

## Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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## Immigration and Asylum

### Holyrood Debate

#### Human Trafficking

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=6876&mode=html#job\\_62293](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=6876&mode=html#job_62293)

### Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

**Ken Macintosh:** To ask the Scottish Executive, further to the answer to question S4W-03297 by Lesley Thomson on 2 November 2011, whether it has carried out a comparison between the number of successful convictions for human trafficking in Scotland and the rest of the UK since 2007 and, if so, what the outcome was. (S4W-05652)

**Reply from Kenny MacAskill:** No such comparison exercise has been carried out by the Scottish Government.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-05652&ResultsPerPage=10>

## Immigration and Asylum Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

**Ken Macintosh:** To ask the Scottish Executive how it plans to raise awareness of human trafficking ahead of the 2014 Commonwealth Games. (S4W-05653)

**Reply from Kenny MacAskill:** I refer the member to the answer to question S4W-05783 on 29 February 2012. All answers to written parliamentary questions are available on the Parliament's website, the search facility for which can be found at: <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx>

The Scottish Government continues to work closely with the police and other law enforcement agencies on security planning for the London 2012 Olympics and Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games. Issues associated with trafficking in human beings are embedded in the security planning for the games.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-05653&ResultsPerPage=10>

**Ken Macintosh:** To ask the Scottish Executive how it helps the victims of human trafficking in Scotland. (S4W-05654)

**Mary Fee:** To ask the Scottish Executive what funding it has given to tackle human trafficking in each year since 1999. (S4W-05784)

**Reply from Kenny MacAskill:** The Scottish Government provides funding to the Trafficking Awareness Raising Alliance (TARA) and Migrant Help to support suspected victims of trafficking as set out in the following table. Funding for TARA commenced in 2006 and commenced for Migrant Helpline in 2009. The figure provided for 2011-12 is an estimate as we have not yet reached the end of the financial year.

Year	Total Scottish Government Funding
2006-07	£39,469
2007-08	£75,900
2008-09	£70,950
2009-10	£236,215
2010-11	£730,346
2011-12	£724,211

During the police led anti-trafficking operation, Pentameter 2, which ran from October 2007 to March 2008, the Scottish Government made available up to £20,000 to reimburse local authorities for any direct costs, on a case-by-case basis, they incurred in providing support, subsistence and accommodation to adult victims of human trafficking who had no recourse to public funds.

In addition to core police funding, the Scottish Government provided additional funding of £4 million from 2009 to 2011 to the Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency to boost capacity to tackle organised crime and, within that, provide Scotland's first dedicated expert resource to build the intelligence necessary to support and improve human trafficking investigation.

The Police and Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service spend a significant amount of operational time on victim issues, including victims of human trafficking. Information on resources provided by these and other organisations, such as the support of child victims of trafficking by local authorities, is not held centrally.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-05784&ResultsPerPage=10>

**Mary Fee:** To ask the Scottish Executive, further to the answer to question S4W-05138 by Shona Robison on 31 January 2012, what its position is on the finding of the Inquiry into Human Trafficking in Scotland that Scotland's police service has a "significant intelligence gap on human trafficking" and how it will address this issue. (S4W-05779)

**Reply from Kenny MacAskill:** Intelligence assessments are operational matters for police forces.

## Immigration and Asylum Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

The Scottish Government provided additional funding of £4 million over a two year period from 2009 to 2011 to the Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency to boost capacity to tackle organised crime, and within that provide a dedicated expert resource to build the intelligence necessary to support and improve human trafficking investigation. That resource is now in place. Trafficking strategic and tactical groups have been set up by the Agency and this is one of the issues that these groups will seek to address.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-05779&ResultsPerPage=10>

**Mary Fee:** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it will launch a review of the legislation in relation to human trafficking. (S4W-05781)

**Reply from Kenny MacAskill:** The Scottish Government keeps human trafficking legislation under regular review and responds as appropriate to any developments in line with our commitment to tackle this form of serious organised crime.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-05781&ResultsPerPage=10>

**Mary Fee:** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it will introduce a bill to tackle human trafficking. (S4W-05782)

**Reply from Kenny MacAskill:** The Scottish Government has not yet decided its legislative programme for future years. Any proposal to introduce a specific bill on trafficking in human beings would have to be considered alongside a wide range of other potential priorities for legislation.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-05782&ResultsPerPage=10>

**Mary Fee:** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it will hold a campaign to raise awareness of human trafficking. (S4W-05783)

**Reply from Kenny MacAskill:** The Scottish Government has no current plans but will consider with stakeholders what further specific human trafficking awareness-raising activities would be of benefit within the public and private sectors.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-05783&ResultsPerPage=10>

**Mary Fee:** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it will set up a multi-agency organisation to tackle human trafficking. (S4W-05785)

**Reply from Kenny MacAskill:** The Scottish Government currently has no plans to set up such an organisation.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-05785&ResultsPerPage=10>

**Mary Fee:** To ask the Scottish Executive what is being done to improve the level of trust and co-operation between law enforcement and support services for victims of human trafficking. (S4W-05786)

**Reply from Kenny MacAskill:** These issues are principally operational matters for the organisations involved. However, the Scottish Government will host a summit in the coming months to bring together the various agencies involved in combating trafficking in human beings to refresh the strategic direction for policy and delivery in this area. Improved co-operation between all organisations will be one of the objectives of the summit.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-05786&ResultsPerPage=10>

