

## 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.*

### Contents

[Immigration and Asylum](#)

[Race Relations](#)

[Equality](#)

[Racism and Religious Hatred](#)

[Other News](#)

[Bills in Progress](#)

[Consultations](#)

[Job Opportunities](#)

[Events/Conferences/Training](#)

[Useful Links](#)

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

**Please send information for inclusion in MEMO to [MEMO@scojec.org](mailto:MEMO@scojec.org) and requests to be added to circulation to [mail@bemis.org.uk](mailto:mail@bemis.org.uk)**

**The Scottish Parliament and UK Parliament House of Commons are in recess until 16 April 2012, and the House of Lords until 23 April 2012.  
The next issue of MEMO will appear on 23 April.**

## Immigration and Asylum

### Westminster Parliamentary Questions

#### Visas

**Lord Laird:** To ask Her Majesty's Government whether visa applications for non-European Economic Area intra-company staff transfers to the United Kingdom permit allowances to be counted towards the national minimum wage; if so, whether there are any limits to the allowances so counted; whether those allowances are exempt from income tax; and whether any such HM Revenue and Customs rules apply to all workers in the United Kingdom.[HL16497]

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (Baroness Wilcox):** Under National Minimum Wage (NMW) legislation, allowances only contribute towards NMW pay if they have been consolidated into standard pay or are related to the worker's performance. This applies to all workers in the UK.

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

NMW Regulations and Income Tax legislation are entirely separate. An inwardly migrant intra-company transfer would be entitled to relief from tax for the costs of travel and subsistence of getting to and staying in the UK as long as he can demonstrate that the Temporary Workplace Rules of S338-9 ITEPA 2003 apply; i.e. he can demonstrate that he is here for a task of limited duration or some other temporary purpose and anticipates that it will not last more than 24 months or for the duration of a fixed-term contract. There is no restriction on the quantum of the relief unless HMRC can demonstrate that the expenses incurred are unduly lavish. These rules apply equally to all workers in the UK. Additionally, an inwardly migrant intra-company transfer may be entitled to relief under S373 ITEPA for the costs of travelling to and from the UK.

**Lord Laird:** To ask Her Majesty's Government when the immigration rule reintroducing visas for spouses under the age of 21 following the Supreme Court ruling in the case of Quila and Bibi v Secretary of State for the Home Department was made; how many applications for such visas have since been lodged in total, and how many refused; and how many appeals have been lodged in relation to previously refused visa applications.[HL16498]

**Reply from The Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley):** Following the Supreme Court's ruling in R(on the application of Quila and another) (FC) v Secretary of State for the Home Department [2011] UKSC 45 on 12 October 2011, the Immigration Rules reinstating a minimum age of 18 to those applying for entry clearance or leave as the spouse or partner, and to their British citizen or settled sponsor, came into effect on 28 November 2011.

For the period 12 October 2011 to 31 December 2011, applications for entry clearance for visa applicants aged 18 to 20 years are included in the following table.

This information is based on management information, it is therefore provisional and subject to change.

<i>Period: 12 October 2011-31 December 2011</i>		
<i>Spouse/CP EC Visas</i>		
Applications Received	Refused	Appeals Received
103	12	18

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201212/ldhansrd/text/120326w0001.htm#12032629000665>

### **British Nationality: Families**

**Mark Pritchard:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) if she will review the rights of family members who do not have the nationality of an EU member state enjoying the same rights as an EU citizen whom they have accompanied to the United Kingdom; and if she will make a statement; [100116]

(2) if she will implement a mandatory short stay visa requirement under Regulation No. 539/2001 for all future accompanying persons from 1 July 2012. [100117]

**Reply from Damian Green:** The rights of European Economic Area (EEA) nationals and their family members to live and work in other European countries, and to be accompanied by their third country national family members, are set out in legislation (Directive 2004/38/EC, known as "the Free Movement Directive") by which all EU member states are bound. The UK has implemented the directive via the Immigration (EEA) Regulations 2006 ("the EEA Regulations"). Non-EEA nationals who wish to accompany or join their EEA national family members in the UK may, in accordance with the EEA Regulations, apply for an EEA Family Permit before travelling to facilitate their journey to the UK.

