

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 Ministerial Statement

UK Border Agency

The Secretary of State for the Home Department (Mrs Theresa May): ... The Vine report reveals that security checks carried out at the border have been suspended regularly and applied inconsistently since at least 2007. ... The report also uncovered evidence that, between 2007 and 2011, warnings index checks were not carried out on European economic area nationals travelling to the UK on Eurostar services from a number of French resorts. This is likely to have resulted in 500,000 EEA nationals not being checked against the warnings index. To put those numbers into context, around 100 million passengers enter the UK each year. These Eurostar passengers are judged to be low risk and they still had their passports checked, but the fact remains that these suspensions were completely unauthorised and that is simply not acceptable. ...

In May 2011, when officials asked for permission sometimes to suspend secure ID checks, I explicitly refused. The report finds that, despite that clear instruction, secure ID checks continued to be suspended at Heathrow. It also confirms that checks on the

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Ministerial Statement (continued)

biometric chip, which contains a second photograph and no further information, were sometimes suspended without ministerial approval. ...

The Vine report also uncovered a local initiative at Heathrow that allowed students from supposedly low-risk countries to enter the UK even when they did not have the necessary entry clearance. There was no ministerial authorisation for this activity. The report finds that Operation Savant, as it was called, was potentially discriminatory and unlawful. ...

The Vine report reveals a Border Force that suspended important checks without permission; spent millions on new technologies but chose not to use them; was led by managers who did not communicate with their staff; and sent reports to Ministers that were inaccurate, unbalanced and excluded key information. The report makes a series of recommendations on how to improve the operation at the border, and I accept them all. Many of them we are already implementing, and the rest we will implement in full. ...

The Border Force needs a whole new management culture, and I can tell the House today that I have appointed Brian Moore, currently the chief constable of Wiltshire police, as the interim head of the Border Force. In addition, from next year the new National Crime Agency will be charged with improving our intelligence capability at the border, investigating serious and organised border crime and tasking law enforcement assets across all the relevant agencies. ...

... I believe also that the extent of the transformational change required—in the agency's casework functions and in the Border Force—is too great for one organisation. I can therefore tell the House that from 1 March the UK Border Force will split from UKBA and become a separate operational command, with its own ethos of law enforcement, led by its own director general and accountable directly to Ministers. ...

To read the full statement and subsequent question and answer session see

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120220/debtext/120220-0001.htm#1202203000001>

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

UK Border Agency

Chris Bryant: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what steps she has taken to (1) prevent the use of racist, homophobic or derogatory language by UK Border Agency staff or their contractors; [92918]

(2) ensure that UK Border Agency staff monitoring enforced removal flights are able to ensure that the behaviour of contracted workers is appropriate. [92921]

Reply from Damian Green: We expect the highest standards from our staff and contractors and will take appropriate robust action against those who fail to adhere to them.

The UK Border Agency has a team of eight contract monitors who monitor and report on the performance of the escorting service provider. In addition all service provider vehicles have CCTV fitted with audio capability. Members of the Independent Monitoring Board regularly report to the contract monitors and the Chief Inspector of Prisons also carries out announced and unannounced inspections.

While the UK Border Agency has introduced a professional code of conduct for all those staff working with detainees, Reliance, the current escorting service provider, has introduced a training programme of cultural change for all escorting staff. It has also introduced a freephone number to enable staff to report colleagues whose behaviour causes concern.

The Home Office Equality and Diversity strategy outlines the legal obligations and responsibilities on the Department as an employer and contractor of services to

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

prevent discrimination or harassment. All Home Office staff are required to undertake a mandatory equality and diversity e-learning programme. In addition face to face equality and diversity workshops are also delivered to staff and managers across the Home Office group. The learning programmes highlight that inappropriate language and behaviour should and will be challenged, and where proven will result in disciplinary action and penalties including dismissal.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120220/text/120220w0002.htm#12022047000086>

Asylum

Justin Tomlinson: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what progress her Department has made in clearing outstanding legacy asylum cases. [94725]

Reply from Damian Green: The UK Border Agency (UKBA) committed to review all older unresolved cases by summer 2011. A total of 500,500 cases were reviewed as part of the programme. As Jonathan Sedgwick, then acting chief executive of the UK Border Agency, reported to the Home Affairs Committee on 12 September 2012, 479,000 of the 500,500 cases in the legacy programme have been fully concluded.