## Immigration and Asylum (continued)

### Holyrood Parliamentary Motions

**S4M-02133 Kenny MacAskill: Human Trafficking**—That the Parliament welcomes the reports issued by the Equality and Human Rights Commission and Scotland’s Commissioner for Children and Young People about trafficking in human beings; acknowledges the work undertaken to date by law enforcement agencies to tackle criminals engaged in human trafficking; commends the work of statutory and third sector bodies that have worked to raise awareness of human trafficking in Scotland and offer support to victims of this abhorrent crime, and welcomes the Scottish Government’s intention to host a summit with key delivery partners to refresh the strategic direction for policy and delivery in this important area.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-02133&ResultsPerPage=10>

**S4M-02133.1 Lewis Macdonald: Human Trafficking**—As an amendment to motion S4M-02133 in the name of Kenny MacAskill (Human Trafficking), insert at end “and believes that strategic leadership from government must be provided and urgent action must follow across the range of agencies to tackle human trafficking and its consequences for victims.”

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-02133.1&ResultsPerPage=10>

**S4M-02133.2 David McLetchie: Human Trafficking**—As an amendment to motion S4M-02133 in the name of Kenny MacAskill (Human Trafficking), insert at end “; welcomes the active cooperation among governments and agencies across the UK to tackle this issue, and acknowledges the need for policy coordination.”

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-02133.2&ResultsPerPage=10>

**S4M-02130 Jenny Marra: Anti-Slavery Day Act for Scotland**—That the Parliament notes that 18 October 2012 is Anti-Slavery Day; understands that the Anti-Slavery Day Act 2010 was introduced in England and Wales to acknowledge that millions of men, women and children continue to be victims of slavery, which deprives them of basic human dignity and freedom; understands that the Act is used to raise awareness among young people and others of the dangers and consequences of slavery, human trafficking and exploitation and encourages them to be proactive in the fight against it; notes that the Act draws attention to the progress made by government and those working to combat all forms of slavery, human trafficking and exploitation and what more needs to be done to combat these; believes that such provisions, if in place in Scotland, would aid Scotland’s fight against human trafficking, and urges the Scottish Government to seek consent to extend the provisions of the Act to Scotland.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-02130&ResultsPerPage=10>

## Westminster Ministerial Statement

### Immigration

**The Secretary of State for the Home Department (Mrs Theresa May):** ... Until now, settlement has been a virtually automatic consequence of five years’ residence in the UK as a skilled worker. Those who have settled have tended to be less well paid and lower-skilled than those who have not. And the volumes of migrant workers settling have reached record levels in recent years. In 1997, there were fewer than 10,000 migrant workers and their dependants were granted settlement, but by 2010 this had risen to

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Ministerial Statement (continued)

84,000. So in future, we will exercise control to ensure that only the brightest and best remain permanently.

Following advice commissioned from the independent Migration Advisory Committee, we will apply a minimum pay threshold to skilled workers in the tier 2 (General) and tier 2 (Sportsperson) routes who want to settle. The threshold will be £35,000 per annum. In order to settle, a worker must be paid at that threshold or at the appropriate rate for the job as specified in codes of practice published by the UK Border Agency, whichever is higher. The £35,000 figure reflects the median pay of UK workers in tier 2 level jobs.

To provide flexibility where there are skills shortages in the domestic labour market, we will waive the £35,000 threshold for migrants who are being sponsored to do jobs which are on the shortage occupation list, or have appeared on the shortage occupation list at a time while the migrant has been sponsored to do that job. Similarly, to help maintain the UK's position as a hub for the world's best scientists and researchers, we will not apply the threshold to those scientists and researchers, who are in specified "PhD level" jobs. However, as now, these settlement applicants will need to be paid the appropriate rate for their job, as set out in the UK Border Agency codes of practice.

We will apply the new settlement pay threshold to tier 2 migrants applying for settlement from April 2016. To provide certainty for migrants and employers, we will hold the threshold at £35,000 until April 2018. We will confirm the threshold for 2018-19 next year and review it annually thereafter.

Tier 2 is intended to provide a solution to temporary skills gaps in the domestic labour market. So in future, temporary leave as a skilled worker will be limited to a maximum stay of six years and tier 2 migrants who leave the UK will need to wait 12 months after the expiry of their leave before they may reapply to return under tier 2. At a time of high unemployment, we owe it to British workers to ensure that our migration system does not perpetuate reliance on migrant labour.

We intend to leave the settlement rules for tier 1 migrants unchanged. These arrangements, for investors, entrepreneurs and those of exceptional talent, were put in place as recently as 2011 and are consistent with welcoming the high value individuals the UK needs to drive economic growth. ...

Turning to the overseas domestic worker (ODW) routes, we will introduce changes to align these categories with our wider migration policy. At a time when we are reserving settlement for the brightest and best and moving towards a more selective system in general, it is not right that domestic worker routes should lead to settlement in the UK. In 2011, 16,430 visas were issued to ODWs in private households, including dependants, and 1,280 grants of settlement were made to ODWs and their dependants. So we shall reform the rules as follows.

ODWs in private households will only be permitted to accompany and work for visitors. They must leave the UK with the visitor, after a maximum of six months. They may not extend their stay, switch employer, sponsor dependants or settle here. ODWs in diplomatic households will be able to remain for the diplomat's duration of stay, up to a maximum of five years. They may not switch employer or settle but may be accompanied by their dependants. ...

