

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

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Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month, and that the Scottish Parliament website has recently been redesigned, so that links published in previous issues of MEMO may no longer work. To find archive material on the Scottish Parliament website, copy the details from MEMO into the search facility at <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/help/searchadvanced.aspx>.

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Immigration and Asylum

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

British Citizenship

Lord Marlesford: To ask Her Majesty's Government in what circumstances the granting of United Kingdom residency or citizenship is required to have the recommendation of more than one official of the UK Border Agency.[HL13209]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): The settlement cases that require authorisation by a senior officer include: proposed grants of settlement where the applicant has a criminal conviction; proposed grants of residence where there is a positive result on internal security checks; proposals to grant settlement outside the immigration rules; proposed grants of settlement in employment route and long residence cases where there has been a break in continuous residence that exceeds the permitted limits; and cases where it is proposed to conduct a marriage interview in order to assess whether a relationship is genuine before settlement is conferred.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/111115w0001.htm#11111555000801>

Immigration Controls

Pete Wishart: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many failed applicants under the Highly-Skilled Migrants programme have subsequently been deported; and what the average cost of completing deportation proceedings against such people was in the latest period for which figures are available. [80341]

Reply from Damian Green: The Highly-Skilled Migrants programme ran from January 2002 to March 2008. 485 failed applicants to the programme have been removed from the UK.

The UK Border Agency (UKBA) is unable to provide an average cost of completing deportation proceeding as there are many variables, including: whether the person makes a voluntary or supervised departure; whether the person has to be detained in order to facilitate their removal; whether they have to be escorted; whether we have to apply for a travel document for their return; whether they are accompanied by dependants, and if so how many; the destination to which they are being returned; legal challenges.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111114/text/111114w0001.htm#11111436000052>

Immigrants: Families

Rehman Chishti: To ask the Secretary of State for Justice what discussions he has had with the Secretary of State for the Home Department on the application of Article 8 of the European Court of Human Rights by courts and tribunals in immigration and deportation matters; and if he will introduce legislation to reverse the effects of the decision of the House of Lords in Huang [2007] UKHL 11. [80564]

Reply from Kenneth Clarke: In the Home Office's recent consultation on family migration, the Home Secretary sought views on how a proper balance should be struck between the individual's right to respect for a private and family life and the wider public interest in protecting the public and controlling immigration. On 4 October the Home Secretary made clear her intention to revise the Immigration Rules to reinforce the public interest, in relation to cases engaging Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights, in respect of foreign nationals convicted of a criminal offence or who have breached our immigration laws being removed from the UK.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

The Government have no current plans for legislation in relation to the House of Lords decision in Huang.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111114/text/111114w0002.htm#1111155000015>

Immigration: Students

Lord Clement-Jones: To ask Her Majesty's Government what evaluation they have made of the impact of the new student visa rules on the intake of overseas students in United Kingdom universities for the academic year 2011-12.

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): My Lords, the Government's impact assessment concludes that the student visa reforms will have no impact on the number of visas issued to international students to attend UK universities either in the academic year 2011-12 or in subsequent years.

Lord Clement-Jones: My Lords, that shows that the impact assessment must be flawed. The early indications are that they are being heavily impacted, particularly from India, where the number of students is 20 per cent to 50 per cent down, as a result probably of the withdrawal of the post-study work route visa. Will the Government reconsider their policy before treating students as economic migrants and irreparable damage is done both to the finances and the reputation of UK universities?

Reply from Lord Henley: My Lords, I do not accept what my noble friend had to say, and I would refer him to the comments made by Universities UK about the reforms, saying that they will allow British universities to remain at the forefront of international student recruitment. I also refer my noble friend to the latest figures for non-EU university student applications for the 2012 academic year which are mostly for medical, dentistry, veterinary and Oxbridge courses, and those show an 8.8 per cent rise.

