

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

*MEMO is produced by the **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities** in partnership with the **Black and Ethnic Minority Infrastructure in Scotland**. 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 Question

Sex Trafficking

Irene Oldfather (S3W-23396): To ask the Scottish Executive what action it is taking to support victims of sex trafficking.

Reply from Kenny MacAskill: Under the terms of the *Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings*, which was ratified by the UK Government on 17 December 2008, where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that an individual is a victim of trafficking for any purpose, he or she must be offered support for a reflection period of at least 30 days. In the UK the reflection period has been set at 45 days. During that time the individual will not be subject to deportation proceedings. The Scottish Government is working with the UK Government, statutory agencies and the third sector to ensure that victims of trafficking are identified and supported. The Scottish Government has provided funding to the Trafficking Awareness Raising Alliance (TARA), which provides specialist support to adult female victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation. In addition, the Scottish Government has entered into an agreement with the Migrant Helpline to provide support to all other adult victims of trafficking, including adult males trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Local authorities have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in their area who are in need regardless of their status and this would include victims of trafficking.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/Business/PQA/default.aspx?pq=S3W-23396>

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Asylum

Tom Brake [242460]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department with reference to the answer from Lord West of Spithead of 29 October 2008, Official Report, House of Lords, column WA165, on asylum seekers, how her Department ensures that asylum seekers with grounds to make an appeal or fresh claim are given the opportunity to do so before attending a re-documentation interview.

Reply from Phil Woolas: Where an asylum claim falls to be refused, and the consequent immigration decision attracts a right of appeal, applicants are notified how to appeal and by when. The United Kingdom Border Agency is not required to wait for any appeal right to be exercised or any lodged appeal to be concluded before a re-documentation interview is arranged.

Case owners give full consideration to further representations, including whether they amount to a fresh claim, and decide on a case by case basis whether it is appropriate to suspend the re-documentation process in the light of those representations. The re-documentation interview is not prejudicial to the consideration of further representations or the outcome of any appeal.

Chris Huhne [242733]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many asylum seekers were removed through (a) assisted voluntary returns and (b) enforced returns in each of the last five years.

Reply from Jacqui Smith: The Home Office publishes statistics on the number of asylum seekers who were removed or departed voluntarily from the UK on a quarterly and annual basis.

The latest published annual information for the last four years can be found in table 7a of the Control of Immigration: Quarterly Statistical Summary, bulletin <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs09/immih408.pdf>.

Information prior to 2005 can be found in table 6.1 of the Control of Immigration: Statistics United Kingdom 2007 bulletin

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs08/hosb1008.pdf>.

Published statistics on immigration and asylum are placed in the Library of the House and are available from the Home Office's Research, Development and Statistics Directorate website at

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

Damian Green [269169]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what percentage of age assessments made by the UK Border Agency in 2008 have been successfully challenged on appeal.

Reply from Phil Woolas: Information on the percentage of age assessments made by the UK Border Agency in 2008 that have been successfully challenged on appeal is not available. This is because our Case Information Database does not record the specific reasons why an appeal is allowed. This information could be obtained only at disproportionate cost by the examination of a large number of individual case files.

Sally Keeble [272032]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many cases there were in the Legacy casework system on the latest date for which figures are available.

Reply from Phil Woolas: The previous Home Secretary informed Parliament in July 2006 of "the Immigration and Nationality Directorate's case load of around 400,000 to 450,000 electronic and paper records, which as hon. Members also know, are riddled with duplication and errors, and include cases of individuals who have since died or left the country, or are now EU citizens"

The Case Resolution Directorate has concluded 155,500 cases up to 9 January and the chief executive of the UK Border Agency will update the Home Affairs Select Committee on case conclusion progress in the summer.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Sally Keeble [272033]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department when she expects to have cleared the backlog of applications in the Legacy casework system.

Reply from Phil Woolas: The Case Resolution Directorate aims to complete all cases in the asylum backlog by 2011 and is currently on track to do so.

Sally Keeble [272034]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many applications in the Legacy casework system were made in each of the last seven years.

Reply from Phil Woolas: The work to clear the backlog of asylum cases was announced to Parliament in July 2006. The chief executive of the UK Border Agency provided an update on clearing the backlog of older cases to the Home Affairs Select Committee on 8 December 2008 and the next update is expected in the summer. To provide this information would involve a detailed examination of all our case records which would incur a disproportionate cost.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090506/text/90506w0022.htm#09050718000010>

Social Security Benefits: Asylum

Mike Hancock [265345]: To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions how many people who successfully claimed asylum since 1997 have (a) claimed and (b) been granted benefits.

Reply from Tony McNulty: Once a person has been granted leave to remain, they can apply for benefits but no record is kept of the fact that they had previously claimed asylum.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090505/text/90505w0028.htm#0905068000043>

Asylum: Finance

Neil Gerrard [271647]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department pursuant to the written ministerial statement of 19 March 2009, Official Report, column 69WS, on asylum support, in which areas the plastic payment card system for the administration of section 4 support is to be piloted; how many asylum seekers will be involved in the pilot programme; what the planned timetable for the pilot programme is; what the aims of the pilot programme are; what estimate she has made of the cost of the pilot programme; what criteria will apply in respect of its assessments; when she expects to publish an evaluation of the pilot programme; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Phil Woolas: The introduction of the Section 4 Support Card will be piloted in London and the north-west regions and the plan is to issue the card to around 200 people.

The date for commencing the pilot programme has not yet been determined and planning for the pilot programme is at an early stage. I am unable to provide any more information at the present time. There are no plans to issue a statement.

Neil Gerrard [271648]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department pursuant to the written ministerial statement of 19 March 2009, Official Report, column 69WS, on asylum support, if she will provide section 4 support for asylum seekers in cash; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Phil Woolas: There are no plans to begin paying section 4 support to failed asylum seekers in cash.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090506/text/90506w0023.htm>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Asylum: Finance

Sarah Teather: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many people were granted section 4 support in each of the last five years; and how many people were in receipt of section 4 support in each of those years. [263956]

Reply from Phil Woolas: The table shows the number of failed asylum seekers granted section four support and those who were in receipt of section four support. Information on the number of failed asylum seekers receiving section four support is only available from March 2005.