Tier 5 of the points-based system caters for people coming to the UK for temporary, primarily non-economic purposes. The consultation revealed that the routes in tier 5 are too diverse to adopt blanket rules, for example on length of leave, ability to sponsor dependants and skills requirements. However, there will be some tightening of the current provisions. Internships and work experience type schemes within the Government authorised exchange scheme sub-category will be restricted to one-off stays of a maximum of 12 months, as this is sufficient time to obtain the necessary experience. From the autumn, leave for contractual service suppliers and independent professionals using the international agreement sub-category will be restricted to six months in 12, in

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Ministerial Statement (continued)

line with our commitments under the general agreement on trade in services (GATS) and other free trade agreements.

We shall also make some deregulatory changes. In response to feedback that sponsorship requirements in the PBS can be unduly onerous and inflexible in some circumstances, we intend to create a new route outside the points-based system for certain fee-paid activities. Visitors in this new category ("permitted paid engagements") will be able to undertake specific fee paid activities for up to one month without the need for formal sponsorship by a UK-based employer. ...

**To read the lengthy statement in full see**

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120229/wmstext/120229m0001.htm#12022961000007>

## Westminster Parliamentary Questions

### British Nationality: Assessments

**Tristram Hunt:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many Life in the UK citizenship tests have been sat in each year since 2007; and what the number and proportion was of such tests which were passed in each such year. [91795]

**Reply from Damian Green:** Since the test was introduced for Nationality in 2005 and extended to include settlement cases back in early 2007, over a million tests have been delivered.

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11 <sup>(1)</sup>	Total
Total tests taken (Number)	304,905	232,527	186,468	193,461	917,361
Failure rate (Percentage)	29.70	27.90	25.40	27.00	27.50
Pass rate (Percentage)	70.30	72.10	74.60	73.00	72.50

<sup>(1)</sup> Up to May 2011 *Note:* These figures do not constitute part of National Statistics as they are based on internal management information. The information has not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols, should be treated as provisional and is subject to change.)

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120229/text/120229w0001.htm#12022972000041>

### Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

**Keith Vaz:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many checks have been carried out on Tier 4 sponsors in the last three months. [96793]

**Reply from Damian Green:** The UK Border Agency carries out a range of checks on Tier 4 sponsors, these include: pre-licence verification; post-licence announced and unannounced visits; specific verification linked to sponsors who apply to be highly trusted and intelligence led non compliance investigations. In the three months October to December 2011, the UK Border Agency carried out 725 such checks.

**Keith Vaz:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many inspections of Tier 4 colleges have been carried out in the last three months. [96794]

**Reply from Damian Green:** All Tier 4 sponsors have been visited at least twice, once by their accreditation body and once by the UK Border Agency. In 2011, the UK Border Agency carried out approximately 900 inspections. Around half of these inspections were unannounced and approximately a third took place between October and December 2011.

## Immigration and Asylum

### Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

**Keith Vaz:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many Tier 4 sponsors (a) have been found to be breaking the terms of their licence and (b) had their licences revoked as a result in the most recent period for which figures are available. [96795]

**Reply from Damian Green:** Where the UK Border Agency has serious concerns about a sponsor, it will suspend its licence pending further investigation. The total number of sponsors, since the inception of sponsorship, found to be breaking the terms of their licence is approximately 355. The UK Border Agency has revoked approximately 150 of these sponsors in total. In the last year 88 sponsors have had their licence revoked due to non-compliance.

**Keith Vaz:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many (a) unannounced and (b) announced inspections were carried out on Tier 4 colleges, in each of the last twelve months. [96796]

**Reply from Damian Green:** All Tier 4 sponsors have been visited at least twice, once by their accreditation body and once by the UK Border Agency. In 2011, the UK Border Agency carried out approximately 900 inspections. Approximately half of these inspections were unannounced.

The data provided above is internal management information derived from 'live' internal operational databases that has not been externally validated; it is therefore provisional and is subject to change. We would not normally consider this to be of publication quality.

**Keith Vaz:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many Tier 4 colleges have been (a) found to be bogus and (b) closed as a result in the most recent period for which figures are available. [96797]

**Reply from Damian Green:** The UK Border Agency does not use the term bogus in the context of compliance actions. The UK Border Agency records institutions' accreditation by an approved body, and whether it is compliant with its sponsor duties.

The UK Border Agency does not have the power to close any education or training provider. It can however revoke the Tier 4 licence of any sponsor found to be non-compliant with its sponsorship duties.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120229/text/120229w0001.htm#12022972000046>

### Social Security Benefits: Asylum

**David Ruffley:** To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions what the maximum number of benefits is for which (a) an asylum seeker and (b) an asylum seekers' dependants can be eligible whilst residing in the UK. [96940]

**Reply from Chris Grayling:** Asylum seekers are people subject to immigration control and cannot claim income-related benefits such as income-based jobseeker's allowance, income support, income-related employment and support allowance, pension credit, housing benefit or council tax benefit.

Support for asylum seekers is administered by the Home Office and is delivered by the Asylum Support Service

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120227/text/120227w0001.htm#12022740000076>

### Asylum

**Richard Graham:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many failed asylum seekers left the country (a) voluntarily and (b) through enforced deportation in each of the last five years. [96602]

**Reply from Damian Green:** Deportations are a specific subset of removals which

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

are enforced either following a criminal conviction or when it is judged that a person's removal from the UK is conducive to the public good. The deportation order prohibits the person returning to the UK until such time as it may be revoked. Most illegal immigrants are removed under administrative or illegal entry powers from the UK rather than being deported.

Central management systems cannot accurately identify the numbers of enforced removals from the UK, from the number of voluntary departures after enforcement action had been initiated.