Baroness Prashar: My Lords, does the Minister agree that the Government should introduce a transitional measure for those students already in the UK whose colleges closed either as a result of action taken by the UK Border Agency or because many private and public sector providers voluntarily relinquished their licence because the system became too burdensome? It is estimated that there are some 5,000 internal students with no course, no sponsor and the majority have lost their fees. Would it not be more humane and less damaging for the reputation of the UK if those already here could retain their current visas and work entitlements while moving to an alternative sponsor? This would avoid students, particularly those from poor countries, staying here illegally.

Reply from Lord Henley: My Lords, we want to make sure that we continue to have high-quality students coming to the UK, and that is why I am very grateful for the support of Universities UK for the reforms that we are proposing. What we do not want are bogus students coming over for what might be called rather dubious or possibly non-existent institutions. As I have made clear, what we have done certainly has the support of Universities UK and will benefit universities in the UK, although it might not benefit what I would describe as the somewhat dubious institutions that have been acting in this field. We want to clamp down on the abuses of the immigration system that have crept in here. ...

To continue reading the lengthy question and answer session see
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/111115-0001.htm#11111560000740>

Visas

Lord Laird: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many private sector providers are highly trusted sponsors (HTS) for general purposes, how many have A and B rating, how many confirmations of acceptance for studies for non-European Union nationals non-HTS

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

providers are permitted to assign from 21 April 2011-25 April 2012 in total; and what that figure is expected to be for the following year.[HL13221]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): There are three separate levels of sponsor status; highly trusted (HTS), A rated or B rated. As at 9 November 2011, there are 990 private sector providers with HTS; 494 are A rated and 88 are B rated.

A rated and B rated sponsors have assigned 33,676 confirmation of acceptance for studies (CAS) from their active allocation. We do not make forecasts on the numbers of CASs that private sector non-HTS providers will assign in future years. The figures provided are based on local management information. This information has not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols and should be treated as provisional.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/111116w0001.htm#11111643000417>

Illegal Immigrants: Employment

Shabana Mahmood: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what steps she is taking to ensure businesses are aware of the penalties for employing illegal immigrants. [79775]

Reply from Damian Green: The UK Border Agency (UKBA) works closely with other Government partners, such as HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC), and trade bodies to provide business to business communications, targeting employers with enforcement messaging about illegal working operations and civil penalties. For example, during 2010 we completed a large number of employer awareness sessions, working jointly with HMRC, reaching more than 5,700 delegates. The Comprehensive Guidance for Employers on preventing illegal working and the shorter Summary Guidance were updated last year and widely publicised. Both documents include clear guidance on the level of civil penalties to be levied on employers found to be employing workers illegally.

UKBA enforcement teams complete educational visits to employers and the agency works closely with employer organisations to raise awareness of the civil penalty regime.

National and regional media are regularly used to highlight successful enforcement and immigration crime operations, including details of the penalties faced by employers who break the rules. The agency uses online channels to promote operations, publish names of non-compliant employers and provide guidance on preventing illegal working. This information is provided through the UK Border Agency website, social media channels such as Twitter, and partner channels such as Businesslink.gov.uk. and Direct Gov.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111114/text/111114w0001.htm#11111436000051>

Asylum

Pete Wishart: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many unsuccessful asylum seekers deported from the UK were refused entry on arrival at the country of their origin and subsequently returned to the UK in each of the last 24 months. [80340]

Reply from Damian Green: The UK Border Agency does not record this information on the Case Information Database (CID). To obtain this information would require a case by case search.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111114/text/111114w0001.htm#11111436000043>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Asylum

Jim Cunningham: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many asylum claims are outstanding; and from which countries the applicants in those cases came. [81311]

Reply from Damian Green: The number of asylum applications made since April 2006 pending an initial decision or further review, excluding dependants, as at 31 August 2011 was 10,810. Of these 10,810 asylum cases, 5,655 were pending an initial decision and 5,155 were pending further review. A copy of the table disaggregated by country of nationality will be placed in the Library of the House. Total figures for the number of asylum applications awaiting an initial decision or further review are published monthly in monthly asylum statistics. Further information on asylum is available from the immigration statistics release available in the Library of the House and the Home Office Science website at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/science-research/research-statistics/migration/migration-statistics1/>