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

The EEA Regulations are regularly reviewed to ensure that free movement law, as interpreted by the UK's courts and the Court of Justice of the European Union, is implemented correctly.

The United Kingdom is not bound by Regulation No. 539/2001 as we do not participate in the migration aspects of the Schengen acquis. Our visa requirements for third country nationals who are not family members of EEA nationals are therefore set out in separate United Kingdom Immigration Rules.

The Government are committed to protecting free movement rights from fraud and abuse and the Secretary of State for the Home Department, my right hon. Friend the Member for Maidenhead (Mrs May), has shared the UK's views on the matter with other member states at JHA Council on every occasion that she attended since June 2011.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120327/text/120327w0004.htm#1203281000054>

### Entry Clearances: Foreign Workers

**Yvette Cooper:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many out-of-country visas were issued to both main applicants and dependents for intra-company transfers between 2000 and 2011. [97837]

**Reply from Theresa May:** Tier 2 of the points based system (PBS) for intra-company transfers (ICT) has been reformed in recent years. For this reason, direct comparisons before and after the changes in both November 2008 and April 2011 would be misleading.

The PBS Tier 2—ICT category was introduced in November 2008. Prior to this, intra-company transfers were included in the work permit system.

In April 2011, there was a further change to the PBS ICT route whereby it was separated into long- and short-term categories including both main applicants and dependants. Prior to April, dependants of the ICT category were issued visas under the PBS Tier 2—Dependent category.

The available information is provided in the following table:

<i>Tier 2 intra-company transfers out of country visas to the United Kingdom issued, main applicants and dependants</i>								
	<i>Main applicants</i>				<i>Dependants</i>			
	<i>Tier 2— intra- company transfers</i>	<i>Tier 2— intra- company transfers, short-term</i>	<i>Tier 2— intra- company transfers, long-term</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Tier 2— intra- company transfers</i>	<i>Tier 2— intra- company transfers, short-term</i>	<i>Tier 2— intra- company transfers, long-term</i>	<i>Total</i>
Q1 2008	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___	(2)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___
Q2 2008	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___	(2)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___
Q3 2008	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___	(2)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___
Q4 2008	47	(1)___	(1)___	47	(2)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___
Total 2008	47	(1)___	(1)___	47	(2)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___
Q1 2009	4,356	(1)___	(1)___	4,356	(2)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___
Q2 2009	5,662	(1)___	(1)___	5,662	(2)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___
Q3 2009	6,091	(1)___	(1)___	6,091	(2)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___
Q4 2009	5,920	(1)___	(1)___	5,920	(2)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___
Total 2009	22,029	(1)___	(1)___	22,029	(2)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___
Q1 2010	7,379	(1)___	(1)___	7,379	(2)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___
Q2 2010	7,164	(1)___	(1)___	7,164	(2)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___
Q3 2010	8,046	(1)___	(1)___	8,046	(2)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___
Q4 2010	6,582	(1)___	(1)___	6,582	(2)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___
Total 2010	29,171	(1)___	(1)___	29,171	(2)___	(1)___	(1)___	(1)___

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Q1 2011	7,370	(1) —	(1) —	7,370	(2) —	(1) —	(1) —	(1) —
Q2 2011	2,242	2,992	2,152	7,386	(2) —	825	2,190	3,015
Q3 2011	751	4,387	3,276	8,414	(2) —	1,154	3,195	4,349
Q4 2011	415	3,647	2,445	6,507	(2) —	1,146	2,413	3,559
Total 2011	10,778	11,026	7,873	29,677	(2) —	3,125	7,798	10,923

(<sup>1</sup>) Not applicable (<sup>2</sup>) Not available Notes: 1. PBS Tier 2 and the category intra-company transfers were introduced in November 2003. 2. PBS Tier 2 categories for short- and long-term intra-company transfers were introduced in April 2011. Prior to April 2011, dependants of those issued visas under the PBS Tier 2 ICT category were recorded differently. 3. Figures for entry clearance visas are Management Information and are provisional and are subject to change.

Those issued with visas in the short-term ICT category are granted leave for no longer than 12 months and are not included in ONS figures for net migration.