It is also not possible to identify the stage in the asylum process that the nationals of any country have reached at the time of their removal, including whether their claim has failed at that point and that they are failed asylum seekers, because those departing voluntarily can do so at any stage without notifying the UK Border Agency.

The following table shows the total number of asylum cases removed (including those who have been deported) or departed voluntarily from the UK by type in each year from 2007 to 2011.

*Removals and voluntary departures* <sup>(1.)</sup> <sup>(2)</sup> of asylum cases, by type, January 2007 to December 2011

	Number of departures				
	2007	2008	2009	2010 <sup>(1)</sup>	2011 <sup>(3)</sup>
Total asylum cases	13,705	12,874	11,636	10,394	8,869
<i>Of which:</i>					
Enforced removals and notified voluntary departures <sup>(4.)</sup> <sup>(5)</sup>	8,761	7,848	6,897	6,656	6,384
Assisted Voluntary Returns <sup>(6)</sup>	2,866	2,658	2,983	2,698	2,003
Other voluntary departures <sup>(7)</sup>	2,078	2,368	1,756	1,040	482

<sup>(1)</sup> Figures include dependants, <sup>(2)</sup> Removals and voluntary departures recorded on the system as of the dates on which the data extracts were taken. <sup>(3)</sup> Provisional figures. Figures will under record due to data cleansing and data matching exercises that take place after the extracts are taken. <sup>(4)</sup> Due to a reclassification of removal categories, figures include asylum removals performed by UK Border Agency Officers using in-country powers of removal and a small number of cases dealt with at juxtaposed controls. <sup>(5)</sup> Figures include people leaving under Facilitated Return Schemes. <sup>(6)</sup> People leaving under Assisted Voluntary Return Programmes run by Refugee Action (prior to April 2011, run by the International Organisation for Migration). May include some on-entry cases and some cases where enforcement action had been initiated. <sup>(7)</sup> People who it has been established left without informing the immigration authorities.

The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics within the Immigration Statistics release. A copy of the latest release, Immigration Statistics October to December 2011, published on 23 February 2012, is available from the Home Office Science, research and statistics web pages at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/science-research/research-statistics/migration/migration-statistics1/> and will be placed in the Library.

**David Evennett:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what recent estimate she has made of the number of legacy asylum cases that are archived due to lack of communication with the applicant. [96730]

**Reply from Damian Green:** As Rob Whiteman reported to the Home Affairs Select Committee on 22 December 2011; the number of cases placed in the controlled archive has reduced from an initial figure of 98,000 cases to 93,000 cases.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120228/text/120228w0002.htm#12022864000103>



## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### Patients: Illegal Immigrants

**Keith Vaz:** To ask the Secretary of State for Health what guidance his Department has issued to GPs and doctors on registering illegal immigrants. [95867]

**Reply from Simon Burns:** There is no specific guidance regarding illegal immigrants. A person's immigration status has no bearing on their eligibility to access primary care. General practitioner (GP) contractors are self-employed and are contracted through primary care trusts to provide services for the national health service. Under the terms of those contracts, GPs have a measure of discretion as to who they register as an NHS patient but they cannot turn down an applicant on the grounds of race, gender, social class, age, religion, sexual orientation, appearance, disability or medical condition.

On 18 March 2011, the Government announced a proposed review regarding charging foreign nationals for NHS services. This will include whether GP or other NHS services outside of hospitals should be charged for. The review will be thorough and consultative, and will take full account of NHS values, public health needs and humanitarian obligations. We expect that developed proposals will be ready for further consultation this year.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120227/text/120227w0005.htm#12022812000048>

### Detention Centres

**Priti Patel:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many detainees have entered each immigration removal centre in each of the last five years; and how many detainees have been removed from the UK directly from each immigration removal centre in each of the last five years. [92035]

**Reply from Damian Green:** The requested information is not available for all of the last five years.

People entering detention, held solely under Immigration Act powers by initial place of detention have been published since 2009 and are available in table dt.03 (annual) and dt.03.q (quarterly), by country of nationality of Immigration Statistics July to September 2011 available 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/>

The following table shows people removed on leaving detention by last place of detention from 2007 to Q3 2011:

<i>People removed on leaving detention by place of last detention and year</i>					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	Q1-Q3 2011
Total	16,120	16,312	16,093	25,959	12,256
<i>Immigration removal centres</i>					
Brook House	(1) —	(1) —	1,439	3,025	1,603
Campsfield House	1,386	1,594	957	1,900	881
Colnbrook IRC	134	51	36	524	29
Dover IRC	743	892	627	1,294	723
Dungavel	277	264	198	636	78
Harmondsworth	974	796	750	2,610	2,135
Haslar	124	106	99	424	107
Lindholme	66	40	27	296	35

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Oakington reception centre	2,183	1,778	1,487	2,982	(1)___
Morton Hall	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___	39
Tinsley House	3,116	2,660	1,945	2,408	847
Yarl's Wood	2,646	2,576	2,416	3,609	1,545
<i>Short-term holding facilities</i>					
Colnbrook Short Term	3,795	4,750	4,913	5,499	3,978
Dover Harbour	229	507	645	276	(1)___
Harwich	(2)___	46	45	25	(1)___
Larne House	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___	45
Pennine House	447	252	509	451	198
<i>Pre-departure accommodation</i>					
Cedars	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___	13