The UK Border Agency also publishes additional "work in progress caseload" figures annually which include cases that are subject to removal action, as part of the asylum performance framework measures. This is available from the UK Border Agency website at:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/further-key-data/>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111115/text/111115w0004.htm#111116400009>

Immigration: Detention Centres

The Lord Bishop of Ripon and Leeds: To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to ensure that residents are able to fulfil their religious obligations through making financial gifts in those immigration removal centres which are seeking to remove the use of cash from their premises. [HL13273]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): Cashless systems in the UK Border Agency's immigration removal centres provide detainees with an account into which their money is paid on arrival. Donations made to them and any earnings are credited to their accounts, and purchases are debited. Detainees may also make arrangements for money to be transferred to other people or organisations from their accounts. The account balance is paid to the individual in cash when they are discharged from detention.

If detainees wish to make donations as part of their religious obligations, they may make arrangements for money to be transferred from their accounts to the organisation of their choice.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/111116w0001.htm#11111643000397>

Detention Centres: Children

Lisa Nandy: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department with reference to her speech of 16 December 2010, what progress she has made on her proposal to end the detention of children for immigration purposes. [80666]

Reply from Damian Green: In December 2010 the Government published their plans for ending detention of children in a way which protects the welfare of children while ensuring that families with no right to remain in the country leave the UK.

On 1 March 2011 the UK Border Agency rolled out a new family returns process to

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

achieve this. This process gives families every opportunity to leave without the need for enforcement action and offers financial or practical assistance where appropriate. Where families choose not to co-operate, the UK Border Agency will take steps to ensure that they leave. In every case the Border Agency must submit a tailored family returns plan to a new independent Family Returns Panel comprising safeguarding and medical experts who advise on how the welfare of the children can best be safeguarded during the return.

Return plans may include a strictly time-limited stay in new family-friendly pre-departure accommodation, Cedars, where Barnardo's provide welfare and support services to help families prepare for their return. This is used as a last resort.

Tinsley House immigration removal centre remains in use for families intercepted at the border who are being held while arrangements are made for their immediate return and, in rare cases, for criminal and other high risk families who cannot be safely accommodated in pre-departure accommodation.

Details of the numbers of children held on this basis are published at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/child-detention-sep2011>

As set out on 16 December 2010, families may be held at ports for up to 24 hours to determine whether they should be admitted to the country or removed on a return flight.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111115/text/111115w0004.htm#111116400015>

Deportation: Complaints

Pete Wishart: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many (a) complaints and (b) claims have been made by (i) males and (ii) females of each nationality in each age group against her Department and its agencies and contractors as a result of alleged injuries and assaults sustained during the enforcement of deportation orders in each of the last five years; and what the location was of each alleged incident. [80336]

Reply from Damian Green: Complaints made by individuals detained in immigration removal centres or being removed from the UK have been centrally collated since December 2008. Information prior to this date is not available. The question has been interpreted as relating to the number of complaints and claims made that an incident allegedly took place during the removal process. All complaints are investigated and where there is an allegation of assault, the matter is referred to the police.

The number of complaints where an individual has alleged assault during an enforced removal are shown in the following table.

	<i>Number of complaints</i>
December 2008	n/a
December 2009	33
December 2010	41
December 2011 (to 9 November)	26
n/a = Not available.	

These figures are based on management information, which is subject to change, and does not form part of our publicised statistics.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Information on claims and a distinction between gender, nationality, age group and location cannot be provided without examination of individual complaint records and individual legal files at disproportionate cost.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111115/text/111115w0004.htm#111116400014>

Press Releases

Changes to the shortage occupation list come into effect

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2011/november/18-short-occup>

Minimum salary for sponsorship under family route should be raised

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2011/november/30-family-route>

Family life is a right for migrants too - how to ensure it?

