

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>.

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

Immigration and Asylum

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Population Studies: Migration

Mark Field: To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office whether he plans to include migrants who come to the UK for less than 12 months in official population estimates. [89862]

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

Letter from Stephen Penneck, dated January 2012:

The Mid-Year Population Estimates as they are currently published are consistent with the standard UN definition for population estimates which is based upon the concept of usual residence and includes people who reside in the location for at least 12 months. This definition is also the recommended definition used by Eurostat to provide comparable population data at EU level. Visitors and short-term migrants (who enter or leave the UK for less than 12 months) are not included in the official population estimates and there are no plans to do so.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

ONS currently publishes England and Wales estimates of short-term migrant inflows and the next bulletin is due to be published on 23 February. Additionally ONS plans to publish recently developed experimental short-term migration inflow estimates for each local authority on 23 February. These estimates will help local authorities understand how many short term migrants entered each England and Wales local authority for work or study purposes and stayed for periods of between 3-12 months in the mid-years 2008-2010. It should be noted however that these estimates are inflows of short-term migrants, not stocks.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120117/text/120117w0005.htm#12011818000013>

EU Immigration

Priti Patel: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what assessment she has made of the proposed directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on a single application procedure for a single permit for third-country nationals to reside and work in the territory of a member state and on a common set of rights for third-country workers legally residing in a member state; what legislative changes will be required to implement this directive; what estimate she has made of the cost to the public purse of implementing the directive; and if she will make a statement. [89747]

Reply from Damian Green: The United Kingdom has not opted into this directive and is not therefore required to implement it.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120116/text/120116w0001.htm#12011640000009>

British Nationality: English Language

Priti Patel: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department with reference to the citizenship data tables in Immigration Statistics April-June 2011, table cz.09, on refusals of citizenship by reason, if she will give the details of the language threshold that those who were rejected for language reasons failed to obtain. [89745]

Reply from Damian Green: A person applying for naturalisation as a British citizen is required to have sufficient knowledge of language and of life in the United Kingdom. This can be demonstrated by either passing the Life in the UK Test, or by attending and making relevant progress on an English for Speakers of other Languages (ESOL) course which uses the stipulated citizenship-based materials and which is delivered by an accredited institution.

ESOL courses are normally taken by those whose English is at ESOL Entry Level two or below. The Life in the UK test is intended for those whose English is equivalent to or better than ESOL Entry Level three or above.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120116/text/120116w0001.htm#12011640000002>

Entry Clearances: Married People

John Spellar: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department pursuant to the answer of 18 January 2011, *Official Report*, column 673W, on sham marriages, how many of the 81 non-European nationals granted leave to remain have been (a) traced and (b) had their leave revoked; and what the outcome has been of the investigation of the remaining 298 cases examined under Operation Gomozia. [89956]

Reply from Damian Green: The latest management information from Operation Gomozia shows that the number of non-European nationals who were granted leave to remain as a result of marriages at the Church St. Peter and St Paul in St. Leonard's, Sussex has increased from 81 to 105. Of these, 32 have had their leave revoked and are being actively traced by the UK Border Agency. A further

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

53 of the marriages have been deemed genuine, either by the UK Border Agency or an independent tribunal. A further 20 of those granted leave are still under investigation.

An additional 157 applications for leave to remain from non-European nationals under Operation Gomozia have been refused by the UK Border Agency. These individuals are also being actively traced. Of these, nine non-European nationals have been removed from the United Kingdom. The remaining cases are still being investigated or have been granted leave under another category.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120118/text/120118w0001.htm#12011865000037>

Detention Centres: Pregnant Women

Richard Fuller: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) how many pregnant women were detained for immigration purposes in 2011 for (a) up to six weeks, (b) more than six weeks and (c) more than three months; [88958]

(2) how many pregnant women detained for immigration purposes have been released in the late stages of pregnancy as a consequence of that pregnancy. [89195]

Reply from Damian Green: If a pregnant woman chooses to inform the UK Border Agency of her condition, the detail would be held on her medical file which is confidential between patient and doctor. The UK Border Agency does not hold such information centrally.