(1) Not applicable. (2) Not available. *Notes:* 1. Data from Q1 2010 onwards are provisional. 2. All people held are detained in the United Kingdom solely under Immigration Act powers and exclude those in police cells, Prison Service establishments, short-term holding rooms at ports and airports (for less than 24 hours), and those recorded as detained under both criminal and immigration powers and their dependants. 3. Relates to most recent period of sole detention. The period of detention starts when a person first enters the UK Border Agency estate. If the person is then moved from a removal centre to a police cell or Prison Service establishment, this period of stay will be included if the detention is solely under Immigration Act powers. 4. 2008: Pennine House (formerly named Manchester airport short-term holding facility which closed on 15 June 2008), reopened on 30 November 2008. 5.2009: Brook House opened on 18 March 2009. 6. 2010: Dover Harbour closed on 31 July 2010. Oakington Reception Centre closed on 12 November 2010. Harwich short-term holding facility closed on 30 November 2010. Yarl's Wood closed to families with children on 16 December 2010. 7. 2011: Morton Hall opened on 16 May 2011. Larne House opened on 5 July 2011. Cedars opened on 17 August 2011 only for families deemed suitable by UK Border Agency, advised by the independent Family Returns Panel, for pre-departure accommodation.

The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on the number of people entering and leaving detention, held solely under Immigration Act powers, within Immigration Statistics. October to December 2011 detention figures will be published on 23 February 2012 and will be available from the Library of the House and from the Home Office Science, Research and Statistics web pages.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120228/text/120228w0002.htm#12022864000112>

### Deportation

**Chris Bryant:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what assessment she has made of the compliance of G4S under its contract with the UK Border Agency with the guidance in the Ministry of Justice's 2010 Physical Control in Care training manual on the treatment of minors. [92915]

**Reply from Damian Green:** We take the welfare of children in our care very seriously and act in accordance with Section 55 of the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act, which requires all UK Border Agency staff and contractors to carry out their functions with regard to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

The UK Border Agency contract for escorting services is with Reliance Secure

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Task Management. The services were provided by G4S Care and Justice Services prior to May 2011.

In order to exercise any use of restraint, detainee custody officers and escorts must be certified by the Secretary of State, a condition of which is that they have undergone training of techniques approved by the National Offender Management Service (NOMS). Officers receive re-fresher training every 12 months. Any use of restraint must be justified, proportionate and for the shortest possible period to achieve the objective.

Officers employed to escort children under the age of 18 are trained and certified to use the physical control in care (PCC) techniques and procedures contained in the NOMS PCC manual. The manual and training packages were written and accredited by NOMS and the training is delivered by approved PCC instructors. The techniques and the delivery of training are regularly reviewed and assessed by NOMS staff.

Officers are required to complete a report of any use of PCC, which sets out why it was used 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 PCC was justified.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120228/text/120228w0002.htm#12022864000111>

## Press Releases

### **New Border Force begins work**

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/border-force>

### **MAC recommends no change to annual limit on skilled workers**

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2012/february/69mac-annual-limit>

### **Automatic settlement for skilled workers to end**

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2012/february/66-settlement>

### **Illegal workers and benefit abusers targeted**

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/biometric-permits-expansion>

### **More immigration and settlement routes require biometric residence permit**

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2012/february/67-brp>

### **Private servants in diplomatic households: changes affecting diplomatic missions**

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsfragments/61-servants-diplomatic>

### **£10 million for English language support**

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/2097253>

## New Publications

### **Migration Statistics Quarterly Report February 2012**

[http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171778\\_256050.pdf](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171778_256050.pdf)

## Immigration and Asylum New Publications (continued)

**Analysis of Tier 2 general migrants previous salary and occupation of those eligible to apply for settlement**

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/occ100/occ100?view=Binary>

**Analysis of Tier 2 general migrants previous salary and occupation of those eligible to apply for settlement**

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/occ100/occ100?view=Binary>

**Asylum: A thematic inspection of the Detained Fast Track**

[http://icinspector.independent.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Asylum\\_A-thematic-inspection-of-Detained-Fast-Track1.pdf](http://icinspector.independent.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Asylum_A-thematic-inspection-of-Detained-Fast-Track1.pdf)

**I don't feel human: Experiences of destitution among young refugees and migrants**

[http://www.childrensociety.org.uk/sites/default/files/tcs/research\\_docs/thechildrensociety\\_idontfeelhuman\\_final.pdf](http://www.childrensociety.org.uk/sites/default/files/tcs/research_docs/thechildrensociety_idontfeelhuman_final.pdf)

## News

**Permits system boost to fight immigration abuse**

[http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/uk/permits\\_system\\_boost\\_to\\_fight\\_immigration\\_abuse\\_1\\_2140676](http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/uk/permits_system_boost_to_fight_immigration_abuse_1_2140676)

**The illegal immigrants desperate to escape squalor of Britain**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-17183171>

**Universities warn on overseas students income loss**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-17192514>

**Skilled migrants to lose right to settle in UK**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/feb/29/skilled-migrants-lose-right-settle>

**British companies bypass immigration cap on skilled migrants**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/feb/28/companies-bypassing-immigration-cap>

**Staff transfers avoid immigration cap**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/staff-transfers-avoid-immigration-cap-7462553.html>

**New visa rules for domestic workers 'will turn the clock back 15 years'**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/feb/29/new-visa-rules-domestic-workers>

**Free HIV treatment for asylum seekers and non-UK citizens**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2012/feb/28/hiv-treatment-asylum-seekers>

**Rapid rise in babies born to migrants will 'give Britain one of Europe's youngest populations by 2035'**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2109659/Rapid-rise-migrant-baby-numbers-Britain-Europes-youngest-populations-2035.html>