The number of failed asylum seekers granted section four and the number of people in receipt of section four support is published on a quarterly and annual basis.

The latest publication covering the fourth quarter of 2008 is 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 asylum seekers who were granted section 4 support and in receipt of section 4 support, excluding dependants, 2005 to 2008^(1,2)

Number of principal applicants

	<i>Decisions to grant section 4</i>	<i>Persons in receipt of section 4 at the end of the period</i>
2005	10,235	5,145
2006	6,025	6,555
2007 ⁽³⁾	6,705	9,140
2008 ⁽³⁾	9,110	10,295

⁽¹⁾ Figures rounded to the nearest five.

⁽²⁾ Information on Section 4 support prior to April 2007 is understated due to data quality issues associated with previous recording systems. The process of recording data on ASYS (the support database) improved the quality of the information.

⁽³⁾ Provisional figures.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090506/text/90506w0022.htm#09050718000011>

Deportation

Keith Vaz [271819]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many individuals have been deported on the grounds of national security in the last (a) 12 months, (b) five years and (c) 10 years; and how many such deportations were to (i) Pakistan, (ii) India, (iii) Yemen, (iv) Saudi Arabia, (v) Iran, (vi) Afghanistan, (vii) Bangladesh, (viii) Turkey and (ix) Oman.

Reply from Phil Woolas: The number of individuals deported on the grounds of national security is (a) none in the last 12 months, (b) nine in the last five years and (c) nine in the last 10 years. No deportation on the grounds of national security has taken place to the countries listed in the past 10 years.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090506/text/90506w0024.htm#09050718000026>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Deportation: Children

Andrew Smith [248591]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether a race impact study has been undertaken of the practice of removal from the UK of British citizen children with a foreign parent.

Reply from Phil Woolas: There has not been a race impact study conducted as the UK Border Agency does not remove children who are British citizens. However, where a foreign national is subject to enforced return and is a parent to a child with British citizenship, it is possible for that child to accompany the parent through the enforcement process. This is only on a voluntary basis and with the consent of all parties.

UK born children who are not British citizens can be detained and removed under Immigration Act powers.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090506/text/90506w0024.htm#09050718000027>

Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

Frank Field [270456]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many applicants for student visas from (a) Pakistan and (b) Algeria were interviewed by UK-based immigration staff in each of the last 10 years, excluding appointments for biometric checks; and how many of those granted a visa were subsequently granted an extension of leave to remain in each of the last 10 years.

Reply from Phil Woolas: This information is not centrally recorded and could be obtained only at disproportionate cost.

Frank Field [270457]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many student visas were granted to applicants from (a) Pakistan and (b) Algeria in each of the last 10 years.

Reply from Phil Woolas: The number of student visas issued to nationals of Pakistan and Algeria in each of the last five calendar years is shown in the table. Data held for previous years is not considered to be reliable.

	<i>Nationality</i>	
<i>Student visas issued</i>	<i>Pakistan</i>	<i>Algeria</i>
2004	13,683	337
2005	9,765	281
2006	13,372	417
2007	12,300	532
2008	9,663	338
Total	58,783	1,905
<i>Note:</i> The data is unpublished and should be treated as provisional.		

Mike Hancock [272061]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether people who are outside the UK may apply to be subject to the transitional arrangements under the Tier 1 for post-study workers.

Reply from Phil Woolas: People outside the UK are not able to apply for leave to enter under the transitional arrangements for Tier 1 (post study work).

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090506/text/90506w0026.htm#09050718000031>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Foreign Workers

Francis Maude [271941]: To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster pursuant to the answer of 2 March 2009, Official Report, column 1353W, on employment levels: private sector, what estimate the Office for National Statistics has made of the number of individuals who were not British citizens who were employed in the (a) public and (b) private sector in (i) 1997 and (ii) the most recent period for which figures are available.

Reply from Kevin Brennan: The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK statistics Authority. I have asked the Authority to reply.

Letter from Karen Dunnell, dated 5 May 2009:

As National Statistician, I have been asked to reply to your Parliamentary Question asking, pursuant to the Answer of 2 March 2009, Official Report, column 1353W, on employment level: private sector, what estimate the Office for National Statistics has made of the number of individuals who were not British citizens who were employed in the (a) public and (b) private sector in (i) 1997 and (ii) the most recent period for which figures are available. (271941)

The available information for non-UK nationals aged 16 and over is provided in the attached table.

The estimates are derived from the Labour Force Survey (LFS). The distinction between public and private sector is based on respondents' views about the organisation for which they work. The public sector estimates provided do not correspond to official Public Sector Employment estimates. Those are derived directly from employers and are based on National Accounts definitions, but do not include a nationality breakdown.

Citizenship is defined as the nationality reported by the respondents at the time of the survey.

As with any sample survey, estimates from the LFS are subject to a margin of uncertainty. This is assessed in a footnote to the table.

The figures have been derived from the LFS microdata which are weighted using the official population estimates published in autumn 2007. Consequently the 2008 estimate is not entirely consistent with the figures published in the monthly Labour Market Statistics First Release, which are weighted using more up-to-date population estimates.

Non-UK nationals aged 16 and over employed In the public and private sector three month period ending December, 1997 and 2008—United Kingdom, not seasonally adjusted

<i>Thousands</i>			
	<i>Private sector</i> ^(1, 3)	<i>Public sector</i> ^(1, 2)	<i>Total</i> ⁽⁴⁾
1997	766	235	1,005
2008 ⁽⁵⁾	*1,970	**401	*2,385

⁽¹⁾ It should be noted that public and private sector estimates;
- are based on survey respondents' views about the organisation for which they work;
- do not correspond to the National Accounts definition used for Public Sector Employment estimates.