The UK Border Agency's published guidance makes clear that pregnant women should not normally be detained. The exceptions to this general position are where removal is imminent and medical advice does not suggest confinement before the due removal date would be harmful or, for pregnant women of less than 24 weeks gestation, at Yarl's Wood as part of a fast-track asylum process.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120116/text/120116w0001.htm#12011640000007>

Detention Centres: Children

Richard Fuller: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many women detained for immigration purposes in 2011 (a) had children living in the UK and (b) were separated from their children during their detention; and what arrangements there are for such separated children to maintain contact with their mothers. [88959]

Reply from Damian Green: The information sought is not recorded centrally by the UK Border Agency and can be obtained only through examination of individual case records at disproportionate cost.

The UK Border Agency has a policy of not separating parents from children although it will sometimes have to deal with circumstances in which such a separation has already taken place. Separation is always in exceptional circumstances and only after full consideration has been given to possible alternatives. A key consideration is to ensure that no child is left unaccompanied by a responsible adult/carer.

In cases where a parent detained in an immigration removal centre has a child in the community, the UK Border Agency will seek to facilitate contact between the parent and child, subject to the wishes of the family, and in liaison with the local authority where appropriate.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120116/text/120116w0001.htm#12011640000006>

Asylum

Eric Ollerenshaw: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

- (1) what discussions he has had with the Secretary of State for the Home Department on the integration of refugees in the UK; [89425]
- (2) what steps his Department is taking to promote the effective integration of refugees in the UK; [89426]
- (3) what plans he has to monitor the integration of refugees in the UK; [89427]
- (4) what plans his Department has to develop a strategy for refugee integration in the UK. [89428]

Reply from Andrew Stunell: The Government plan to publish a document setting out its approach to integration shortly. The Governments' role is to create the conditions which enable integration to happen in all places and with all communities. But integration including for refugees is essentially a local issue led by public and private sector organisations, voluntary and community groups, social enterprises and other local organisations. As such integration activity should in the main be designed, delivered and monitored locally.

As a result of the need to make significant savings across the UK Border Agency, in line with the Government's strategy to reduce the deficit, it is no longer possible for the UK Border Agency to fund a refugee integration service. In response to concerns about the resultant impact on refugees, the UK Border Agency established a cross sector working group in April 2011. The group's aim is to identify cost neutral activities that will help address the integration needs of refugees. In the meantime, individuals granted refugee status have full entitlement to access public funds and services and the UK Border Agency is committed to providing documentation that helps facilitate access to these entitlements.

The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, the right hon. Member for Brentwood and Ongar (Mr Pickles), has discussed the Government's approach to integration with colleagues on a number of occasions.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120118/text/120118w0001.htm#12011865000013>

Deportation

Justin Tomlinson: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what steps she is taking to ensure that once an overstayer is brought to the attention of the UK Border Agency, actions are put in place to update their records and instigate deportation. [90001]

Reply from Damian Green: The procedures the UK Border Agency has in place for dealing with all categories of immigration offenders, including overstayers, are set out in the Enforcement Instructions and Guidance (EIG) manual available to view on the UK Border Agency website at:

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/policyandlaw/guidance/enforcement/>

Overstayers are normally liable to administrative removal rather than deportation, and chapters 50 and 51 explain the process for serving notices on such offenders and their removal.

Cases are considered on an individual basis. When, however, an overstayer comes to attention, he would generally be served with a notice that explains his liability to removal from the UK. Consideration would also be given as to whether detention is appropriate. Where detention is not appropriate that person will be placed on reporting restrictions. Information is recorded on the UK Border Agency Case Information Database. Cases are progressed to removal by the UK Border Agency, who will manage any barriers to removal.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120117/text/120117w0002.htm#12011767000034>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Deportation

Stephen Timms: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many people were removed from the UK in each (a) week and (b) month in each of the last five years. [89923]

Reply from Damian Green: The following table shows the total number of removals and voluntarily departures from the UK in each month from January 2007 to September 2011.