23,000 remaining cases were fully reviewed but, due to various barriers, could not be brought to a final conclusion. UKBA established the Case Assurance and Audit Unit (CAAU) to remove such barriers and bring the remaining cases to a final conclusion. Rob Whiteman reported to the HASC on 22 December 2011 that the number of live cases had now reduced to 17,000. CAAU will continue to monitor these cases and resolve them as barriers are lifted.

CAAU is also responsible for the active monitoring of 98,000 controlled archive cases and, as Rob Whiteman reported to the HASC on 22 December 2011, this has now reduced to 93,000.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120220/text/120220w0002.htm#12022047000044>

Asylum: Applications

Shabana Mahmood: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many unresolved asylum claims had been awaiting determination for more than two years on the latest date for which figures are available. [92195]

Reply from Damian Green: The number of unresolved New Asylum Model claims that have been outstanding for more than two years as of June 2011 is 20,500. This figure is taken from the HM Government website at:

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

The number of open asylum cases also known as the asylum 'Work in Progress' caseload (WiP) was published on the website in August 2011.

It should be noted that all cases over 60 months old are not included in the above figure as they belong to the Case Assurance and Audit Unit (CAAU). There are 93,000 cases in the controlled archive.

The CAAU figures were reported to the Home Affairs Select Committee on 20 December 2011 by Rob Whiteman, chief executive of the UK Border Agency.

All figures quoted are management information which has been subject to internal quality checks. The numbers may differ from figures released as National Statistics in the Home Office Immigration Statistics as they are drawn from different snapshots of the UK Border Agency databases.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120220/text/120220w0002.htm#12022047000045>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Asylum: Appeals

Keith Vaz: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what is the highest number of appeals an asylum seeker has made before being (a) deported and (b) granted leave to remain. [93874]

Reply from Damian Green: This information is not available and could be obtained only at disproportionate cost through the examination of individual case files. However, a person applying for asylum is only able to appeal once against a decision. They are able to challenge our decision by appealing to the Immigration and Asylum Chamber of the First Tier Tribunal of the Courts and Tribunals Service, and thereafter to the Upper Tribunal and onward to the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court. The onward right of appeal is with permission of the relevant Court or Tribunal, and lies only on the ground that the previous Court or Tribunal made a material error in law.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120220/text/120220w0002.htm#12022047000046>

Asylum and Immigration Tribunal

Nicholas Soames: To ask the Secretary of State for Justice how many asylum and immigration-related cases were heard in the (a) first Tier of the Tribunal's Immigration and Asylum Chamber, (b) upper Tier of the Tribunal's Immigration and Asylum Chamber, (c) Administrative Court and (d) Courts of Appeal in England and Wales or the Court of Sessions in Scotland in the most recent year for which figures are available. [94679]

Reply from Jonathan Djanogly: The First-Tier of the Tribunal's Immigration and Asylum Chamber heard 130,900 cases between April 2010 and March 2011; this includes appeals determined on the papers but excludes withdrawn cases.

The Upper Tier of the Tribunal's Immigration and Asylum Chamber heard 6,700 cases between April 2010 and March 2011; this includes appeals determined on the papers but excludes withdrawn cases.

The Administrative Court received 8,076 Immigration and Asylum applications between April 2010 and March 2011, all of which went before a judge for a decision. In addition, the court held 156 substantive hearings for immigration and asylum cases over this period.

The Immigration and Asylum Chamber covers the whole of the United Kingdom. The Administrative Court and Court of Appeal Civil Division cover appeals from England and Wales. Appeals from tribunals in Scotland are dealt with by the Court of Session, part of the Scottish Courts Service.

The Court of Appeal Civil Division asylum and immigration related cases are set out in the following table. I will write separately in response to your request for information relating to the Court of Session in Scotland.