⁽²⁾ Includes nationalised Industry or state corporation, central government, civil service, local government or council (incl. police, fire services and local authority controlled schools or colleges), university or other grant funded educational establishment, health authority or NHS trust and armed forces.

⁽³⁾ Includes self-employed and unpaid family workers.

⁽⁴⁾ Includes those whose type of employer was not known.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

⁽⁵⁾ Coefficients of Variation have been calculated for the latest period as an indication of the quality of the estimates, as described below:

Guide to Quality:

The Coefficient of Variation (CV) indicates the quality of an estimate, the smaller the CV value the higher the quality. The true value is likely to lie within +/- twice the CV—for example, for an estimate of 200 with a CV of 5 per cent. we would expect the population total to be within the range 180-220

Key Coefficient of Variation (CV) (%) Statistical Robustness

* 0 = CV < 5 Estimates are considered precise

** 5 = CV < 10 Estimates are considered reasonably precise

*** 10 = CV < 20 Estimates are considered acceptable

**** CV 20 Estimates are considered too unreliable for practical purposes

It should be noted that the above estimates exclude people in most types of communal establishment (e.g. hotels, boarding houses, hostels mobile home sites etc.)

Source: Labour Force Survey

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090505/text/90505w0020.htm#0905061000072>

Immigration

Damian Green [271358]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) when she expects local immigration teams to be operational;

(2) [271359] what estimate she has made of the likely cost of local immigration teams in 2009;

(3) [271360] what role the police will play in local immigration teams;

(4) [271361] what recent discussions she has had with representatives of (a) local authorities and (b) police forces on the local immigration team scheme.

Reply from Phil Woolas: Local immigration teams are being delivered as part of a rolling programme from 2009 to the end of 2011. Nine are already operational. We expect national coverage by operational local immigration teams to be in place by December 2011.

Local immigration teams will be delivered from within the UK Border Agency's overall operational budget for the next three years.

These teams will focus on the prevention and disruption of illegal activity and the arrest and removal of offenders. To disrupt illegal immigrants, the local teams will be backed by Immigration Crime Partnerships with the police. The police will work with immigration officers as equal partners in integrated teams to tackle organised immigration-related criminality as well as bringing a solution to those who are in the UK illegally and committing crime.

UK Border Agency regional directors are leading the discussions with stakeholders in their regions.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090506/text/90506w0027.htm#09050718000041>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Immigration Controls

Pete Wishart [272235]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many applications under the Highly-Skilled Migrants programme have been received in each year since the programme began.

Reply from Phil Woolas: The following table shows the number of highly skilled migrant applications received in each year since the programme began.

	<i>Number</i>
2002	2,495
2003	6,575
2004	23,845
2005	38,620
2006	51,590
2007	56,975

⁽¹⁾ Figures include review applications.

Notes:

1. Figures are rounded to nearest five.
2. The figures quoted are not provided under National Statistics protocols and has been derived from local management information and is therefore provisional and subject to change.

Pete Wishart [272238]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) how many failed applicants under the Highly-Skilled Migrants programme have subsequently been deported;

(2) [272239] what the average cost of completing deportation proceedings against failed applicants under the Highly-Skilled Migrants programme was in the latest period for which figures are available.

Reply from Phil Woolas: The Home Office publishes statistics on the number of persons removed and departed voluntarily from the UK on a quarterly and annual basis. National Statistics on immigration and asylum are placed in the Library of the House and are available from the Home Office's Research, Development and Statistics website at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration-asylum-stats.html> These statistics are categorised by asylum or non-asylum removals and it is therefore not possible to disaggregate the numbers of those who have been removed after a failed application under the Highly Skilled Migrants Programme from the overall figures for removals without the examination of individual records at disproportionate cost. Removals are delivered from within the UK Border Agency's overall operational budget. It is not possible to provide a figure for the average cost of removing a failed applicant under the Highly Skilled Migrants Programme because there are many different factors which may or may not be involved in the cost of a case (such as detention costs, travel costs, and the cost of escorting the individual in question). We are unable to disaggregate the specific costs and any attempt to do so would incur disproportionate cost.

The National Audit Office (NAO) gives a breakdown of the cost of typical asylum cases in 2007-08 in part four of their report 'The Home Office Management of Asylum Applications by the UK Border Agency' which was published on 23 January 2009. Although this refers specifically to asylum applicants, it provides an indication of the average costs of removing a person from the UK under a range of different circumstances. The report is available for viewing at:

http://www.nao.org.uk/publications/0809/management_of_asylum_appl.aspx

However, the UK Border Agency aims to ensure removals are effected at the lowest available rate subject to operational needs

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090506/text/90506w0027.htm#09050718000042>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Immigration: Fees and Charges

John Mann [272256]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if she will estimate revenue from charges for applications for (a) visas to the UK, (b) UK citizenship and (c) work permits in each of the next six financial years.

Reply from Phil Woolas: In 2009-10, we estimate that we will raise £338 million from applications for visas, £81 million from British citizenship applications and £16 million from tier 2 leave to remain applications.

We will continue to set fees in a way which ensures those who benefit from the system make an appropriate contribution towards the end to end costs of the immigration system.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090506/text/90506w0027.htm#09050718000043>

Immigration: Security Guards

David Howarth [271831]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many people applying for work as guards with the Security Industry Authority were asked to prove their immigration status in the latest year for which figures are available; how many of these did so; and how many of those found to be without the right to work (a) appealed, (b) appealed successfully and (c) had an appeal challenged by the UK Border Agency.

Reply from Vernon Coaker: All applications for licences to the Security Industry Authority (SIA) from non-EEA nationals are automatically checked for the Right to Work by the UK Border Agency at the request of the SIA.

From 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009, 28,892 checks were conducted. Of these, 25,165 were confirmed as having the Right to Work.

There were 3,727 who did not have the right to work, or where the UKBA had no trace of the applicant.