Some entry clearance visas continued to be issued in pre-PBS categories for a period following the introduction of PBS. These would include those for the purposes of work for employees of multinational companies who were being transferred to a UK branch of the organisation, but these are now at a very low levels.

The pre-PBS work permit system was a two-stage process. Not all those granted work permits took up jobs and some may have been refused entry clearance or leave to enter. The UK Border Agency does not hold visa data for ICTs prior to November 2008 in a readily available form. These figures could be obtained only by examining individual applications at disproportionate cost.

Data relating to out of country visas issued under Tier 2 intra-company transfers are published in table 'be.04.q' of the Home Office statistical release 'Immigration Statistics'.

A copy of the latest release, Immigration Statistics October to December 2011 is available from the Library of the House and from the Home Office Science, research and statistics web pages at:

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

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120327/text/120327w0004.htm#1203281000058>

### Asylum: Finance

**Laurence Robertson:** To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions what assistance is available to people who are granted refugee status, with particular reference to housing; and if he will make a statement. [101852]

**Reply from Chris Grayling:** People seeking asylum in the UK are supported by the Home Office and not allowed to work or claim benefits until their application is considered and a decision made by the UK Border Agency (UKBA). Once they have a positive decision granting them leave to remain in the UK, they receive refugee status.

Those granted refugees status are eligible to be considered for social housing and homelessness assistance. Where they apply for social housing or homelessness assistance, they will have their housing needs considered on the same basis as other eligible applicants.

The Localism Act 2011 gives local councils the power to set their own qualification criteria for social housing. Councils are able to operate a more focused waiting list which better reflects local circumstances.

Refugees have full employment rights and become eligible for the whole range of Department for Work and Pensions benefits as well as support to help them move into work where appropriate including access to the Work programme, subject to normal eligibility conditions.

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Jobcentre Plus advisers will work with refugees to plan a route into employment, tailoring the support accordingly to meet the individual's needs and signposting them to other relevant programmes such as English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120326/text/120326w0002.htm#12032636000016>

### Asylum Seekers: Children

**Baroness Lister of Burtersett:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their response to the recent Children's Society report *I Don't Feel Human* about the conditions experienced by some young asylum seekers and refugees. [HL16594]

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether, in the light of the Children's Society report *I Don't Feel Human*, they will review the levels of support for vulnerable children in the immigration system. [HL16597]

**Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley):** The report will be considered in detail by UK Border Agency officials. Children in the asylum and immigration system are able to access adequate support. All unaccompanied children are entitled to support from their local authority under the Children Act regardless of their immigration status. Additionally, destitute asylum seekers who have children are supported by the UK Border Agency. This support lasts until they leave the United Kingdom or they are granted leave to remain and are therefore free to obtain work or access the mainstream benefits system.

The level of support provided under the Children Act is not fixed at set amounts but depends on an assessment of the child's needs. The cash payments made to asylum seekers in order to meet their essential living needs are already kept under regular review and adjusted where necessary.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201212/ldhansrd/text/120328w0001.htm#12032872000701>

## Press Releases

### Monthly asylum application tables - January 2012

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/asylum-jan-2012?view=Binary>

### Children entering detention held solely under Immigration Act powers February 2012

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/child-detention-jan20121?view=Binary>

### Visa application fees change on 6 April 2012

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2012/march/73-visa-fees-change>

### MEPs asked to back programme for resettling more refugees in the EU

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/content/20120322STO41646/html/MEPs-asked-to-back-programme-for-resettling-more-refugees-in-the-EU>

### Financial incentives for EU countries to take up more refugees

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/pressroom/content/20120328IPR42048/html/Financial-incentives-for-EU-countries-to-take-up-more-refugees>

## Immigration and Asylum Press Releases (continued)

**Commission moves to boost social security rights for people migrating to and from the EU**

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/12/333&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

**EU Must Boost Refugee Resettlement**

<http://www.amnesty.eu/en/press-releases/all/0556-0556/>

## New Publications

**Migrants in Europe: A statistical portrait of the first and second generation**

[http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY\\_OFFPUB/KS-31-10-539/EN/KS-31-10-539-EN.PDF](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_OFFPUB/KS-31-10-539/EN/KS-31-10-539-EN.PDF)