	<i>Number of asylum and immigration related cases heard between April 2010 and March 2011 in the Court of Appeal</i>
Total number of permission applications determined on paper	642
Total number of permission applications determined at oral hearing (most of these will have been refused on paper first, so there is a duplication with the 642 figure)	234
Total number of full appeals heard	101

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

The table includes statutory appeals from the Upper Tribunal Immigration and Asylum Chamber and appeals from the Administrative Court in immigration and asylum judicial review cases.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120220/text/120220w0005.htm#1202219000005>

Detention Centres: Children

Chris Bryant: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many children were held in detention for immigration purposes in (a) Harmondsworth, (b) Tinsley Wood and (c) Cedars immigration removal and pre-departure accommodation centres on (i) 24, (ii) 25 and (iii) 26 December 2011. [93114]

Reply from Damian Green: The requested information is not published. The Home Office only publishes details on the total number of children who entered detention in each calendar month and quarterly figures showing the number of children held in detention on 31 March, 30 June, 30 September and 31 December each year.

The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on the number of people in detention, held solely under Immigration Act powers. The next publication: Immigration Statistics October to December 2011 will be available on 23 February 2012 from the Library of the House and the Home Office Science, research and statistics web pages at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/science-research/research-statistics/migration/migration-statistics1/>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120220/text/120220w0002.htm#12022047000059>

Deportation

Chris Bryant: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) with reference to the 18th Report from the Home Affairs Committee, Rules governing enforced removals from the UK, HC 563, what steps she has taken to issue guidance to UK Border Agency staff involved in enforced removal on the use of head-down restraint positions; [92913]

(2) what steps she is taking to ensure that required checks and procedures are used by UK Border Agency staff and contractors involved in enforced removals; [92914]

(3) what procedures she has put in place to ensure that control and restraint procedures developed by HM Prison Service and used by the UK Border Agency when carrying out an enforced removal are appropriate to its needs. [92916]

Reply from Damian Green: It has been the practice of successive Governments to use private security companies to undertake escorting of immigration detainees. These services are currently provided by Reliance Secure Task Management. The UK Border Agency has a team of eight contract monitors who monitor and report on Reliance's performance. Members of the Independent Monitoring Board regularly report to the contract monitors and the Chief Inspector of Prisons also carries out announced and unannounced inspections. The UK Border Agency's operating standards for escorts includes one about the use of restraint. The standards are available on the UK Border Agency's website at: <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/managingourborders/immigrationremovalcentres/>

In order to exercise any use of restraint, detainee custody officers and escorts must be certified by the Secretary of State for the Home Department, a condition of which is that they have undergone training of techniques approved by the National Offender Management Service (NOMS). The techniques and procedures are contained in NOMS' Control and Restraint manual. Officers are well aware that the use of any technique which pushes the head down and therefore could

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

impede breathing is prohibited and may lead to disciplinary action, including dismissal.

Officers involved in enforced removals are required to annually complete refresher training in the use of control and restraint. The instructors are themselves trained and annually accredited by instructors from NOMS, whose staff also conduct quality assurance checks on the standard of the training delivered.

Restraint is only ever used as a last resort to prevent a person from harming themselves, others or property or to ensure he or she complies with a reasonable requirement, including one to leave the UK. Its use must be justified and proportionate, and reported to the relevant UK Border Agency contract monitor. DCOs are required to complete a report of any use of restraint which sets out why a person was restrained and what occurred during the incident, including attempts to de-escalate the situation. The report should also reference the role of others in the team. Such reports are reviewed by a senior manager and are then passed to the UK Border Agency for review. It is open to either party to commission an investigation if there are questions as to whether the use of force or restraint was justified.

In 2011 the UK Border Agency formally requested that NOMS' National Tactical Response Group conduct a review of the current restraint techniques being used by escorts including those used during overseas removals. Officials will carefully consider any recommendations arising from that review.

Chris Bryant: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if she will review the number of escorts used on flights containing detainees being forcibly removed; and if she will take steps to ensure that escort to detainee ratios are proportionate. [92917]

Reply from Damian Green: The escorting service provider carries out a risk assessment of every enforced removal and will allocate an appropriate number of escorts. The UK Border Agency further reviews every risk assessment and removal to assess whether the number of escorts allocated is proportionate. The UK Border Agency will adjust the number of escorts where appropriate.