## Immigration and Asylum

### News (continued)

#### **Migrants outstrip native pupils in GCSEs**

[http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk\\_news/Education/article986259.ece](http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/Education/article986259.ece)

#### **Cameron's 'immigrant' student blunder**

<http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/comment/regulars/thinktank/article985716.ece>

#### **New service will look after vulnerable young refugees**

<http://www.thirdforcenews.org.uk/2012/03/new-service-will-look-after-vulnerable-young-refugees/>

#### **Scottish Daily Mail apologises for misleading story about legal bids for asylum seekers**

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/latest\\_news/1518\\_scottish\\_daily\\_mail\\_apologises\\_for\\_misleading\\_story\\_about\\_legal\\_bids\\_for\\_asylum\\_seekers](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/1518_scottish_daily_mail_apologises_for_misleading_story_about_legal_bids_for_asylum_seekers)

#### **Destitution tally kicks-off launch of Glasgow-wide research**

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/latest\\_news/1519\\_destitution\\_tally\\_kicks-off\\_launch\\_of\\_glasgow-wide\\_research](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/1519_destitution_tally_kicks-off_launch_of_glasgow-wide_research)

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## Race Relations

### Press Release

#### **Eric Pickles: First volunteering day marks the start of "A Year of Service"**

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/2096308>

### New Publications

#### **Clearing the Ground inquiry: Preliminary report into the freedom of Christians in the UK**

<http://www.eauk.org/clearingtheground/Clearing%20the%20ground.pdf>

#### **Proportion of people [in England] mixing with others from different ethnic or religious backgrounds: by location, ethnicity, sex and age, 2010-11**

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/wellbeing/measuring-national-well-being/our-relationships/rftortab2.xls>

### News

#### **Nearly half of white people in UK only mix with non-white people in shops**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/feb/28/half-white-people-mix-shops>

#### **How often do you mix with other ethnicities?**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/news/datablog/2012/feb/28/ethnicity-mixing-happiness-index#data>

#### **Christianity gets less sensitive treatment than other religions admits BBC chief**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2106953/Christianity-gets-sensitive-treatment-religions-admits-BBC-chief.html>

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## Equality

### Press Releases

**Black people 'least satisfied of UK population'**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-17192780>

**The United Kingdom should ensure adequate housing for Gypsies and Travellers**

<https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?id=1914407&Site=DC&ShowBanner=no&Target=self&BackColorInternet=F5CA75&BackColorIntranet=F5CA75&BackColorLogged=A9BACE>

### New Publications

**Improving ethnic data collection for equality and diversity monitoring**

<http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Equality-and-Diversity/Publications/2012-02-28/2012-02-28-EDIP-Report.pdf?48649233580>

**Citizenship education for diversity**

<http://www.enargywebzine.eu/spip.php?article173&lang=en>

### News

**Catholic midwives lose abortion 'conscientious objection' case**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-17203620>

**Catholic midwives lose legal fight over abortions**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/catholic-midwives-lose-legal-fight-over-abortions.16889529>

**Catholic midwives lose abortion battle**

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/scotland/catholic-midwives-lose-abortion-battle-1-2146036>

**Catholic Midwives Lose Legal Fight To Avoid Assisting In Abortions**

[http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2012/02/29/catholic-midwives-lose-legal-fight-to-avoid-taking-part-in-abortions- n\\_1311215.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2012/02/29/catholic-midwives-lose-legal-fight-to-avoid-taking-part-in-abortions- n_1311215.html)

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## Racism and Religious Hatred

### Westminster Parliamentary Questions

#### Caste Discrimination

**Lord Avebury:** To ask Her Majesty's Government whether, in considering the case for exercising the power conferred by Section 9(5)(a) of the Equality Act 2010 to make caste discrimination unlawful, they will have regard to the views and experience of those who may be discriminated against among the Hindu and Sikh communities in this country. [HL15561]

**Reply from Lord Wallace of Saltaire:** On this matter the Government have been taking into account views from a large number of individuals and organisations, including those from sectors of the Hindu and Sikh communities that may have

## Racism and Religious Hatred Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

experienced caste-based prejudice or discrimination. In particular, the Government have been giving detailed consideration to the report compiled by the National Institute for Economic and Social Research (NIESR) into alleged caste discrimination within the UK. In compiling that report NIESR researchers met extensively with those who felt that they have suffered caste-based discrimination or harassment.

The Government are also aware of previous reports on this issue, in particular the *Hidden Apartheid: Caste and Caste Discrimination in the UK* report published in November 2009 by the Anti Caste Discrimination Alliance (ACDA). The Government are also taking into account representations that they have received on this matter. For instance, over 50 comments were received on the need for caste legislation as part of last year's Red Tape Challenge Spotlight on Equalities. The Minister for Women and Equalities, Lynne Featherstone, and officials from the Government Equalities Office also attended an independent meeting on 17 January 2011, organised by ACDA among others, at which the issue of caste legislation was extensively discussed. At that meeting a number of participants spoke to support the bringing into force of Section 9(5)(a) of the Equality Act 2010.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201212/ldhansrd/text/120227w0001.htm#12022845004002>

### Terrorism: Racial Incitement

**Bob Blackman:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what steps her Department is taking to protect the public from (a) terrorism and (b) race hatred. [96903]

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Office of Security and Counter-Terrorism within the Home Office is responsible for delivering the UK's counter-terrorism strategy (Contest), which was presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State for the Home Department in July 2011.

The aim of the strategy is to reduce the risk to the UK and UK interests overseas from terrorism so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence.