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/11/1346&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

New Publications

Public perception of A8 migrants: the discourse of the media and its impacts

<http://bemis.org.uk/PDF/Jan%20Semotam%20MSc%20Dissertation.pdf>

In whose name? Migration, Sex Work and Trafficking

http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/londonmet/fms/MRSite/Research/iset/Nick%20Mai/In%20Whose%20Name_Findings%20Report.pdf

News

'An overcrowded England takes 90% of immigrants'

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/uk/an-overcrowded-england-takes-90-of-immigrants-1-1974802>

England one of most crowded countries in the world

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/8900095/England-one-of-most-crowded-countries-in-the-world.html>

England 'is world's sixth most crowded country: High rate of immigration blame for population surge

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2063265/England-worlds-sixth-crowded-country-High-rate-immigration-blame-population-surge.html>

£1m scheme proves asylum seekers unwilling to leave

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/politics/1m-scheme-proves-asylum-seekers-unwilling-to-leave-1.1135794>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Immigration: a policy distorted by targets

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/nov/17/immigration-policy-targets>

Workers face curb on bringing foreign-born spouses to UK

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/nov/16/workers-face-curb-foreign-born-spouses-uk>

Young Immigrants Launch Film About Their Experiences In Ireland

<http://www.mrci.ie/-Young-immigrants-launch-film-about-their-experiences-in-Ireland--detail-news/>

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Race Relations

Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

S4M-01362 Clare Adamson: International Day for Tolerance—That the Parliament recognises 16 November 2011 as International Day for Tolerance; notes that the day, which was established by the UN in 1996, aims to educate people about the need for tolerance in society and to help them understand the effects of intolerance; understands that the day also honours the 1995 UN Year for Tolerance, which asked for a commitment by heads of states and governments to advance human welfare, freedom and progress everywhere, and further acknowledges the day's aim to encourage tolerance, respect, dialogue and cooperation among different cultures, civilizations and peoples.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?referencenumber=S4M-01362&isinanything=true&resultsperpage=10>

Press Releases

'Active' tolerance vital during times of extraordinary change, UN officials say

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=40408&Cr=Tolerance&Cr1=>

Getting Member States to draw up their Roma integration strategies

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/11/771&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

News

Lady Warsi: extremists forfeit their right to call themselves Muslim

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/nov/14/warsi-extremists-forfeit-right-muslims>

Muslims prove to be Britain's greatest flag wavers

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/Society/article826203.ece

Muslims 'are more patriotic than most British people'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2063828/Muslims-patriotic-British-people.html>

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Equality

New Publication

Compendium of practice on Non-Discrimination/Equality Mainstreaming

http://www.inclusion-europe.org/uploads/doc/compendium_mainstreaming_equality_en.pdf

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Westminster Parliamentary Question

Anti-Semitism

Mr Hain: To ask the Secretary of State for Wales what steps her Department has taken to combat anti-Semitism since July 2010; and if she will make a statement. [80582]

Mr David Jones: The Government are committed to confronting anti-Semitism wherever it is found. Policy on tackling anti-Semitism across the UK is co-ordinated by the Department for Communities and Local Government through the cross-Government working group on anti-Semitism. This Group meets on a quarterly basis and includes representatives from the Community Security Trust, the Board of Deputies of British Jews and the Jewish Leadership Council.

The Government's approach to tackling anti-Semitism across the United Kingdom can be found in the "Three Years on Progress Report" which is available in the Library and at this link:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/communities/antisemitismresponse>

The Equality Act 2010 also demonstrates the Government's commitment to promotion of racial and religious equality across Wales and Great Britain. The Welsh Government also have responsibility for some aspects of community cohesion in Wales and the Government are working closely with the Welsh Government to ensure progress in these areas is consistent across the UK.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm111115/text/111115w0002.htm#11111581000021>

Press Releases

Detailed analysis of religious hate crime

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2011/11/18120149>

Racist incidents recorded by the Police

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2011/11/15141622>

PM statement on racism in football

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/news/pm-statement-on-racism-in-football/>

Speech by Baroness Warsi at the European Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism

<http://www.antisemitism.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/BWSpeech.docx>