Yvette Cooper: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many individuals were removed from the UK in 2011. [93594]

Reply from Theresa May: Data for October 2011 onwards are not yet available, but will be published within Immigration Statistics: October-December 2011 as part of the regular Home Office publication scheme on 23 February 2012. The requested figure will be available from Table rv.01.

Published data show that between January and September 2011, a total of 38,865 people were removed or departed voluntarily from the UK. The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on the number of persons removed or departed voluntarily from the UK within Immigration Statistics. The information provided has been published, in the Immigration Statistics: July-September 2011 release, table rv.01.q, which is available from the Library of the House and from the Home Office's Science, Research and Statistics web pages at: <http://homeoffice.gov.uk/science-research/research-statistics/migration/migration-statistics1/>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120220/text/120220w0002.htm#12022047000057>

Human Trafficking

Fiona Mactaggart: To ask the Secretary of State for Justice how many convictions there were for offences related to human trafficking in each year since 2004. [95128]

Reply from Crispin Blunt: The number of defendants found guilty at all courts for human trafficking in England and Wales, from 2004 to 2010 (latest available) can

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

be viewed in the following table. Annual court proceedings data for 2011 are planned for publication in May 2012.

Number of defendants found guilty at all courts for human trafficking offences⁽¹⁾, *England and Wales, 2004-10*^(2, 3)

	<i>Number found guilty</i>
2004	—
2005	12
2006	21
2007	23
2008 ⁽⁴⁾	24
2009	25
2010	16

⁽¹⁾ Includes offences under the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (came into force 1 May 2004) and Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants Act) 2004 section 4 (came into force 1 December 2004). ⁽²⁾ The figures given in the table relate to persons for whom these offences were the principal offences for which they were dealt with. When a defendant has been found guilty of two or more offences, it is the offence for which the heaviest penalty is imposed. Where the same disposal is imposed for two or more offences, the offence selected is the offence for which the statutory maximum penalty is the most severe. ⁽³⁾ Every effort is made to ensure that the figures presented are accurate and complete. However, it is important to note that these data have been extracted from large administrative data systems generated by the courts and police forces. As a consequence, care should be taken to ensure data collection processes and their inevitable limitations are taken into account when those data are used. ⁽⁴⁾ Excludes data for Cardiff magistrates court for April, July and August 2008. *Source:* Justice Statistics Analytical Services: Ministry of Justice.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120220/text/120220w005.htm#1202219000014>

Press Release

Call for authors: European Network Against Racism publication on “Hidden Talents”

http://www.enar-eu.org/Page_Generale.asp?DocID=29386&la=1&langue=EN

New Publications

Immigration Statistics October - December 2011

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/immigration-q4-2011/>

Monthly asylum application tables - December 2011

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/asylum-dec-2011?view=Binary>

Children entering detention held solely under Immigration Act powers January 2012

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/child-detention-jan2012?view=Binary>

Immigration and Asylum (continued) **News**

Theresa May to split up UK Border Agency

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-17099143>

Troubled UK Border Agency to be split in two

http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/uk/troubled_uk_border_agency_to_be_split_in_two_1_2128257

UK Border Agency to be split in two

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/feb/20/border-agency-split-vine-report>

500,000 allowed into UK without checks

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/500000-allowed-into-uk-without-checks.16813526>

Visas: Foreign students may shun UK, report warns

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-17105028>

More young migrants face destitution, Children's Society says

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-17148759>

Net immigration steady at 250,000

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/net-immigration-steady-at-250000-7388316.html>

Why does the UK government struggle to reach its net migration target?

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2012/feb/24/net-migration-target>

Immigration to the UK: the key facts

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/news/datablog/2010/jun/26/non-eu-immigration-uk-statistics>

Net migration to Britain remains at record levels

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/feb/23/net-migration-britain-record-levels>

Fast-track asylum scheme 'too slow'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/9098240/Fast-track-asylum-scheme-too-slow.html>

Immigrants will be expected to speak English and champion British culture

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/9095181/Immigrants-will-be-expected-to-speak-English-and-champion-British-culture.html>

UK detention of torture victims 'inhumane'

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/feb/23/uk-detention-torture-victims-inhumane>

Fake visa 'fixer' jailed for a year after conning immigrants out of £28k

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/2012/02/25/fake-visa-fixer-jailed-for-a-year-after-conning-immigrants-out-of-28k-86908-23764411/>