Out of the 3,727, a total of 1,196 contacted the SIA to claim that they had the right to work. Of these 1,041 were successful in having their right to work confirmed and 155 were unsuccessful. During the same period there were 27 appeals to the courts of which 20 were upheld, three were dismissed and four are awaiting a court ruling.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090506/text/90506w0027.htm#09050718000045>

Immigration: Homelessness

Lord Roberts of Llandudno [HL3114]: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will grant funding to voluntary organisations who work with European Union accession state migrant workers with a view to avoiding increased homelessness in the United Kingdom.

Reply from Baroness Andrews: The Government have provided £200 million to local authorities and the voluntary sector over three years to tackle homelessness, including rough sleeping. This is the biggest ever cash injection for homelessness services provided by any Government. It has provided £360,000 in additional homelessness grant funding in 2008-09 to some London councils, who in turn fund the voluntary sector, to prevent homelessness among A10 nationals—for instance, by paying for destitute A10s to return home.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200809/ldhansrd/text/90507w0004.htm>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Immigration: Marriage

Lord King of West Bromwich [HL2993]: To ask Her Majesty's Government further to the Written Answer by Lord West of Spithead on 20 April (WA 377), how many marriages subsequently failed during the probationary period; how many of those married couples had children born in the United Kingdom; and how many spouses were sent back to their country of origin after the failure of their marriages in each category.

Reply from Lord West of Spithead: To answer would require the examination of individual cases and would therefore incur disproportionate cost.

Paragraph 287 of the Immigration Rules (HC 395) requires that an applicant for indefinite leave to remain by the spouse of a person present and settled in the UK is still the spouse of the person he or she was admitted or granted an extension of stay to join, that the marriage is subsisting, and that each of the parties intends to live permanently with the other as his or her spouse.

Paragraph 289A of the Immigration Rules relates to victims of domestic violence, and states that a spouse who was previously granted a probationary period and who is able to produce such evidence as may be required by the Secretary of State to establish that the relationship was caused to break down permanently before the end of that period as a result of domestic violence may, subject to meeting the other requirements of the rule, be granted indefinite leave to remain.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200809/ldhansrd/text/90507w0004.htm#090507111000445>

Illegal Immigrants

Robert Goodwill [272463]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many clandestines were detected in vehicles attempting to enter the UK from France in 2008.

Reply from Phil Woolas: From 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2008 a total of 28,007 attempts by clandestines to enter the UK illegally were prevented. This figure includes multiple attempts made by individuals. The clandestines were detected by the UK Border Agency, alongside its partners at the Juxtaposed controls in Calais, Coquelles and Dunkerque.

Note: These figures have been sourced from locally collated management information held within locally accessed computer systems and do not represent National Statistics. They have not been the subject of National Statistics protocols and verification and should therefore be treated as provisional and subject to change.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090506/text/90506w0026.htm#09050718000040>

Immigration: Romania

Gregory Campbell [268726]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if she will hold discussions with representatives of the government of Romania on the number of people from that country who were refused entry to the UK on the grounds that their presence would threaten public policy, public security or public health since 2007.

Reply from Phil Woolas: There are ongoing discussions with the Romanian Government, including at the JHA Council in April, on various issues. HM Government have no current plans to meet with the Government of Romania on the number of Romanian citizens refused entry to the UK due to their presence being a threat to public policy, public security or public health. Any individual refused entry to the UK is dealt with on a case by case basis.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090506/text/90506w0027.htm#09050718000044>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Immigration: Somalia

Michael Fallon [269753]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many Somali citizens are seeking (a) asylum and (b) leave to remain; and how many have been (i) granted indefinite leave to remain and (ii) deported in each year since 1997.

Reply from Phil Woolas: An integral issue in asylum policy is that claimed national citizenship and actual citizenship are often different. The number of Somali nationals currently seeking asylum is not available and could be obtained only at disproportionate cost by examination of individual case records.

Management information indicates that as at 6 April 2009, there are 1,660 claimed Somali nationals who currently have outstanding applications for limited leave to remain in the UK. This information has not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols and may be subject to change. The figure has been rounded to the nearest five.

The following table shows the numbers of Somali nationals granted settlement in each year from 1997 to 2007, and Somali nationals removed or departed voluntarily from the UK in each year from 1997 to 2008. Published settlement data by nationality for 2008 are not currently available; this information is due to be published in August 2009.

National Statistics on asylum applications, including grants and refusals, grants of settlement and removals and voluntary departures from the UK are published in Chapters 3, 5 and 6 respectively of the Control of Immigration: Statistics United Kingdom annual bulletins. Copies of these publications are available from the Library of the House and the Home Office's Research, Development and Statistics website at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs08/hosb1008.pdf>

<i>Grants of settlement, removals and voluntary departures, nationals of Somalia, 1997 to 2008</i>												
<i>Number of grants/departures</i>												
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 ⁽¹⁾	2008 ⁽¹⁾
Grants of settlement	985	2,945	3,180	12,495	8,405	10,000	6,305	3,825	8,255	2,125	2,845	n/a
Removals and voluntary departures ^(2, 3, 4)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	610	840	920	295	205
<i>Of which:</i>												
asylum cases, principal ^(5, 6)	50	40	n/a	n/a	25	50	55	160	115	205	120	75
asylum cases, dependants ⁽⁵⁾	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	15	20	15	5	5
non-asylum cases	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	435	705	700	170	120

⁽¹⁾ Provisional figures.

⁽²⁾ Figures are rounded to the nearest 5 and may not sum to the totals shown because of independent rounding.

⁽³⁾ Includes persons departing voluntarily after notifying the UK Border Agency of their intention to leave prior to their departure, since January 1999 persons leaving under Assisted Voluntary Return programmes run by the International Organisation for Migration and since January 2005 persons who it has been established have left the UK without informing the immigration authorities.

⁽⁴⁾ Removals and voluntary departures recorded on the system as at the dates on which the data extracts were taken.

⁽⁵⁾ Persons who had sought asylum at some stage.

⁽⁶⁾ Data for 1998 and 2001 to 2003 have been estimated due to data quality issues.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090505/text/90505w0008.htm#09050554000012>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Human Trafficking

Damian Green [271357]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many people have been arrested under the Sexual Offences Act 2003 for trafficking for (a) sexual exploitation and (b) labour exploitation since the inception of the Act.