To see the lengthy table see

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120116/text/120116w0001.htm#12011640000005>

Human Trafficking

Peter Bone: What steps his Department is taking to raise awareness in schools of domestic and international human trafficking. [89254]

Reply from the Minister for Further Education, Skills and Lifelong Learning (Mr John Hayes): Tackling human trafficking is a key priority for the Government. Last October the Department for Education and the Home Office issued updated practical guidance on safeguarding children who may have been trafficked. This will help practitioners, including school staff, identify children who may have been trafficked and find support and advice. Schools may also cover human trafficking within personal, social, health and economic education if they judge that topic to be relevant to their circumstances.

Peter Bone: ... there are a number of non-governmental organisations and charities which would like to go into schools to make pupils aware of human trafficking, the evil of modern-day slavery, and particularly internal trafficking within the United Kingdom. Would the Minister welcome such moves?

Reply from John Hayes: ... I wrote in 1998 that there is no doubt that human trafficking is today's slave trade and that we will not rest until it is dealt with. I will write to charities as my hon. Friend suggests and invite them to do precisely what he proposes.

Lisa Nandy: Despite efforts to improve awareness, many trafficked children still wrongly believe that their trafficker is their friend. Given that the Minister has rejected the idea of guardianship for trafficked children, can he tell me who is able to instruct a child's lawyer in cases where the child is too young, too confused, too traumatised or too afraid to do so themselves?

Reply from John Hayes: The hon. Lady will know that local authorities retain their responsibilities in this regard and, indeed, allocate a responsible person to deal with such children. I am aware of continuing doubts and problems concerning children being re-trafficked. Indeed, my hon. Friend the Member for Wellingborough (Mr Bone)—he was too polite to mention this—wrote to the Secretary of State on this subject only a couple of days ago. We will look closely at bringing what the Department does into line with Home Office and local authority practice. We should not rest until this matter is addressed, and we will not rest until children are freed, victims are protected and those who trade in pain and persecution are made to suffer.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120116/debtext/120116-0001.htm#12011623000018>

Press Release

Tier 2 and 5 applications will move online from 14 February 2012

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsfragments/tier-2-5-online>

Immigration and Asylum (continued) **New Publications**

Analysis of the Impacts of Migration

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/workingwithus/mac/27-analysis-migration/01-analysis-report/analysis-of-the-impacts?view=Binary>

Asylum support for women who are victims of domestic violence

http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/files/news/ASAP_Factsheet_Domestic_Violence.pdf

News

Why Government's immigration stats don't add up

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/why-governments-immigration-stats-dont-add-up-6292652.html>

Benefits being claimed by more than 370,000 migrants

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-16643677>

Hundreds of thousands of immigrants receiving benefits

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article3292844.ece>

Migrants 'less likely' than Britons to claim working-age benefits

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article3293761.ece>

Stop expecting immigrants to be superhuman

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2012/jan/22/barbara-ellen-immigrants-and-benefits>

The truth about 'benefit tourism'

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2012/jan/20/truth-about-benefit-tourism>

Government moves to prevent 'benefit tourism'

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2012/jan/20/government-moves-prevent-benefit-tourism>

Lone child migrants returned to France under secret deal

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-16575331>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Westminster Debate

Holocaust Memorial Day 2012

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120119/halltext/120119h0001.htm#12011941000001>

Racism and Religious Hatred (continued) Westminster Parliamentary Question

Holocaust Education

T8. [89280] **Debbie Abrahams (Oldham East and Saddleworth) (Lab):** As we approach Holocaust memorial day on 27 January, how is the Secretary of State ensuring that lessons from the Holocaust and other genocides, including in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur, are taught in free schools, academies and other schools not bound by the national curriculum?