The four work streams of Contest are:

Pursue: to stop terrorist attacks;

Prevent: to stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism;

Protect: to strengthen our protection against terrorist attack; and

Prepare: to mitigate the impact of a terrorist impact.

The strategy covers all forms of terrorism, including the threat to Great Britain from Northern Ireland-related terrorism and extreme right-wing terrorism, while focusing on those which pose the biggest risk to UK interests.

A copy of the strategy is available in the House Library and it can be downloaded at: [www.official-documents.gov.uk](http://www.official-documents.gov.uk) and also at: [www.homeoffice.gov.uk/counter-terrorism/](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/counter-terrorism/)

The Government are committed to ensuring that everyone has the freedom to live their lives free from fear of targeted hostility or harassment on the grounds of a particular characteristic, and is taking action to ensure that the criminal justice services and partners locally are equipped to prevent and tackle such targeted hostility. We are working collaboratively across Government to develop a new hate crime action plan and aim to publish it later this year. We will also work proactively with our Independent Advisory Group on Hate Crime, many members of which have been victims of hate crime themselves, taking account of the group's views on the issues that need to be addressed. We are clear that criminal justice agencies must provide a consistently high standard of service to all victims of hate crime, irrespective of their backgrounds and needs.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120228/text/120228w0003.htm#12022864000122>

## Racism and Religious Hatred

### Press Releases (continued)

#### Offensive Behaviour Bill comes into force

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/02/offensivebehaviour29022012>

#### Roma and Travellers face blatant racism in today's Europe

[https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?id=1913225&Site=DC&ShowBanner=no&Target=\\_self&BackColorInternet=F5CA75&BackColorIntranet=F5CA75&BackColorLogged=A9BACE](https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?id=1913225&Site=DC&ShowBanner=no&Target=_self&BackColorInternet=F5CA75&BackColorIntranet=F5CA75&BackColorLogged=A9BACE)

## New Publication

#### European Court of Human Rights fact sheet: Hate speech

[http://www.echr.coe.int/NR/rdonlyres/D5D909DE-CDAB-4392-A8A0-867A77699169/0/FICHES\\_Discours\\_de\\_haine\\_EN.pdf](http://www.echr.coe.int/NR/rdonlyres/D5D909DE-CDAB-4392-A8A0-867A77699169/0/FICHES_Discours_de_haine_EN.pdf)

## News

#### Football religious hatred law takes effect in Scotland

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-17214369>

#### Police fears remain over bigotry laws

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/police-fears-remain-over-bigotry-laws.16891965>

#### UK 'Violated' Gypsies' Rights Says European Human Rights Watchdog

[http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2012/03/01/uk-undermining-gypsies-rights\\_n\\_1313021.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2012/03/01/uk-undermining-gypsies-rights_n_1313021.html)

#### Trade unionists win 'racist' monkey cartoon case

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/law-and-order/9120915/Trade-unionists-win-racist-monkey-cartoon-case.html>

#### Watchdog warns of 'blatant racism' against Roma

<http://euobserver.com/22/115394>

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## Other Westminster

### Petition

#### Definition of Gypsy Status

The Petition of supporters of the National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups, Declares that the Petitioners believe that the present definition of "Gypsy Status" in the context of planning law puts Gypsy women who act as carers for their family or who are widowed or divorced in an unequal position; declares that the Petitioners believe that recent case-law shows that this is an increasing issue; declares that the Petitioners believe that the present definition is not a fair or equal one under the Equality Act 2010 and declares that in the light of the drafting of the new National Planning Policy Framework and the new Planning Policy Statement, this is an ideal time to look at this issue.

The Petitioners therefore request that the House of Commons urges the Secretary of



## Other Westminster Petition (continued)

State for Communities and Local Government, together with the Equalities Minister, to urgently discuss the definition of 'Gypsy' status for the purposes of planning law with, among others, representatives of Romany Gypsies and English, Scots, Welsh and Irish Travellers. [P000997]

**Observations from the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government:** The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government published a draft new planning policy for traveller sites for full public consultation in April 2011. The consultation included a question asking whether the current definitions of "gypsies and travellers" and "travelling showpeople" for the purposes of planning policy should be retained in the new policy.

The current definition for planning purposes reflects the fact that many gypsies and travellers stop travelling permanently or temporarily for health reasons or because of caring responsibilities but still want to maintain their traditional caravan-dwelling lifestyle.

In response to the question in our consultation, some respondents suggested that the Government hold a full, separate consultation on the definition of "gypsies and travellers". The Government are currently considering all the responses to the consultation.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120229/petntext/120229p0001.htm#12022952000015>

## Press Release

### **Queen's Award puts Diamond Jubilee spotlight on national volunteering achievements**

Nominations open today for a special award that will mark Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by recognising the work of voluntary organisations throughout the United Kingdom.

The new Queen's Diamond Jubilee Volunteering Award 2012 will honour the efforts of charities and voluntary organisations that undertake projects at a national level this year, including groups which are supporting the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The Diamond Jubilee Volunteering Award is an extension of the successful Queen's Award for Voluntary Service (QAVS), the highest recognition for volunteering, with an equivalent status to the UK MBE.

It has been established by the Cabinet Office with the approval of Buckingham Palace. It is the first time that groups which operate at a national level can be nominated, as the existing QAVS applies only to community volunteering at a local level.

Members of the public are invited to [submit nominations electronically](#) for both awards. ...