**Entering the territory : exploring new forms of access to asylum procedures**

[http://www.ecre.org/index.php?option=com\\_downloads&id=467](http://www.ecre.org/index.php?option=com_downloads&id=467)

**At the margins of Europe: externalisation of migration controls**

[http://www.migreurop.org/IMG/pdf/Rapport\\_Migreurop\\_2011\\_Version\\_anglaise\\_27012012\\_pour\\_derniere\\_relecture\\_et\\_validation\\_FASTI-SM.pdf](http://www.migreurop.org/IMG/pdf/Rapport_Migreurop_2011_Version_anglaise_27012012_pour_derniere_relecture_et_validation_FASTI-SM.pdf)

**More 'Trafficking', Less 'Trafficked': Trafficking for Exploitation outside the sex sector in Europe**

[http://www.gaaw.org/publications/MoreTrafficking\\_LessTrafficked\\_GAATW2011.01.31.12.pdf](http://www.gaaw.org/publications/MoreTrafficking_LessTrafficked_GAATW2011.01.31.12.pdf)

## News

**Up to 50,000 migrants 'exploited student visa flaw to work in UK'**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-17514732>

**'50,000 visa dodgers' work in UK**

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/scotland/50-000-visa-dodgers-work-in-uk-1-2197831>

**Students visas abused as 50,000 enter UK for employment not studies**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/mar/27/student-visa-failing-50000-immigration>

**Theresa May's immigration plan is a one-size-fits-none fix**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2012/mar/26/theresa-may-migrants-immigration>

**Colleges hit out at foreign students ban**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/education/colleges-hit-out-at-foreign-students-ban.17140621>

**UK Border Agency to trial x-rays to determine age of asylum seekers**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/mar/30/uk-border-agency-x-rays-asylum-seekers>

**Asylum seekers flock to EU safe haven**

<http://euobserver.com/9/115702>

[TOP](#)

## Race Relations

### New Publication

**The Sky is the Limit: An Interactive Guide for Youth Projects on Interfaith Dialogue**  
[http://www.salto-youth.net/downloads/4-17-2578/Salto\\_InterfaithDoc\\_10\\_for%20web.pdf](http://www.salto-youth.net/downloads/4-17-2578/Salto_InterfaithDoc_10_for%20web.pdf)

### News

**London 2012: How do the Olympics handle religion?**  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-17515410>

**Growing up black: Dennis Morris's portrait of the 70s**  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/artanddesign/2012/mar/26/growing-up-black-dennis-morris>

[TOP](#)

## Equality

### Publications

**Equality and Human Rights Commission Strategic Plan 2012–15**  
[http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded\\_files/strategic\\_plan\\_2012-15\\_pdf.pdf](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/strategic_plan_2012-15_pdf.pdf)

**Financial Inclusion for the Roma: Banking As a Key to Social Progress**  
[http://www.soros.org/initiatives/roma/articles\\_publications/publications/financial-inclusion-roma-20120321/roma-financial-inclusion-20120321.pdf](http://www.soros.org/initiatives/roma/articles_publications/publications/financial-inclusion-roma-20120321/roma-financial-inclusion-20120321.pdf)

[TOP](#)

## Racism and Religious Hatred

### Press Releases

**Hate crime, cyber security and the experience of crime among children: Findings from the 2010/11 British Crime Survey Supplementary Volume 3 to Crime in England and Wales 2010/11**  
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/hosb0612/>

### New Publications

**Attitudes Toward Jews in Ten European Countries**  
[http://www.adl.org/Anti\\_semitism/adl\\_anti-semitism\\_presentation\\_february\\_2012.pdf](http://www.adl.org/Anti_semitism/adl_anti-semitism_presentation_february_2012.pdf)

### News

**Council rejects march bid by National Front**  
<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/council-rejects-march-bid-by-national-front.17152663>

## Racism and Religious Hatred

### News (continued)

**'You will always be a n\*\*\*\*\*': Scotland Yard suspends officer for alleged racist remarks made during London riots**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2123111/Police-officer-suspended-calling-man--London-riots.html>