Hate crimes remain serious problem across OSCE region, ODIHR report says

<http://www.osce.org/odihr/85099>

Racism and Religious Hatred (continued) **New Publications**

Religiously Aggravated Offending in Scotland 2010-11

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/362943/0122956.pdf>

Racist Incidents Recorded By The Police In Scotland, 2009-10

(Corrected from March 2011)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/362634/0122710.pdf>

Hate Crimes in the OSCE Region – Incidents and Responses: Annual Report for 2010

<http://tandis.odhr.pl/hcr2010/>

Country reports on measures to combat discrimination 2010

http://www.migpolgroup.com/publications_detail.php?id=329

Measuring anti-Muslim Attacks Project (MAMA)

<http://faith-matters.org/projects/mama>

News

Most Scottish religious hate crimes 'target Catholics'

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-15790225>

Two Scots charged with sectarian crime each day

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/politics/two-scots-charged-with-sectarian-crime-each-day-1.1135776>

Religious hate crime 'hits four-year high'

http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/politics/religious_hate_crime_hits_four_year_high_1_1973881

Sectarianism scale revealed

http://www.scotsman.com/edinburgh-evening-news/edinburgh/around-the-capital/sectarianism_scale_revealed_1_1975275

Shame as sectarian hate crimes increase by 10%

<http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/shame-as-sectarian-hate-crimes-increase-by-10-1.1135657>

Don't lose passion to beat prejudice

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/comment/herald-view/don-t-lose-passion-to-beat-prejudice-1.1135723>

Religious hate crimes rise by 10%

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article3231828.ece>

Sectarianism has roots in a wider society than football

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article3231831.ece>

Don't blame us for wave of hate crime in Scotland, say Celtic and Rangers

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/2011/11/19/don-t-blame-us-for-wave-of-hate-crime-in-scotland-say-celtic-and-rangers-86908-23573011/>

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

Celtic supporters snub summit with police over fans' behaviour

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/2011/11/19/celtic-supporters-snub-summit-with-police-over-fans-behaviour-86908-23573481/>

Celtic manager to request meeting with fans' group to help bring 'illicit chanting' to an end

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/sport/spl/celtic/celtic-manager-to-request-meeting-with-fans-group-to-help-bring-illicit-chanting-to-an-end-1.1135752>

Teenage football fan stands up to Scotland's sectarian thugs

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/football/2011/nov/20/teenage-football-fan-sectarian-violence>

Course launched to tackle bigotry

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/course-launched-to-tackle-bigotry-1.1135068>

Muslim Rangers fan Abdul Rafiq fined over bigot remarks

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-15777852>

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Other Holyrood

Press Release

SPCB to submit planning application for external security facility at Holyrood

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/newsandmediacentre/44073.aspx>

New Publication

The 2011 Scottish Parliament election In-depth

http://www.electoral-reform.org.uk/images/dynamicImages/ScottishReport2011_FINAL.pdf

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New Publication

Blue Dot Website

<http://bluedotworld.com/#article-246>

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Other News

London 2012: Sikhs allowed to carry daggers at Olympics

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/sport/olympics/8902202/London-2012-Sikhs-allowed-to-carry-daggers-at-Olympics.html>

Other News (continued)

Ethnic minority pupils increase by 57% in a decade

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-15738876>

Ethnic minority pupils 'soar by half in a decade'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/8894923/Ethnic-minority-pupils-soar-by-half-in-a-decade.html>

Girl guides set to drop oath to God in bow to secularists

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/8901378/Girl-guides-set-to-drop-oath-to-God-in-bow-to-secularists.html>

Starkey: 'Britain is a white mono-culture and schools should focus on our own history'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2061809/David-Starkey-row-British-history.html>

David Starkey in new row over 'mono-culture' comments

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/8890624/David-Starkey-in-new-row-over-mono-culture-comments.html>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Holyrood

**** Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/29678.aspx>

Proposed amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/44054.aspx>

and

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/44125.aspx>

and

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/44171.aspx>

Bills in Progress Westminster

**** Scotland Bill**

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

Scotland Bill Committee Evidence session

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=6543&mode=pdf>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Public Sector Equality Duty (25 November 2011)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/357629/0120853.pdf>