**To read the full press release see**

<http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/news/queens-award-puts-diamond-jubilee-spotlight-national-volunteering-achievements>

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## Other News

**Forced marriage – not just an overseas issue. Get help in Scotland.**

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/latest\\_blog/1520\\_forced\\_marriage\\_not\\_just\\_an\\_overseas\\_issue\\_get\\_help\\_in\\_scotland](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_blog/1520_forced_marriage_not_just_an_overseas_issue_get_help_in_scotland)

## Other News (continued)

**Call for authors: European Network Against Racism book publication on “People of African descent in Europe and Black Europeans”**

[http://www.enar-eu.org/Page\\_Generale.asp?DocID=29446&langue=EN](http://www.enar-eu.org/Page_Generale.asp?DocID=29446&langue=EN)

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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>

#### **\*\* Social Care (Self-directed Support) Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/48001.aspx>

Bill as introduced

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_Bills/Social%20Care%20\(Self%20directed%20Support\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/Bill\\_as\\_introduced.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Social%20Care%20(Self%20directed%20Support)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/Bill_as_introduced.pdf)

Explanatory Notes and Financial Memorandum

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_Bills/Social%20Care%20\(Self%20directed%20Support\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/Ex\\_Notes\\_and\\_FM.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Social%20Care%20(Self%20directed%20Support)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/Ex_Notes_and_FM.pdf)

Policy Memorandum

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_Bills/Social%20Care%20\(Self%20directed%20Support\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/Policy\\_Memo.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Social%20Care%20(Self%20directed%20Support)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/Policy_Memo.pdf)

Delegated Powers Memorandum

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_Bills/Social%20Care%20\(Self%20directed%20Support\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/DPM.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Social%20Care%20(Self%20directed%20Support)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/DPM.pdf)

## **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>

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2010-2012/0079/amend/su079-iiira.htm>

Committee Stage House of Lords

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201212/ldhansrd/text/120228-0001.htm#12022860000567>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201212/ldhansrd/text/120228-0003.htm#1202292000169>

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## Consultations

\*\* new or updated this week

**\*\* closes this week!**

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

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

**\*\* closes this week!**

**Proposals for A Freedom Of Information (Amendment) Bill**

(closing date 8 March 2012)

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

**\*\* closes this week!**

**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](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_StandardsProceduresandPublicAppointmentsCommittee/Inquiries/Call_for_evidenceCPG.pdf)

**\*\* Social Care (Self-directed Support) Bill** (closing date 24 April 2012)

<http://scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/48017.aspx>

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

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_MembersBills/Final\\_version\\_as\\_lodged.pdf](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-](https://gmc.e-consultation.net/econsult/consultation_Dtl.aspx?consult_Id=240&status=2&criteria=)

[consultation.net/econsult/consultation\\_Dtl.aspx?consult\\_Id=240&status=2&criteria=](https://gmc.e-consultation.net/econsult/consultation_Dtl.aspx?consult_Id=240&status=2&criteria=)

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

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

**\*\* Consultation on the United Kingdom Plan for rare diseases**

(closing date 25 May 2012)

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_132880](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_132880)

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## Job Opportunities

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

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**\*\* this week!**

**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](mailto:train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

**\*\* this week!**

**All Kids are VIPs: Immigrant Integration at School**

7 March 2012, webinar (3.00)

Cities of Migration webinar to learn about a school-based program from Germany that empowers immigrant youth, educators, and 'celebrity' ambassadors to raise awareness about cultural diversity in school. For information see <http://citiesofmigration.ca/webinar/webinar-all-kids-are-vips-immigrant-integration-at-school/>

**\*\* this week!**

**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](mailto:john.robertson@gcvs.org.uk) or see [http://www.gcvs.org.uk/assets/0000/2049/CLD\\_NETWORK\\_LAUNCH\\_flyer.pdf](http://www.gcvs.org.uk/assets/0000/2049/CLD_NETWORK_LAUNCH_flyer.pdf)

**\*\* this week!**

**The Impact of Volunteering on Minority Ethnic Communities**

8 March 2012 in Glasgow (5.30 – 8.30)

CRER seminar to encourage volunteering uptake from young minority ethnic people, and discuss what barriers and obstacles are facing minority ethnic individuals looking to volunteer within mainstream and community led initiatives. For information contact [kam@crer.org.uk](mailto:kam@crer.org.uk).

**\*\* this week!**

**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](mailto:support@theredcardscotland.org) / 0141 222 2058.

**\*\* this week!**

**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](mailto:john.robertson@gcvs.org.uk) or see <http://tinyurl.com/7nda4cn>

## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### **\*\* International Women's Day Event**

10 March 2012 in Glasgow (1.00 – 4.00)

Algerian Society in Scotland event to celebrate International Women's Day. For information see [www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/12iii\\_asis.pdf](http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/12iii_asis.pdf).

### **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](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](mailto:info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk)

### **\*\* Making a difference: Can equality funding help provide positive models for the future?**

20 March 2012 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 2.00)

Equality and Human Rights Commission Conference to consider what lessons can be learned from the Equality and Human Rights Commission's Strategic Funding Programme. For information see [www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/12iii\\_ehrc.pdf](http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/12iii_ehrc.pdf) or contact [scotlandcommunication@equalityhumanrights.com](mailto:scotlandcommunication@equalityhumanrights.com) / 0141 228 5974/5920.

### **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](mailto:Stacey.anderson@gcvs.org.uk) / 0141 332 2444.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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>

## Useful Links (continued)

**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](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](http://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](http://www.acas.org.uk)

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

**Volunteer Development Scotland** [www.vds.org.uk](http://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](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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