**Police face racism scandal after black man records abuse**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/mar/30/police-racism-black-man-abuse>

**Gypsy travellers still face discrimination from social services**

<http://www.thirdforcenews.org.uk/2012/03/gypsy-travellers-still-face-discrimination-from-social-services/>

**Twitter racism: how the law is taking on the 'Twacists'**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/2012/mar/27/twitter-racism-taking-on-twacists>

[TOP](#)

## Other News

**Forced marriage: Girl aged five among 400 minors helped**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-17534262>

**Society's shame: The five-year-old girl forced into marriage**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/societys-shame-the-fiveyearold-girl-forced-into-marriage-7604140.html>

**Five-year-old girl a victim of forced marriage**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/9176207/Five-year-old-girl-a-victim-of-forced-marriage.html>

**Girl of five is youngest UK victim of forced marriage as Home Office looks at prosecuting families**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2122736/Forced-marriage-British-girl-5-UKs-youngest-victim.html>

[TOP](#)

## Bills in Progress

\*\* new or updated this week

### Holyrood

**\*\* Police and Fire Reform Bill**

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

Justice Committee: Stage 1 evidence from Kenny MacAskill, Cabinet Secretary for Justice, and the Scottish Government Policy and Legislation, Police Reform, and Fire and Rescue Reform Units

p5: col 1224

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=6934&mode=pdf>

## Bills in Progress

### Holyrood (continued)

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

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

#### **\*\* Welfare Reform (Further Provision) Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/48804.aspx>

Scottish Parliament Information Centre briefing

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S4/SB\\_12-21.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S4/SB_12-21.pdf)

## Bills in Progress

### Westminster

#### **\*\* Scotland Bill**

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

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2010-2012/0136/amend/ml136-ir.htm>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2010-2012/0136/amend/ml136-ii.htm>

Report Stage, House of Lords

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201212/ldhansrd/text/120326-0002.htm#12032634000322>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201212/ldhansrd/text/120328-0001.htm#12032871001169>

Bill as amended on Report

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2010-2012/0138/2012138.pdf>

[TOP](#)

## Consultations

**\*\* new or updated this week**

#### **\*\* closes in the next fortnight!**

**Scottish Welfare Reform Bill** (closing date 11 April 2012)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/newsandmediacentre/48762.aspx>

#### **\*\* closes in the next fortnight!**

**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)

## Consultations (continued)

**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=](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>

**\*\* Regulation of immigration advice and services** (closing date 24 May 2012)

[http://www.legalservicesboard.org.uk/news\\_publications/latest\\_news/pdf/20120301\\_immigration\\_discussion\\_doc\\_1\\_1\\_final.pdf](http://www.legalservicesboard.org.uk/news_publications/latest_news/pdf/20120301_immigration_discussion_doc_1_1_final.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)

**\*\* Where Gypsy/Travellers Live** (closing date 13 July 2012)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/49027.aspx>

[TOP](#)

## Job Opportunities

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

[TOP](#)

## Events/Conferences/Training

**\*\* new or updated this week**

**\*\* next week!**

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

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>

**\*\* next week!**

**The Essentials of Asylum: understanding what causes refugees to flee and the process of seeking protection**

12 April 2012 in Glasgow (9.15 – 1.00)

Scottish Refugee Council course for those who work with people seeking asylum and refugees to provide an introduction to core issues affecting those seeking sanctuary in Scotland. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/833ezx4> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / [train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### **Working with Interpreters**

3 May 2012 in Glasgow (1.00 – 4.30)

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/74gullf> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / [train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

### **An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees**

18 May 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)

[TOP](#)

## 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](http://www.direct.gov.uk/DI1/Directories/AToZOfCentralGovernment/fs/en?CONTENT_ID=10013528&chk=8b2gQw)

**European Parliament** <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/>

**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)

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

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

## Useful Links (continued)

**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)

[TOP](#)



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/>

The copyright of each article belongs to the publisher on whose website it appears, and it may only be copied or reproduced in accordance with the relevant terms and conditions. Full details of these, and the publisher's contact information, are available on each website.