Reply from Michael Gove: I am grateful for the hon. Lady's point. Let me pay tribute to my predecessor, the right hon. Member for Morley and Outwood (Ed Balls). His decision to increase funding for the Holocaust Education Trust was one of many good things that he did, and I was honoured to be able to honour a pledge I made before the election to secure its funding. The trips that it offers to schools of all kinds help to ensure that we remember, and that that indescribable evil is never repeated. Let me take this opportunity to affirm the importance of all MPs meeting Holocaust denial and relativisation head on. Any attempt to undermine the singular historic evil of that crime is utterly wrong, and we should unite in condemning it.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120116/debtext/120116-0001.htm#12011623000026>

Press Releases

Royal Assent for Offensive Behaviour Bill

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/01/offensivebehaviourbill20012012>

At Holocaust remembrance ceremony, UN urges protection of children from war

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=40999&Cr=child%20rights&Cr1=>

New Publications

Criminal Justice v Racial Justice: minority ethnic overrepresentation in the criminal justice system

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/publications/pdfs/CriminalJusticeVRacialJustice-2012.pdf>

IWitness – online resource providing over 1,000 video testimonies of survivors and other witnesses of the Holocaust

<http://iwitness.usc.edu/SFI/>

Sport and Discriminations in Europe

<http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/MK-article-sport-and-discriminations-in-Europe.pdf>

News

Boy, 16, attacked by four men after asking them to stop sectarian songs

http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/scotland/boy_16_attacked_by_four_men_after_asking_them_to_stop_sectarian_songs_1_2060029

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

Woman fined for Facebook 'pikey' travellers insult

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-16612148>

Nazi-themed drinking game 'sparked brawl on LSE union skiing trip'

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2012/jan/15/lse-inquiry-nazi-drinking-game>

Top university probes 'Nazi' attack on Jewish student who was left with a broken nose

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2087148/Top-university-probes-Nazi-attack-left-Jewish-student-broken-nose-drinking-party.html>

Stop and search use and alternative police tactics

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-16552489>

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Other Holyrood

Debate

Independence Referendum (Voter Eligibility)

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=6713&mode=html#job_61012

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Other Westminster

Parliamentary Question

Gypsies and Travellers

Baroness Whitaker: To ask Her Majesty's Government what progress is being made by local authorities to meet the shortfall in pitches for Gypsies and Travellers since the enactment of the Housing Act 2004; whether they have powers of discretion to require greater expedition of this process; and, if so, in what circumstances they would be used.[HL14536]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Communities and Local Government (Baroness Hanham): A shortfall of appropriate sites continues to be a problem in many areas. The imposition of topdown targets through the regional strategy approach has failed to resolve this issue. The Government believe that local planning authorities are best placed to assess the needs of their communities and we are therefore placing responsibility for gypsy and traveller site provision back with them. Local authorities have a number of powers to address a short-term lack of pitches, including the granting of temporary permissions. Communities Minister Andrew Stunell announced on 5 January the successful bids for £47 million of funding which will help provide over 750 new and refurbished pitches for travellers by 2015. The new authorised travellers' sites will provide the basis for the local authorities to tackle the inequalities experienced by travellers and reduce the number of unauthorised sites, which create tensions between travellers and the settled community.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201212/ldhansrd/text/120116w0001.htm#12011624000106>

Other Westminster (continued) Press Releases

Commission on the consequences of devolution for the House of Commons established

<http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/news/commission-consequences-devolution-house-commons-established>

Foreign Secretary's Chinese New Year message

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/news/latest-news/?view=News&id=718454382>

News

West Lothian Question commission members announced

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-16594976>

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Other News

Growing use of Sharia by UK Muslims

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-16522447>

Sharia law compatible with human rights, argues leading barrister

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/jan/16/sharia-law-compatible-human-rights>