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Race Relations

Westminster Ministerial Statement

Integration

The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government (Mr Eric Pickles): I am today publishing “Creating the Conditions for Integration”, the Government’s approach to enabling and encouraging integration in communities throughout England. “Creating the Conditions” sets out how integration is achieved when neighbourhoods, families and individuals come together on issues that matter to them. It is based around five key factors:

I. *Common ground*—Shared aspirations and values, and a focus on what we have in common rather than on difference.

II. *Responsibility*—Promoting a strong sense of mutual commitment and obligation.

III. *Social mobility*—People able to realise their potential to get on in life.

IV. *Participation and empowerment*—People have the opportunities to take part and take decisions in local and national life.

V. *Challenge to intolerance and extremism*—A robust response to threats which deepen division and increase tensions.

Most people from different backgrounds get on well together, feel they belong to their neighbourhood and to this country, and have a sense of pride in the place where they live, but challenges remain in particular places. Building a more integrated society requires collective action across a wide range of issues, at national and local levels, by public bodies, private companies, voluntary and community organisations and, above all, communities and individuals. “Creating the Conditions” sets out the Government’s views and our role in this process.

We recognise that integration is a vital local issue. We will ensure that the integration benefits of national programmes and projects are recognised and supported. All Government Departments have an important role in tackling barriers to integration, in particular those relating to long-term social and economic challenges.

Beyond this, integration requires a local response and we strongly encourage local partners such as local authorities, police forces and other statutory bodies to work together to drive action and to learn from each other. To support this we will use tools such as the Localism Act 2011 to give people the power to come together to take action. We will seek opportunities to support projects that are sustainable through community or business support and which exemplify positive activities or pioneer new approaches. We are committed to outflanking and challenging extremism and intolerance and we will take the necessary action to do so.

Together, these are fundamental changes to how Government Departments and the rest of the public sector work in this area. This approach will make integration the everyday business of public services, the private sector and wider civic society, while ensuring local responsibility and the opportunity for everyone to contribute.

“Creating the Conditions for Integration” is available at:

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

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120221/wmstext/120221m0001.htm#12022136000003>

Press Release

Eric Pickles: Communities together not apart

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/2092147>

Race Relations (continued) New Publication

Creating the conditions for integration

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/communities/pdf/2092103.pdf>

News

Somali community in Britain begins to find its voice

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2012/feb/21/somali-community-britain-finds-voice>

Adoption of children from different races to be made easier

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2012/feb/23/legislation-adoption-racial-lines>

Bradford and race: the TV experiment that aims to change perceptions and prejudice

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/feb/26/bradford-race-identity-c4>

National Roma Integration Strategies: The Conversation Has Barely Begun

http://www.romadecade.org/NRIS_conversation_barely_begun

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Equality

New Publications

Inequalities and multiple discrimination in healthcare

http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/FRA-Factsheet_InequMultDiscrimination_EN.pdf

Researching Older Black and Minority Ethnic People and Financial Inclusion

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/pdfs/Runnymede%20briefing%208.pdf>

News

We need reforms to protect the rights of Christians

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/9106059/We-need-reforms-to-protect-the-rights-of-Christians.html>

Britain failing to stand up for Christians, say MPs

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/9105996/Britain-failing-to-stand-up-for-Christians-say-MPs.html>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Westminster Parliamentary Question

Questions to the Prime Minister

Q10. [95256] Stephen Metcalfe: We have put great effort into stamping out and kicking out racism in football in this country. Will my right hon. Friend assure the House that when he brings together representatives of the sport later today, he will do everything he can to ensure that prejudice does not creep back into the game and that racism stays out of football?

The Prime Minister: My right hon. Friend is entirely right to raise this issue. It was a huge achievement when Britain, and its football authorities and clubs, led the world in kicking racism out of football, something that has not happened in all other countries. However, we have seen some worrying signs recently.