Consultations (continued)

The census and social science (30 November 2011)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/science-and-technology-committee/news/111109-new-inquiry---census/>

Reasonable accommodation of cultural diversity in the workplace

(no closing date given)

<http://www.esurveyspro.com/Survey.aspx?id=e80f85dd-1859-41b3-80b8-c1ffbccddc76>

Rights of Children and Young People Bill (1 December 2011)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/357438/0120726.pdf>

Aviation security: Consultation on a statutory authority to carry scheme

(6 December 2011)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/about-us/consultations/authority-to-carry/>

The Registration of Civil Partnerships Same Sex Marriage (9 December 2011)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/254430/0120640.pdf>

Migration Advisory Committee: level of the 2012/13 annual limit on tier 2 and associated policies (21 December 2011)

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/workingwithus/mac/mac-evidence-document>

Public Focus Strategy (closes 23 December 2011)

http://www.oscr.org.uk/media/279989/public_focus_strategy.pdf

**** Right to family reunification of third-country nationals living in the EU**

(1 March 2012)

http://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/news/consulting_public/consulting_0023_en.htm

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Job Opportunities

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Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Equality in Employment

23 November 2011 in Glasgow (10.30 – 4.30)

GCVS training to help organisations meet their legal and ethical responsibilities. Issues covered include recruitment, monitoring and dignity at work, and equality in volunteering.

For information see <http://tinyurl.com/6cv62u8>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** this week!**

Public perception of A8 migrants: the discourse of the media and its impacts

24 November 2011 in Glasgow (12.30)

BEMIS roundtable to discuss the lack of balance in news coverage of minority communities, and the need for increased participation by the diverse communities in coordinating, lobbying and influencing media portrayals. For information contact Jan Semotam 0141 548 8047 / jan.semotam@bemis.org.uk.

**** this week!**

The needs and experiences of refugee women

25 November 2011 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide a thorough understanding of fundamental issues affecting women seeking asylum in Scotland. It is appropriate for those working in social work, housing, welfare, education, employment, health, community development or the justice system. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/4x62hfa> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

**** this week!**

Interfaith Week

27 November – 4 December November 2011

For information about events throughout Scotland see

<http://www.scottishinterfaithcouncil.org/resources/Scottish+Inter+Faith+Week+Events+FINAL.doc> or contact Frances Hume fhume@scottishinterfaithcouncil.org / 0141 420 6982.

For information about events in Edinburgh see

<http://www.eifa.org.uk/resources/EIFA+Inter+faith+week.pdf>

**** I believe you: A faith approach to domestic abuse**

28 November 2011 in Edinburgh (11.30 – 1.00)

Church of Scotland and Edinburgh Inter-Faith Association to highlight the existence of domestic abuse within faith communities and reveal how the scriptures of the main faith communities condemn such violence. For information contact 0131 225 5722 / istewart@cofscotland.org.

Making Human Rights Happen

30 November 2011 in Glasgow (10.00 – 4.00)

1 Decemer 2011 in Dundee (10.00 – 4.00)

British Institute of Human Rights workshops to discuss the role of human rights in a period of cut backs to public services, and in protecting the vulnerable, and whether human rights offer an effective tool for people wishing to challenge the impact of service cuts or changes. For information see <http://www.bih.org.uk/events/bihr-national-human-rights-tour-information-page>

Domestic Abuse and BME Women, Children & Young People

1 (9.30-4.30) and 2 (9.30-12.30) December 2011 in Edinburgh

Shakti training to increase awareness and understanding of issues facing Minority Ethnic women, children and young people affected by domestic abuse. For information contact Mridul, Lisa or Aleksandra 0131 475 2399 / info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk.