Why British Muslim women struggle to find a marriage partner

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2012/jan/18/british-muslim-women-marriage-struggle>

Ministers ban extra benefits for multiple wives

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/9029807/Ministers-ban-extra-benefits-for-multiple-wives.html>

UK's first course in women, Islam and the media launched

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/jan/19/uk-first-degree-women-islam-media>

Martin Schulz elected President of the European Parliament

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/pressroom/content/20120113IPR35350/html/Martin-Schulz-elected-President-of-the-European-Parliament>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Holyrood

**** Budget Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/45791.aspx>

Bill as introduced

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Budget%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/Bill_as_introduced.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Budget%20(Scotland)%20Bill/Bill_as_introduced.pdf)

Bills in Progress

Holyrood (continued)

Delegated Powers Memorandum

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Budget%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/DPM - Budget Bill.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Budget%20(Scotland)%20Bill/DPM_-_Budget_Bill.pdf)

**** Royal Assent:**

Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act 2012

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2012/1/enacted/data.pdf>

**** Police and Fire Reform Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/45701.aspx>

Bill as introduced

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Police%20and%20Fire%20Reform%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/PAFRSB.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Police%20and%20Fire%20Reform%20(Scotland)%20Bill/PAFRSB.pdf)

Explanatory Notes

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Police%20and%20Fire%20Reform%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/Ex_Notes_and_FM.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Police%20and%20Fire%20Reform%20(Scotland)%20Bill/Ex_Notes_and_FM.pdf)

Policy Memorandum

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Police%20and%20Fire%20Reform%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/Policy_Memo.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Police%20and%20Fire%20Reform%20(Scotland)%20Bill/Policy_Memo.pdf)

Delegated Powers Memorandum

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Police%20and%20Fire%20Reform%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/Police_and_Fire_Reform_\(Scotland\)_Bill_-_delegated_powers_memorandum.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Police%20and%20Fire%20Reform%20(Scotland)%20Bill/Police_and_Fire_Reform_(Scotland)_Bill_-_delegated_powers_memorandum.pdf)

Bills in Progress

Westminster

Human Trafficking (Further Provisions and Support for Victims) Bill

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

Scotland Bill

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

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

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

(closing date 1 March 2012)

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

DirectScot - Scotland's public services and information portal

(closing date 1 March 2012)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2012/01/DirectScot>

**** Police and Fire Reform Bill** (closing date 6 March 2012)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/46080.aspx>

Consultations (continued)

Proposals for A Freedom Of Information (Amendment) Bill

(closing date 8 March 2012)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/365157/0124123.pdf>

Forced marriage (closing date 30 March 2012)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/about-us/consultations/forced-marriage/>

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Job Opportunities

[Click here](#) to find out about job opportunities

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Funding Opportunities

Scottish Government Equality Unit Funding 2012-15 - Equality Fund

Closing date 6 February 2012

The Equality Fund will be open for applications from any organisation for work across all equality characteristics.

Particular focus will be given to:

- Supporting activities to reduce disadvantage and inequality in employment and economic activity;
- Supporting measures to address hate crime and its underlying causes;
- Shifting focus to early intervention and prevention;
- Increasing the capacity of communities to engage with mainstream providers, including public and third sector, around the redesign of public services and the prevention agenda; and
- Supporting the effective implementation of the public sector equality duty.

For details see <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Equality>

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Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

** 'Where's The 'EM' In Community Planning? Your Community / Your Money?'

31 January 2012 in Glasgow (12.30 – 4.30)

Ethnic Minority Third Sector Network seminar to discuss council and community planning budgets. For information contact Sue Barnes 0141 548 8047 / sue.barnes@bemis.org.uk or see http://www.bemis.org.uk/emts/Programme_EMTS_31st_Jan.pdf

** An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees

2 February 2012 in Glasgow (9.15 – 1.00)

22 March 2012 in Glasgow (9.15 – 4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council training to identify fundamental issues facing asylum seekers and refugees today, and highlighting current legislation and entitlements. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/7rl85rl> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Advocacy, the media and monitoring