The reason I think that this matters so much, not just to football but to Government and to everyone in our country, is that football and footballers are role models for young people. What people see on the football pitch they copy when they go and learn to play football themselves. That is why I think it important to bring people together and ensure that we kick racism out of football for good.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120222/debtext/120222-0001.htm#12022252000008>

Press Releases

Government and football bodies unite to tackle discrimination

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/news/tackle-football-discrimination/>

Government and football bodies tackle discrimination

http://www.culture.gov.uk/news/news_stories/8870.aspx

Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe Personal Representative urges participating States to take hate crimes against Muslims seriously

<http://www.osce.org/cio/88342>

News

Muslim hate crime phone line aims to help victims

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-17063513>

The Fight Against Islamophobia Steps up a Gear

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/dr-leon-moosavi/the-fight-against-islamophobia-b_1293441.html?ref=uk-race-relations

Editors urged to help tackle online hate crime

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-17118646>

SDL hold demonstration in St Enoch Square, Glasgow

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-17164967>

David Cameron pledges government help to drive racism out of football

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/football/2012/feb/22/david-cameron-government-racism-football>

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

Europe and the Roma: Discrimination and ungovernability

<http://www.gendercrossborders.com/2012/02/16/europe-and-the-roma-discrimination-and-ungovernability/>

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Other Holyrood

New Publication

The Opportunities and Challenges of the Changing Public Services Landscape for the Third Sector in Scotland: A Longitudinal Study

Year Two Report <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0038/00388123.pdf>

Summary <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0038/00388119.pdf>

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Other Westminster

Press Release

No need for referendum "go slow" says Moore

<http://www.scotlandoffice.gov.uk/scotlandoffice/16586.html>

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Other News

People with faith give more and not always to religious charities

<http://www.thirdforcenews.org.uk/2012/02/people-with-faith-give-more-and-not-always-to-religious-charities/>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Holyrood

Police and Fire Reform Bill

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

Bills in Progress (continued) 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

**** closes 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

**** closes this week!**

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>

Proposals for A Freedom Of Information (Amendment) Bill

(closing date 8 March 2012)

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

Scotland's constitutional future (closing date 9 March 2012)

<http://www.scotlandoffice.gov.uk/scotlandoffice/files/17779-Cm-8203.pdf>

Forced marriage (closing date 30 March 2012)

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

Counter-terrorism stop and search powers code of practice

(closing date 1 April 2012)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/about-us/consultations/consultation-ct-code/>

Review of Cross-Party Groups (closing date 15 April 2012)

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_StandardsProceduresandPublicAppointmentsCommittee/Inquiries/Call_for_evidenceCPG.pdf

Assisted Suicide (Scotland) Bill (closing date 30 April 2012)

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_MembersBills/Final_version_as_lodged.pdf

General Medical Council Draft Guidance for the Investigation Committee and case examiners when they are considering allegations about a doctor's involvement in encouraging or assisting suicide (closing date 4 May 2012)

https://gmc.e-consultation.net/econsult/consultation_Dtl.aspx?consult_Id=240&status=2&criteria=

Consultations (continued)

Your Scotland – Your Referendum (closing date 11 May 2012)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0038/00386122.pdf>

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Job Opportunities

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

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Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

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.

**** this week!**

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

**** this week!**

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.

**** this week!**

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/>

**** this week!**

The Future of Scotland

1 March 2012 in Glasgow (10.00 – 12.30)

Civil society conference to discuss how to make Scotland a better place for future generations. For information see <http://www.futureofscotland.org/attend-the-conference/>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

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

Community Learning and Development Network

8 March 2012 in Glasgow (9.00 – 1.10)

Launch of GCVO's community learning and development network for practitioners working with communities of interest and geographical communities in Glasgow. For information contact John Robertson 0141 332 2444 / john.robertson@gcvs.org.uk or see http://www.gcvs.org.uk/assets/0000/2049/CLD_NETWORK_LAUNCH_flyer.pdf

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.

Everything you need to know about Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO)

9 March 2012 in Glasgow (9.30 – 12.30)

11 April 2012 in Glasgow (9.30 – 12.30)

8 May 2012 in Glasgow (9.30 – 12.30)

GCVS seminar to discuss the pros and cons of SCIOs, meeting the SCIO requirements, and the basics of setting up a SCIO. For information contact John Robertson 0141 332 2444 / john.robertson@gcvs.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/7nda4cn>

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

Domestic Abuse and BME Women, Children & Young People

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

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.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees

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

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>

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 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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