Reply from Alan Campbell: 425 people have so far been arrested for trafficking for sexual exploitation under the relevant sections of the Sexual Offences Act 2003.

161 people have been arrested for trafficking for the purposes of forced labour since the inception of the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants) Act 2004.

Margaret Moran [271449]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what estimate she has made of the number of victims of human trafficking who are repeat victims.

Reply from Vernon Coaker: The nature of human trafficking makes it difficult to provide a precise estimate of the number of victims in the United Kingdom, including those who are repeat victims. Our current estimate of the number of victims is that at any one time in 2003 there were up to 4,000 women in the UK who were victims of trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation.

The United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre continues to work on providing a more up to date estimate of the number of victims. We will be in a position to provide a more up to date estimate of the overall number including repeat victims by the end of the year.

Margaret Moran [271454]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department when she will publish her Department's report on the Pentameter 2 operation against human trafficking; what assessment she has made of the effectiveness of the operation in Bedfordshire; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Vernon Coaker: Gloucestershire constabulary will be publishing a report on the outcomes of Pentameter 2 in the near future.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090506/text/90506w0026.htm#09050718000038>

Human Trafficking Offences

Anthony Steen [272279]: To ask the Secretary of State for Justice what sentencing guidance his Department provides to judges who preside over human trafficking cases.

Reply from Maria Eagle: It is the responsibility of the independent Sentencing Guidelines Council to issue sentencing guidelines for criminal offences. In May 2007, the SGC issued a guideline on trafficking into the UK for purposes of sexual exploitation and will consider developing guidelines for people trafficking more generally. The Government's aim are to make the UK a hostile environment for trafficking and protect victims and potential victims from this abhorrent crime.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090505/text/90505w0015.htm#0905061000046>

Press Releases

Trafficked children missing from local authority care - UK Border Agency response

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/trafficked-children-ukba-respons>

Immigration and Asylum Press Releases (continued)

Gurkha decisions - Government response

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/ghurkhas-decisions-response>

The European Parliament sets out new rules on asylum policy

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress_page/022-55223-124-05-19-902-20090506IPR55222-04-05-2009-2009-true/default_en.htm

New publications

House of Commons European Scrutiny Committee Seventeenth Report of Session 2008–09: pp19-26 Trafficking in human beings

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmselect/cmeuleg/19-xv/19xv.pdf>

Government response to the consultation "Immigration appeals: Fair decisions, faster justice"

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/closedconsultations/immigrationappeals/immigration-appeals-response.pdf?view=Binary>

UNHCR Comments on the European Commission's Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a European Asylum Support Office

<http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/49ed78f62.html>

A New Approach to English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

http://www.dius.gov.uk/~media/publications/E/esol_new_approach

Focusing English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) on Community Cohesion – Department for Innovation Universities & Skills Consultation Report

http://www.dius.gov.uk/~media/publications/E/esol_consultation_report

News

Rally calls for immigrants' amnesty

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latest-national-news/Rally-calls-for-immigrants39-amnesty.5231202.jp>

Anger after remark by expert used to deport Kuwaiti

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2506064.0.Anger_after_remark_by_expert_used_to_deport_Kuwaiti.php

Betrayed by Britain

http://www.theherald.co.uk/features/editorial/display.var.2506018.0.Betrayed_by_Britain.php

Lumley continues Gurkhas' campaign

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latest-national-news/Lumley-continues-Gurkhas39-campaign.5233542.jp>

Immigration and Asylum News (continued)

Family of dead Gurkha 'can stay'

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/8042287.stm>

Gurkha's widow told she can stay

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article6256720.ece>

I've lived in Scotland for 63 years.. but I was branded illegal alien after first foreign holiday

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/2009/05/06/man-who-has-lived-in-scotland-for-63-years-declared-illegal-alien-after-first-foreign-holiday-86908-21335424/>

EU migration is working

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2009/may/08/eu-economic-immigration-poland>

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Race Relations

Westminster Parliamentary Question

Community Relations

Andrew Rosindell [272877]: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government what recent steps her Department has taken to increase levels of community cohesion.

Reply from Sadiq. Khan: We have demonstrated our ongoing commitment to community cohesion with a £50 million investment over three years and a public service agreement (PSA 21) to build cohesive, active and empowered communities. In addition to financial support we are working to support local authorities in delivering improvements in cohesion by providing a framework of guidance and targeted local support.

The latest part of this guidance framework was delivered in January 2009 and contains guidance on Meaningful Interaction and Building a Local Sense of Belonging, and summarises what we already know about the benefits of interaction and a local sense of belonging and how it can be achieved.

In addition, in we have also published an inter faith framework. Supported by a funding commitment of over £7.5 million, it aims to maintain and further develop good relations between faith communities and wider civil society.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090507/text/90507w0012.htm#090507117000051>

Press Release

Muslim West Facts Project: What People Really Think

<http://www.muslimwestfacts.com/mwf/File/118270/Gallup-Coexist-Index-2009-Press-Release.aspx>

Race Relations (continued)

New publication

The Gallup Coexist Index 2009: A Global Study of Interfaith Relations

<http://www.muslimwestfacts.com/mwf/File/118267/Gallup-Coexist-Index-2009.aspx>

News

80% of Muslims loyal to UK, says research

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2506793.0.80_of_muslims_loyal_to_uk_says_research.php

'Part of Islam is that you are loyal to the country you live in'

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/other/display.var.2506796.0.Part_of_Islam_is_that_you_are_loyal_to_the_country_you_live_in.php

Muslim attitudes survey: a closer look

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/andrewbrown/2009/may/07/gallup-muslims-islam>

More Muslims identify themselves as British than rest of population

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newsttopics/religion/5287105/More-Muslims-identify-themselves-as-British-than-rest-of-population.html>

Patriotic, respectful and homophobic: a portrait of British Muslims' state of mind

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/patriotic-respectful-and-homophobic-a-portrait-of-british-muslims-state-of-mind-1681062.html>

'I can't even afford to buy my daughter a bed'

http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/other/display.var.2506784.0.I_cant_even_afford_to_buy_my_daughter_a_bed.php

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Equality

Westminster Parliamentary Question

Equality and Human Rights Commission

Baroness Warsi [HL3156]: To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans the Equality and Human Rights Commission has to set performance indicators for local authorities to measure (a) equality, and (b) diversity.

