anti-discrimination education by providing assistance and support for racial equality and diversity officers in schools.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-08/bb-09-23e.htm>

Hugh O'Donnell (S3W-16495): To ask the Scottish Executive, following the decision of the Schools Directorate to halt funding for the Equality and Diversity Education Officers Network Scotland (EDEONS), what measures are being taken to ensure the continuation of the services that EDEONS provides.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-08/bb-09-23e.htm>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

David Whitton (S3O-4328): To ask the Scottish Executive what action it is taking to eradicate sectarianism in Scotland.

Reply from Fergus Ewing: From the outset of this Government, we have made it clear that there is no place in modern Scotland for the sectarian bigotry that has blighted the lives of so many of our people. This Government will continue to tackle sectarianism and believes very strongly that education and the promotion of constructive dialogue will deliver the sectarian-free Scotland that we all aspire to.

David Whitton: In a recent newspaper article, a source close to the First Minister said that the First Minister's "commitment to and leadership in combating sectarianism is second to none."

In recent weeks, the Irish Government has asked questions about songs being sung by Rangers fans and the sports spokesman in the Northern Ireland Assembly has asked about songs sung by Celtic fans. Is it not now time for the First Minister to show his commitment and leadership, to take part in constructive dialogue, and to set a date for the next anti-sectarianism summit?

Reply from Fergus Ewing: I hope that all members believe that, of all issues, sectarianism is one for which we should eschew any temptation to indulge in any element of partisan or party politics. From the outset, the First Minister has made absolutely clear his commitment to opposing sectarianism in all its forms. His commitment was exemplified when he hosted in Edinburgh castle what I believe was the first reception of its kind, to thank the people who have worked so hard—in churches, football clubs, voluntary organisations and elsewhere—to tackle sectarianism. I hope that it is not in doubt that all members in this chamber are wholly committed to such objectives. The Government is working in a huge range of ways to exemplify that commitment.

Roseanna Cunningham: Will the minister confirm that there are many ways of tackling sectarianism? That was evident right from the start of the process, and right back at the original cross-party Government working group, on which I served. Will he confirm that it is a mistake to assume that, because one set of actions has been replaced by another, progress is not being made? Will he outline some of the events that have taken place beyond the Edinburgh castle event, to indicate to the chamber exactly what is being done to tackle this problem?

Reply from Fergus Ewing: Roseanna Cunningham is absolutely correct. In September last year I met the faith liaison advisory group, which represents religious communities across Scotland. I also hosted an anti-sectarianism event in Dynamic Earth to recognise the innovative ways in which young children have used art to show that we are all the same underneath the skin and underneath the football shirt.

In October I met Action of Churches Together in Scotland, and in November I took part in Nil by Mouth's "Sectarian Stories" launch and gave the keynote address at the churches' anti-sectarianism event.

In February, Dr Paisley and Martin McGuinness joined the First Minister and me in participating in another event involving young people, to show a united front against sectarianism.

We have also launched the Scottish working group on religion and belief relations, and in July I met Sense over Sectarianism to agree formally a further funding package that will provide the partnership with £412,500 to continue the good work that it does to attack sectarianism in all its forms.

Racism and Religious Hatred

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

On the question of a summit, there is no doubt that all religious leaders and all leaders of football clubs have already expressed their commitment to the task. On every occasion at which I have spoken, I have congratulated the former First Minister on his efforts. I congratulate him again here today. That commitment is not in doubt, but we need to move on towards the implementation of the campaign—especially among the young people of Scotland.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetingsParliament/or-08/sor0925-01.htm>

Bill Butler (S3W-16340): To ask the Scottish Executive how many times Scottish ministers have met the Scottish Football League to discuss sectarianism since 17 May 2007.

Bill Butler (S3W-16341): To ask the Scottish Executive how many times Scottish ministers have met the Scottish Premier League to discuss sectarianism since 17 May 2007.

Bill Butler (S3W-16366): To ask the Scottish Executive how many times Scottish ministers have met the Scottish Football Association to discuss sectarianism since 17 May 2007.

Reply from Stewart Maxwell: The Scottish Government has on-going dialogue with the football authorities to discuss a range of issues, including sectarianism.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-08/wa0925.htm>

Press Release

New Report Finds Violent Hate Crime on the Rise

<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/media/disc/2008/alert/342/index.htm>

New publications

2008 Hate Crime Survey:

Summary and recommendations

<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/pdf/fd/08/fd-080924-hcs08-summary-web.pdf>

Violence Based on Racism and Xenophobia

<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/pdf/fd/08/fd-080924-race-xen-web.pdf>

Antisemitic Violence

<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/pdf/fd/08/fd-080924-antidem-web2.pdf>

Violence Against Muslims

<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/pdf/fd/08/fd-080924-muslims-web.pdf>