Meet Your Muslim Neighbour

3 December in Glasgow (10.00–5.00)

Al-Furqan Islamic Centre Exhibition and tour of the Islamic Centre. For information contact Haq Ghani haqq@msn.com or Javed Gill javed.gill@btinternet.com

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Collecting & Using Equalities Information

7 December 2011 in Glasgow (10.30 – 4.30)

GCVS training to provide best practice examples, ideas on how to use the information you collect and practical tips for implementing successful monitoring systems. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/5ta8f3p>

Working with Interpreters

8 December 2011 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide an understanding of best practice when working with interpreters, learn about service providers' responsibilities, and how to develop or improve existing practice. Participants will also learn how to communicate effectively with their service-users when using interpreters. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/3qt2h8b> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Equality in Scotland's Third Sector

8 December 2011 in Glasgow (10.30 – 2.30)

Glasgow Council for Voluntary Services launch of a new online equality resource. For information contact Stacey Anderson stacey.anderson@gcvs.org.uk / 0141 332 2444.

Third Sector Forum Launch

9 December 2011 in Glasgow (2.00 – 3.30)

The Third Sector Forum will bring together voluntary organisations, social enterprises and volunteering organisations from across Glasgow. For information contact Tom Warrington tom.warrington@gcvs.org.uk.

**** Photography Road Show**

10 December 2011 in Edinburgh (10.00 5.00)

The Autograph ABP Photography Road Show calls on Scots from culturally diverse backgrounds to unearth their photographic treasures. From birthday and street parties to intimate scenes of domestic life and high street studio portraits, Autograph ABP is searching for images that capture the 'missing chapter' of Britain's cultural history. For information see

<http://www.autograph->

[abp.co.uk/C.aspx?VP3=CMS3&VF=ABP_Programme&FRM=CMSRightFrame:ABP_525](http://www.autograph-abp.co.uk/C.aspx?VP3=CMS3&VF=ABP_Programme&FRM=CMSRightFrame:ABP_525)

Domestic Abuse and BME Women, Children & Young People

16th (9.30-4.30pm) & 17th (9.30-12.30pm) January 2012 in Edinburgh

13th (9.30-4.30pm) & 14th(9.30-12.30pm) February 2012in Edinburgh

19th(9.30-4.30pm) & 20th(9.30-12.30pm) March 2012in Edinburgh

Shakti training to increase awareness and understanding of issues facing Minority Ethnic women, children and young people affected by domestic abuse. For information contact Mridul, Lisa, or Aleksandra 0131 475 2399 / info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk

Research, Ethics and Active Citizenship: Towards Guidelines for Ethical Research Practice

18 January 2012 in Glasgow (11.30 – 3.30)

BEMIS and GRAMNet seminar to discuss how changes in social science and humanities research methods have led to a deeper commitment to active citizenship and human rights education. For information contact seminar@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047 or see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/12ii_bemis.pdf.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Towards Guidelines for Ethical Research Practice

Week of 13 February – date still to be confirmed – in Edinburgh

BEMIS and GRAMNet consultation on the subject of guidelines for ethical research practice in social sciences and humanities. For information contact seminar@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047 or see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/12ii_bemis.pdf.

New Muslim Cool

22 March 2012 in Glasgow (all day)

Faith Matters event about the work of Hamza Perez a Muslim Hispanic American whose multi-faith work has seen Christians and Jews support him during difficult times post 9/11. For information contact pa@faith-matters.co.uk / 0207 554 8847 or see <http://faith-matters.org/images/stories/Faith%20Matters%20New%20Muslim%20Cool%20UK%20Tour%20March%202010.pdf>

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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/AToZOofCentralGovernment/fs/en?CONTENT_ID=10013528&chk=8b2gQw

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

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

Scottish Refugee Council www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

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

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

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

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

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

Volunteer Development Scotland www.vds.org.uk

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

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

Useful Links (continued)

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

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

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

BBC Parliament online

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

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



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



The **Scottish Government** is committed to promoting equality of opportunity and social justice for all those who live in Scotland. **One Scotland** is the Scottish Government campaign designed to tackle racism. It aims to raise awareness of racist attitudes, highlight its negative impact and recognise the valuable contributions that other cultures have made to our society – and make Scotland no place for racism. <http://www.scotlandagainstracism.com/>

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