Reply from Baroness Royall of Blaisdon: The Equality and Human Rights Commission has no plans to set performance indicators for local authorities. However, local authorities and all other public bodies do have legal obligations to promote equality, under the public sector equality duties. The commission is working with the Audit Commission, and other inspectorates, to develop ways of ensuring local authorities meet those obligations within the context of local area agreements and comprehensive area assessment, and the agreed framework of existing indicators, so that good performance on equality is recognised as central to overall performance. The commission has also worked with the Improvement Development Agency to revise its equality framework, which is a voluntary tool to support local authorities in improving performance on equality.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200809/ldhansrd/text/90507w0002.htm#090507111000437>

Equality (continued)

New publications

Access to Justice: a review of existing evidence of the experiences of minority groups based on ethnicity, identity and sexuality

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/docs/access-justice-minority-groups.pdf>

Ethnicity and child poverty

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rports2009-2010/rrep576.pdf>

News

Spare the public purse – bulldoze this equality maze

http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/columnists/minette_marrin/article6256630.ece

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Holyrood Parliamentary Question

Prison Service

Robert Brown (S3W-23050): To ask the Scottish Executive how many incidents of alleged racism have been recorded in prisons in each of the last five years, broken down by institution.

Reply from Kenny MacAskill: I have asked Mike Ewart, Chief Executive of the Scottish Prison Service to respond. His response is as follows:

The following table shows all recorded prisoner related racial incidents from the last five years broken down by Establishments. This data is as of 21 April 2009.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Aberdeen	0	0	0	1	0
Barlinnie	0	2	0	2	1
Cornton Vale	0	0	0	4	0
Edinburgh	0	0	0	1	1
Kilmarnock	0	1	0	4	1
Perth	0	0	0	1	0

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-09/wa0505.htm>

Westminster Ministerial Statement

Exclusions Review

Jacqui Smith (Secretary of State for the Home Department): My right hon. Friend Prime Minister made a commitment in the National Security Strategy statement of 19 March 2008, *Official Report*, column 929, to take “stronger action against those we suspect of stirring up tensions”. In the light of that, I have reviewed existing policy on the exclusion from the UK of those individuals who encourage violence or hatred in support of their ideology. We will:

Create a presumption in favour of exclusion in respect of all those who have engaged in the types of behaviour set out in the Home Secretary’s statement of 24 August 2005;

Provide that where an individual claims to have repudiated their previous extremist views or actions the burden of proof is on them to demonstrate this is so and that this has been publicly communicated;

Racism and Religious Hatred Westminster Ministerial Statement (continued)

Introduce changes that will allow me to exclude from the UK nationals of the European economic area, and their families, before they travel to this country where they constitute a threat to public security or policy;

Work with other agencies and community groups to improve the evidence base underpinning our exclusion decisions to ensure that we identify those who pose the greatest threat to our society;

Consider in all future cases whether it would be in the public interest to disclose that an individual has been excluded with a presumption to inform the public;

Make greater use of UK watch lists to ensure that individuals who might fall to be excluded, should they seek to come to the UK, are identified and any future visa application is considered with full regard to previous extremist activities.

Over the summer my officials have been working to implement these measures, in consultation with key partners across government and representatives of community groups. Most of these measures have been implemented today and amendments will be brought forward shortly to the Immigration (European Economic Areas) Regulations 2006 to ensure that I personally may exclude EEA nationals and their family members.

I am clear that these proposals should be implemented in a way that has the greatest impact on those who seek to enter the UK to stir up hatred within our society. It is therefore right that we have an ongoing engagement with interested parties in order to strike the appropriate balance and ensure we protect public safety and vital national interests here and abroad. Therefore my officials will continue to engage with community representatives to seek their views on the way this policy is operating.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm081028/wmstext/81028m0001.htm#08102850000004>

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Racially Aggravated Offences

Gregory Campbell [273097]: To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland how many racially-motivated assaults in Northern Ireland were reported in (a) 2007 and (b) 2008; and how many successful prosecutions there were arising from such assaults.

Reply from Paul Goggins: In 2006-07 there were 251 and in 2007-08 there were 204 reported racially-motivated assaults/wounding. Data include the offence categories of, 'wounding with intent', 'grievous bodily harm with intent', 'wounding', 'grievous bodily harm', 'assault occasioning actual bodily harm', 'common assault', 'aggravated assault' and 'assault on police'.

The information sought on successful prosecutions is not available. Legislation for racial hatred is provided for by way of The Criminal Justice (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004. Under this Order, penalties for convictions for specified violent offences can be increased by the Court if racial hatred, sexual orientation, gender or disability was an aggravating factor. Court data do not contain background information in relation to offences committed and it is therefore not possible to separate out the number of successful prosecutions for racially motivated offences in Northern Ireland.

Gregory Campbell [273098]: To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland how many anti-Semitic assaults occurred in Northern Ireland in each of the last five years for which figures are available.

Reply from Paul Goggins: That is an operational matter for the Chief Constable. I have asked him to reply directly to the hon. Member, and a copy of his letter will be placed in the Library of the House.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090506/text/90506w0010.htm#090506113000014>

Racism and Religious Hatred Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Racial Discrimination: Internet

John Mann [271850]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department which Minister in her Department has policy responsibility for tackling racism on the internet; what funds her Department has allocated to tackling racism on the internet in 2009-10; what steps are being taken to tackle (a) racism and (b) anti-Semitic hate on the internet.