9 February 2012 in Glasgow (10.00 – 4.30)

Runnymede Trust seminar to provide information and advice on the implementation and promotion of policies on equality and non-discrimination with a particular focus on advocacy, the media and monitoring. For information see

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/news/333/273/Glasgow-capacity-building-training-for-NGOs.html>

Domestic Abuse and BME Women, Children & Young People

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

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

Promoting Youth Employability and Rights

21 February 2012 in Glasgow (9.30 – 3.30)

Conference jointly organised by BEMIS, the Scottish Refugee Council, STUC, CEMVO, and the Scottish Inter Faith Council to address gaps in support for youth employment, present new opportunities to help break barriers and discrimination in the job market, and seek to develop a charter on supporting youth employment. For information see

http://bemis.org.uk/conference/yer/YER_Conference_Flyer.pdf or contact Tanveer Parnez conference@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047 or Sandra Walker swalker@stuc.org.uk / 0141 337 8100.

Goals training

Last week of February 2012-01-15(dates to be confirmed from 23/24, 27/28, or 28/29)

BEMIS training for Ethnic Minority Third Sector organisations and Volunteers to empower, motivate and build capacity of new community groups and organisations to be more active in decision-making processes and provide them with leadership skills. For information contact Tanveer Parnez 0141 548 8047 / tanveer.parniez@bemis.org.uk.

Tackling the exploitation of migrant workers: using employment and equality law

27 February 2012 in Aberdeen (10.30 – 3.00)

Equality and Human Rights Commission Migrant event to re-enforce advisor's knowledge of how to use the law to protect workers who are often vulnerable to exploitation at work.

For information contact David Reilly equalityactscotland@equalityhumanrights.com / 0141 228 5967.

**** UKBA Asylum Support - The Essentials**

28 February 2012 in Glasgow (9.15 – 4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course to explore the support arrangements available to asylum seekers from the beginning to the end of the asylum process. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/77beqc7> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Equality in employment

29 February 2012 in Glasgow (10.30 – 4.30)

GCVS training that includes recruitment, monitoring and dignity at work, and also examines issues around equality in volunteering. For information contact Stacey Anderson Stacey.anderson@gcvs.org.uk / 0141 332 2444.

The Gathering

29 February – 1 March 2012 in Glasgow

SCVO seminars, exhibition, and marketplace with over 100 exhibitors. For the full programme see <http://www.gatherscotland.org.uk/programme-of-events/attend-an-event/>

**** Working with Interpreters**

6 March 2012 in Glasgow (9.15 – 1.00)

Scottish Refugee Council course for those who work with non-English speaking service users, including asylum seekers and refugees, who need a comprehensive understanding of how to work with interpreters. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/6vjcbt8> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

**** Tackling racism and promoting race equality for youth and community workers**

9 March 2012 in Glasgow (9.30 – 3.45)

20 March 2012 in Glasgow (9.30 – 3.45)

Show Racism the Red Card training to raise awareness of issues of racism and its impact on young people, examine how race equality can be promoted, empower delegates to challenge racism and respond to racist incidents, and equip delegates with knowledge and resources to educate young people against racism. For information contact Ruth McGeoch support@theredcardscotland.org / 0141 222 2058.

Open Your Mind - Speak Out Against Racism

17–25 March 2012

European-wide Action Week Against Racism. For information and materials see http://www.unitedagainstracism.org/pages/infoARW_12.htm

Collecting and using Equalities information

20 March 2012 in Glasgow (10.30 – 4.30)

GCVS training to equalities monitoring including best practice examples, ideas on how to use the information you collect and practical tips for implementing successful monitoring systems. For information contact Stacey Anderson Stacey.anderson@gcvs.org.uk / 0141 332 2444.

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/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/>
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>

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 Charitable Incorporated Organisation 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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