Violence Based on Religious Intolerance

<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/pdf/fd/08/fd-080924-religious-web.pdf>

Violence Against Roma

<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/pdf/fd/08/fd-080924-roma-web.pdf>

Racism and Religious Hatred

New Publications (continued)

Violence Based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Bias

<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/pdf/fd/08/fd-080924-lgbt-web2.pdf>

Country Panorama

<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/pdf/fd/08/fd-080924-panorama-web.pdf>

The Russian Federation

<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/pdf/fd/08/fd-080924-russia-web.pdf>

Ukraine

<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/pdf/fd/08/fd-080924-ukraine-web.pdf>

The United States

<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/pdf/fd/08/fd-080924-usa-web.pdf>

Framework of Criminal Law

<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/pdf/fd/08/fd-080924-framework-of-criminal-law.pdf>

Systems of Monitoring and Reporting

<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/pdf/fd/08/fd-080924-systems-of-monitoring-and-reporting.pdf>

Hate Crime Report Card

<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/discrimination/pages.aspx?id=158>

News

Police probe racist assault in city park

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/latestnews/Police-probe-racist-assault-in.4517534.jp>

Cars at mosque targeted by vandal

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/tayside_and_central/7631068.stm

Mosque vandalism suspect arrested

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/tayside_and_central/7639742.stm

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Other Holyrood

Parliamentary Committee

Health and Sport Committee

Health Inequalities Inquiry

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/hs/or-08/he08-2102.htm#Col1094>

Other Holyrood (continued) **Press Release**

Police powers to retain DNA

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2008/09/23102014>

News

Harvie to become Green co-leader

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/7613833.stm>

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Other European Parliament

News

European Day of Remembrance for Victims of Stalinism and Nazism

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P6-TA-2008-0439+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN>

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Other News

Hindu temple planned for Aberdeen

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/north_east/7629100.stm

Sharia and England: a common law?

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/law_in_action/7619333.stm

Sites earmarked for travellers' halts

<http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/854023>

Ruling allows guide dog in mosque

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/leicestershire/7633623.stm>

Islamic finance shows banks the way forward

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/opinion/Islamic-finance-shows-banks-the.4531908.jp>

Muslim sues Tesco over alcohol

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/latest-national-news/Muslim-sues-Tesco-over-alcohol.4535827.jp>

Other News (continued)

Equality chief Trevor Phillips to quit directorship after 'conflict of interest' storm
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/3092713/Equality-chief-Trevor-Phillips-to-quit-directorship-after-conflict-of-interest-storm.html>

Nine-year-old Midlands girl rescued from forced marriage
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/3089375/Nine-year-old-Midlands-girl-rescued-from-forced-marriage.html>

How Muslim flashmobs can feed homeless people
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2008/sep/22/religion.socialexclusion>

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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>

revised Explanatory Notes

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/06-JudiciaryCourts/b6As3-stage2-en.pdf>

proposed amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/06-JudiciaryCourts/b6as3-stage3-ml.pdf>

Subordinate Legislation Committee consideration

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/subleg/or-08/su08-2602.htm#Col359>

Stage 3 consideration of amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetingsParliament/or-08/sor0925-02.htm#Col11242>

Stage 3 debate

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetingsParliament/or-08/sor0925-02.htm#Col11270>

Bill as passed

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/06-JudiciaryCourts/b6bs3-aspassed.pdf>

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 (continued)

Westminster

**** Counter-Terrorism Bill**

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

proposed amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200708/ldbills/065/amend/am065-g.htm>

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**

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_2bXuA9e2GClqeKbcwA_3d_3d

Local Authority Performance Targets for Under Achieving Pupil Groups (concerns schools in England and Wales) (6 October 2008)

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/conSection.cfm?consultationId=1574&dId=913&sId=5504&numbering=1&itemNumber=1>

Forced Marriage Statutory Guidance (15 October 2008)

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/resources/en/pdf/forcedmarriage-consultation>

Immigration appeals: Fair decisions, faster justice (16 October 2008)

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/immigrationappeals/immigrationappealsconsultation?view=Binary>

Strengthening the Common Travel Area (16 October 2008)

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/strengtheningthecommontravelarea/travelareaconsultation?view=Binary>

Offences (Aggravation by Prejudice) (Scotland) Bill (21 October 2008)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/justice/inquiries/Offences/offencescall.htm>

No one written off: reforming welfare to reward responsibility (22 October 2008)

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/welfarereform/noonewrittenoff/noonewrittenoff-complete.pdf>

**** Acquisition and Retention of DNA and Fingerprint Data in Scotland**

(21 November 2008)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/239066/0065846.pdf>

Consultations (continued)

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>

The Modern Scottish Jury in Criminal Trials (11 December 2008)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/238536/0065469.pdf>

**** Patients' Rights Bill for users of the NHS in Scotland** (16 January 2009)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/238978/0065812.pdf>

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Job Opportunities

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

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Events/Conferences/Training

** New or updated this week

**** this week!**

Civil Society and freedom of information – a missed opportunity?