Reply from Vernon Coaker: I am responsible for tackling hate crime on the internet. This includes racism on the internet. In February 2009 a ministerial seminar met to discuss how to more effectively tackle hate crime on the internet, including anti-Semitic hate crime. Work following this meeting is ongoing with officials currently researching options and costings on how best to tackle internet hate crime. Consideration will be given to the costed proposals in due course.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090506/text/90506w0029.htm#09050718000058>

Westminster Early Day Motion

Keith Vaz (1425) **Racism in football** – That this House welcomes the steps being taken by the Football Association to counter racism in football; applauds the proposals of the Football Association's working group on tackling Islamophobia and anti-Semitism in football to introduce tribunals to investigate racist and religious abuse at all levels of the game; encourages the football authorities fully to utilise the powers at their disposal to tackle all forms of abuse; recognises the need for the football community as a whole to unite to stamp out intolerance in the sport; and looks forward to the publication of the working group's report containing their full recommendations later in the year.

<http://edmi.parliament.uk/EDMi/EDMDetails.aspx?EDMID=38588&SESSION=899>

Press Releases

Promoters of hatred 'named and shamed'

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/about-us/news/name-and-shame-list>

and

<http://press.homeoffice.gov.uk/press-releases/hate-promoters-banned-UK-named>

OSCE meeting on hate crimes starts with call to combat bias-motivated violence more effectively

http://www.osce.org/odihr/item_1_37473.html

New publication

European Network Against Racism: Annual Report 2008

http://cms.horus.be/files/99935/MediaArchive/pdf/AnnualReport_08_LowResfinal.pdf

News

Lifeboat members resign over race claims

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/output/2009/05/04/newsstory13075316t0.asp>

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

Lifeboat crewman cleared over alleged racist comment

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/2009/05/04/lifeboat-crewman-cleared-over-alleged-racist-comment-86908-21331791/>

RNLI job claims denied in racism row

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/output/2009/05/05/newsstory13080922t0.asp>

RNLI race row 'devastating' for city

<http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/1200895>

RNLI accused of 'racism' in row among Broughty crew

<http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/1203129>

New appeal over racist attack on chef

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/scotland/New-appeal-over-racist-attack.5238249.jp>

Campaigners hit out at racists over anti-Polish graffiti

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/latestnews/Campaigners-hit-out-at-racists.5243549.jp>

Race allegation officer cleared

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/north_east/8040172.stm

BNP activist was linked to South Africa murder

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/bnp-activist-was-linked-to-south-africa-murder-1682302.html>

BNP's attempt to gain first European seat aided by man linked to ANC leader's killer

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2009/may/08/bnp-nick-griffin-arthur-kemp>

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Other Holyrood

Press Release

Committee calls for joint protocol on accuracy of members' contributions in the Chamber

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/nmCentre/news/news-comm-09/csppa09-s3-001.htm>

New publication

Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee Report: Accuracy of contributions in parliamentary proceedings

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/stanproc/reports-09/stpr09-05.htm>

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Parliamentary Questions

Forced Marriage

Margaret Moran [271426]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what estimate she has made of the number of forced marriages which took place in (a) Luton, (b) Bedfordshire and (c) East of England region in the last 12 months.

Reply from Vernon Coaker: The Government's Forced Marriage Unit (a joint Home Office and FCO Unit, established in 2005) deal with a significant number of forced marriage cases every year. In 2008, the unit began keeping more detailed statistics on all reportings of forced marriage that were referred to the FMU. These statistics are not broken down by local area, but are broken down by regions.

During the whole of 2008 the unit received reports of over 1,600 possible forced marriage cases. Of those who gave a location, 5 per cent. were in the eastern region.

Margaret Moran [271427]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what funding her Department is providing for specialist support for organisations dealing with forced marriage in 2009-10; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Alan Campbell: Following a successful pilot in 2008 the joint Home Office/Foreign and Commonwealth Office Forced Marriage Unit (FMU) has allocated £84,000 to its Domestic Programme fund for 2009-10. Specialist organisations will shortly be invited to apply for funds for project activities which support delivery of the FMUs 2009 and 2010 action plan. The Unit also separately funds support and awareness raising activity overseas, including in Pakistan, India and Bangladesh.

The Home Office has also allocated a total of £3.5 million to the nine Government offices for the regions and the Welsh Assembly for 2009-10 to support initiatives to tackle domestic violence. A number of regions have chosen to allocate specific funding to local initiatives tackling forced marriage in their areas.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090506/text/90506w0026.htm#09050718000033>

Travelling People: Caravan Sites

Caroline Spelman: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government what recent guidance her Department has issued to (a) police forces and (b) local authorities on the eviction of unauthorised Traveller camps. [272437]

Reply from Iain Wright: Communities and Local Government has produced the following guidance to assist the relevant authorities in dealing both with unauthorised camping (where the land is owned by others), and with unauthorised development (where the land is owned by the developer):

“Local Authorities and Gypsies and Travellers: a guide to responsibilities and powers”: May 2007;

“Guide to effective use of enforcement powers, Part 1: unauthorised encampments” February 2006 (in conjunction with the Home Office); and

“Guide to Effective Use of Enforcement Powers, Part 2: Unauthorised Development of Caravan Sites”: October 2007.

All of these publications are available on the Communities and Local Government website: www.communities.gov.uk/housing/housingmanagementcare/gypsiesandtravellers

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090505/text/90505w0032.htm#0905068000074>

Other Westminster (continued) Press Releases

High street stores to help customers get their passports and ID cards

<http://press.homeoffice.gov.uk/press-releases/high-st-shops-passports-idcards>

Manchester citizens get first chance to apply for ID cards

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

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Other News

'I wear the hijab with understanding and pride'

http://www.theherald.co.uk/features/features/display.var.2506037.0.I_wear_the_hijab_with_understanding_and_pride.php

Ethnic talent to be honoured

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2506634.0.ethnic_talent_to_be_honoured.php

Salaam Scotland: Festival of Muslim Culture and History

<http://scottishislamic.org/index.php?go=news&id=354>

Search for an Asian soccer star

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/football/teams/c/chelsea/8032767.stm>

Hindu loses court battle to be cremated on an open-air funeral pyre

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstoppers/religion/5295258/Hindu-loses-court-battle-to-be-cremated-on-an-open-air-funeral-pyre.html>

Court rejects outdoor funeral pyre request

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/court-rejects-outdoor-funeral-pyre-request-1681418.html>

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Bills in Progress ** New or updated this week

Holyrood

Arbitration Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/19-Arbitration/index.htm>

**** Education (Additional Support for Learning) Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/16-EdAddSup/index.htm>

Stage 2 consideration of amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/ellc/or-09/ed09-1202.htm#Col2226>

Bills in Progress

Holyrood (continued)

**** Criminal Justice and Licensing Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/24-CrimJustLc/index.htm>

Subordinate Legislation Committee: Stage 1 consideration

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/subleg/or-09/su09-1502.htm#Col565>

Offences (Aggravation by Prejudice) Bill

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

Scottish Local Government (Elections) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/21-SLGelections/index.htm>

Sexual Offences Bill

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

Bills in Progress

Westminster

Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2008-09/borderscitizenshipandimmigration.html>

Equality Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2008-09/equality.html>

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Consultations (closing date)

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Call for submissions of practices and initiatives in education that aim to combat intolerance against Muslims (15 May 2009)

<http://tandis.odihr.pl/index.php?p=edu.mus.map>

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator Corporate Plan 2009-11 (20 May 2009)

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/DocumentViewer.aspx?ID=a98d0e42-1f22-456f-94f9-2478749f650e>

Community planning for tackling poverty and deprivation (BEMIS consultation)
(23 May 2009)

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=ltofV E2_2fMrorgWbMuRbXrw_3d_3d

Equality Bill: Assessing the impact of a multiple discrimination provision
(5 June 2009)

<http://www.equalities.gov.uk/pdf/090422%20Multiple%20Discrimination%20Discussion%20Document%20Final%20Text.pdf>

Consultations (continued)

Working together to protect crowded places (10 July 2009)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/cons-2009-crowded-places/working-together-crowded-places?view=Binary>

and

Safer Places: a counter-terrorism supplement

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/cons-2009-crowded-places/safer-places?view=Binary>

**** UK Consultation on the European Commission Proposal for an Equal Treatment Directive**

http://www.equalities.gov.uk/international/eu_directive.aspx

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Job Opportunities

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

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Funding Opportunities

Commission announces £10 million funding programme for voluntary and community sector

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/newsandcomment/Pages/Commission-announces-%C2%A310-million-funding-programme-for-voluntary-and-community-sector.aspx>

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Events/Conferences/Training

**** New or updated this week**

**** this week!**

Scottish Government South Asian Development Programme: consultation meeting

11 May 2009 in Glasgow (11.30-2.30)

Scottish Government International Development Team meeting in co-operation with BEMIS to consult local communities in Scotland that have links with the South Asian subcontinent on the geographic and thematic focus, and funding arrangements for a new international development programme for South Asia. For information contact Ashay Ghai ashay.ghai@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 804.

**** this week!**

European Parliament Roadshow

13 May 2009 in Edinburgh (11.00-3.00)

European Parliament Office in Scotland information about the forthcoming European Parliament elections. For information see <http://www.europarl.org.uk/section/european-elections/european-elections>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Introduction to the Needs of Refugee Women

21 May 2009 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course for people working with asylum seekers and refugees who need a comprehensive understanding of the core issues affecting women seeking sanctuary in Scotland. For information contact SRC 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=65>

Protecting Vulnerable Groups: Check to Protect

2 June 2009 in Edinburgh (9.30-1.30)

10 June 2009 in Glasgow (9.30-1.30)

16 June 2009 in Aberdeen (9.30-1.30)

17 June 2009 in Dundee (9.30-1.30)

24 June 2009 in Inverness (9.30-1.30)

25 June 2009 in Perth (9.30-1.30)

Scottish Government events to inform organisations about the new Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme. This new membership scheme for people who work with children and protected adults will replace current disclosure arrangements for people whose post requires an enhanced disclosure. For information see

<http://www.protectingvulnerablegroups.com/> or contact Holyrood Events 0131 272 2136

Introduction to Working with Asylum Seekers & Refugees

9 June 2009 in Glasgow

20 August 2009 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to identify the issues and concerns participants have in relation to working with asylum seekers and refugees, provide information on legal, political, economic and historical factors in relation to people seeking asylum, share ideas for developing good practice, and to identify strategies and resources for work with refugees. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=73>

New Scrutiny Bodies 2011

26 June 2009 in Glasgow (9.30-2.00)

(Applications must be received by 5 June)

Scottish Government Conference for equality groups and people who use services on how health, care and social work services will be inspected from April 2011. For information see <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Health/Scrutiny/PublicEvent>

Hate crime and community safety (event for Muslim Women)

1 July 2009 in Falkirk (10.00-1.30)

Event organised by AMINA women's resource centre, and Central Police with speakers from the Crown Office, Police, Victim Support, and AMINA, and including round table discussions on issues affecting Muslim Women in relation to policing. For information contact Samina or Gabrielle 0141 585 8026 / info@mwrc.org.uk or Fiach 01786826012 / fiach.obroin-molloy@centralscotland.pnn.police.uk

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

UKBA (formerly NASS) Asylum Support - The Essentials

3 September 2009 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course covering the asylum process and the legal framework, support arrangements available to asylum seekers from the beginning to the end of the asylum process, and entitlements for refugees and unaccompanied or separated asylum-seeking children. For information contact SRC 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=60>

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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>

Scotland Helpline 0845 604 5510

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

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

Volunteer Development Scotland www.vds.org.uk

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

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

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

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

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

Useful Links (continued)

BBC Parliament online

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

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The **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC)** is the representative body of all the Jewish communities in Scotland. It advances public understanding about the Jewish religion, culture and community, and also works in partnership with other organisations to promote good relations and understanding among community groups and to promote equality. (Scottish Charity SC029438) <http://www.scojec.org/>



BEMIS (the Black and Ethnic Minority Infrastructure in Scotland) 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/>