30 September 2008 in Glasgow (10.00 – 4.00)

Seminar by the Scottish Information Commissioner and the Campaign for Freedom of Information to mark the launch of a new research project which aims to explore the ways in which Scottish civil society engages with freedom of information. The research follows evidence suggesting that the FOI 'right to information' is not being used to its full potential by Scotland's voluntary groups and campaign organisations, with only 4% of the appeals received by the Scottish Information Commissioner coming from the sector. For information contact Paul Mutch 01334 464610 / pmutch@itspublicknowledge.info

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** this week!**

Eid on the Drive

1 October 2008 in Glasgow (3.00 – 8.30)

Event to bring the multi-cultural communities of Pollokshields together to celebrate the end of Ramadhan. For information see <http://www.eidonthedrive.com/>

**** this week!**

OSCR Meet the Regulator Roadshow

[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.

**** this week!**

**** Diversity & Equality Planning Workshop - Developing & Implementing your Approach**

1 October 2008 in Glasgow (9.30 – 12.30)

Positive Action in Housing workshop to explore the issue of equality and diversity, explore personal feelings and issues, and how diversity and equality concepts can be developed and progressed practically in organisations. For information Zandra Yeaman zandra@paih.org / 0141 353 2220 or see <http://www.paih.org/users/training/diversity-equality-workshop.htm>

**** Diversity & Equality Training - The Legislation & Human Rights**

2 October 2008 in Glasgow (9.30 – 12.30)

Positive Action in Housing workshop to provide information about legislation relating to the equality strands, including race and ethnicity, age, disability, gender, faith and belief, and sexual orientation, as well as Human Rights. For information contact Zandra Yeaman zandra@paih.org / 0141 353 2220 or see <http://www.paih.org/users/training/diversity-equality-training.htm>

**** this week!**

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

**** this week!**

Volunteer Recruitment Fair

2 October 2008 in Edinburgh (11.00 – 7.00)

Recruitment and networking event organised by volunteer Centre Edinburgh to promote volunteering. For 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)

**** this week!**

Migrant Rights and Information Day

3 October in Edinburgh (10.00 – 6.00)

Positive Action in Housing information day to provide an opportunity for new migrants in Edinburgh to meet representatives from a range of different organisations and get information and advice on their employment rights, housing rights and options, welfare benefits entitlements, healthcare rights, education rights and on a wide range of other topics. For information contact Seonad Forbes 0141 353 2220 or see

<http://www.paih.org/NMAPFILES/Edinburghmigrantinfoeventagencyinvitation.pdf>

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/migrationconferece.shtml>

Return and Rebuild

8 October 2008 in Glasgow (9.00 – 1.00)

International Organisation for Migration conference to provide information about the support available for those returning to Afghanistan and Iraq to rebuild or repair their family homes. For information contact John Hampsey 0141 5488114 /

jhampsey@iom.int

Simplification, Sanctuary and Scotland

10 October 2008 in Glasgow (9.00 – 5.00)

Scottish Refugee Council conference to consider developments in UK asylum policy and their impact on asylum seekers and refugees in Scotland. For information contact Graeme Corbett 0141 223 7930 / graeme.corbett@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Scotland's Role - Turning Principles into Practice National Human Rights Institutions at the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

31 October 2008 in Glasgow (9.00-6.15)

Conference organised by the Centre for the Study of Human Rights Law, the University of Strathclyde, and the Scottish Human Rights Commission to consider how the newly instituted Scottish Human Rights Commission will in practice aim to root the principles of international human rights within the cultural and constitutional context of Scotland.

For information see <http://www.law.strath.ac.uk/udhr60/> or contact cshrl@law.strath.ac.uk

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator Annual Conference

3 November 2008 in Carnoustie (9.15 – 2.30)

OSCR will report on its work over the past 12 months and its strategic and operational priorities for 2009. For information see

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/NewsItem.aspx?ID=f0d64243-9ef7-4354-a89a-4e756d2680c2>

PAiH AGM

7 November 2008 in Glasgow (11.00 -)

For more information contact home@paih.org / 0141 353 2220

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

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

**** St Andrew's Day anti-racism march and rally**

29 November 2008 in Glasgow

March organised by the STUC to celebrate unity and challenge racism and fascism everywhere. For information see <http://www.stuc.org.uk/events/496/st-andrew-s-day-march-and-rally>

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Useful Links

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

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

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

Directgov (links to UK Government Departments)

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

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

One Scotland Many Cultures <http://www.scotlandagainstracism.com/>

Scottish Refugee Council www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

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

Equality and Human Rights Commission

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/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/>