

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

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

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Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

S4M-03235 Humza Yousaf: Refugee Week Scotland 2012—That the Parliament welcomes Refugee Week Scotland, coordinated by the Scottish Refugee Council and partners, from 18 to 24 June 2012, a festival of arts, culture and community celebrations highlighting the courage and contribution that it considers refugees bring to Scotland; recognises that the festival is part of Creative Scotland 2012 and holds events all over Scotland embracing the theme of spirit of the individual, of community and of Scotland, and welcomes the contribution of refugees to Scotland who have fled persecution and horrific treatment in their own country to seek a new life and opportunity in Scotland and the work of countless groups around the country in helping refugees settle and become active citizens.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-03235&ResultsPerPage=10>

Immigration and Asylum (continued) Westminster Ministerial Statement

Family Migration

The Secretary of State for the Home Department (Mrs Theresa May): ... The Government are committed to reviewing all the main routes for immigration to the UK as part of our programme to reform the immigration system. As a result, we anticipate that net migration will fall from the hundreds of thousands to the tens of thousands. ...

In 2010, family immigration accounted for approximately 18% of all non-EU immigration to the UK—around 54,000 people out of 300,000. However, like the rest of the immigration system, family immigration has not been regulated effectively for many years. Sham marriages have been widespread, people have been allowed to settle in Britain without being able to speak English, and there have not been rules in place to stop migrants becoming a burden on the taxpayer. We are changing all that. The UK needs a system for family migration that is underpinned by three simple principles: first, that those who come here should do so on the basis of a genuine relationship; secondly, that migrants should be able to pay their way; and thirdly, that they are able to integrate into British society. If people do not meet those requirements, they should not be allowed to come here.

... Today I am setting out the new measures that we are introducing, and will shortly lay before Parliament the necessary changes to the immigration rules, to come into effect on 9 July. ...

... We will therefore increase the minimum probationary period for new spouses and partners from two years to five years. We will also publish new guidance to help caseworkers identify sham marriages.

For too long we have had an immigration system that did not take into account whether people coming here could pay their way. The Government's reforms will mean that anyone who wishes to bring a foreign spouse or partner, or dependants to Britain will have to be able to support them financially. They must not become a burden on the taxpayer. Following advice from the Migration Advisory Committee, we will set a minimum income threshold of £18,600 for sponsoring a partner to settle in the UK. ... there will be a higher threshold for each child sponsored: a £22,400 threshold for a partner with one child, with an additional £2,400 for each further child.

It has also been too easy for elderly dependent relatives to join their migrant children here and then potentially become a burden on the taxpayer. Therefore, if someone wants to sponsor a dependent relative to come to Britain who requires personal care, they will have to show, first, that they cannot organise care in the relative's home country and, secondly, that they can look after the relative without recourse to public funds. ...

For too long, people have been allowed to settle in Britain without being able to speak English well enough and without having a proper appreciation of our values. So, from October 2013, all those who wish to live here will need to demonstrate that they are able to participate fully in British life. All applicants for settlement will need to pass the "Life in the UK" test and, because a person cannot integrate if they cannot communicate, we are strengthening the language requirement by introducing a separate English language test at intermediate level.

... the Crime and Courts Bill will remove the full right of appeal for family visitors, bringing the process in line with the rest of the immigration system. In the meantime, we will lay new regulations to restrict the full appeal right to those applying to visit a close family member who has settled, refugee or humanitarian protection status in the UK. ...

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

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120611/debtext/120611-0002.htm#1206117000003>

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

UK Residency

Lord Ashcroft: To ask Her Majesty's Government what are the requirements that a foreign investor must meet in order to obtain residency in the United Kingdom. [HL616]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): A person who wishes to apply for settlement (indefinite leave to remain) as an investor will need to meet the requirements in the Immigration Rules.

Depending on the level of investment in the UK, he or she must complete a continuous residence period of two, three or five years with no more than 180 days absence in any 12 calendar months. The person must show that they have maintained investments throughout the specified investment period. In addition, he or she must not have any unspent convictions within the meaning of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, must not fall for refusal under the general grounds for refusal, must not be an illegal entrant, and must have a minimum of 75 points under the points-based system. The requirements to have sufficient knowledge of the English language and sufficient knowledge about life in the United Kingdom must also be met.

Further information can be found on the UK Border Agency website:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/visas-immigration/working/tier1/oldinvestors/settlement/> for those who entered in the previous investor route.

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/visas-immigration/working/tier1/investor/settlement/> for those who are here as investors under tier 1 of the points-based system.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120611w0003.htm#12061118003402>

Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

Shabana Mahmood: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many Tier 4 visas have been rejected on the basis of not meeting English language requirements (a) prior to and (b) after 21 April 2011. [111145]

Reply from Damian Green: Refusals of visas for not meeting the English language requirement are only collated for settlement visas.

Since April 2012, a Tier 4 applicant to a privately funded college has been required to provide an English language test certificate as evidence of English ability. During the financial year 2011-12, approximately 15% (39,454) of Tier 4 visas were refused; the reasons for refusal are not collated.

For Tier 4, it is the responsibility of the sponsor (college) to assess the English language level of the student. The sponsor must clearly state on the sponsor management system when they assign the Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) how they have assessed the English language level.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120614/text/120614w0002.htm#12061456000009>

Entry Clearances: Higher Education

Shabana Mahmood: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what estimate she has made of the likely effect of changes to the regulations for Tier 2 visas on the number of foreign academics wishing to work at UK higher education institutions who specialise in teaching STEM subjects; and what assessment she has made of the potential economic benefits of such changes. [111156]

Reply from Damian Green: No academics have been excluded as a result of Tier 2 changes. Foreign academics have the requisite skills and salary levels to qualify for Tier 2.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

The annual limit for Tier 2 has been undersubscribed and, even if the limit was reached, academics are given high priority when allocating places.

From 14 June we are making changes to the operation of the Resident Labour Market Test to better fit higher education recruitment practices, and to allow higher education institutions to select the best candidate for the role, regardless of whether they are a resident or migrant worker.

In addition to these generous provisions in Tier 2, academics who are world leaders in their field can apply in the Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent) route. There are also further provisions for sponsored researchers in Tier 5.

The Government has made clear that it is committed to attracting the brightest and the best migrants and has had no representations from the sector about negative impacts.

Full impact assessments for Tier 2 changes have been published on the Home Office website and I have placed copies in the Library of the House.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120614/text/120614w0002.htm#12061456000008>

Immigration

Nicholas Soames: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if she will undertake an assessment of the effects of immigration at regional level in the United Kingdom. [111065]

Reply from Damian Green: No assessment has been made of the impacts of migration at the regional level. The independent Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) published an analysis of the impacts of migration on 10 January.

I have placed a copy of the MAC's report in the Library of the House. The report and accompanying research are also available on the Home Office website at: www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk

The Home Office is currently undertaking research to build a picture of the local impacts of non-EEA migration to the UK. The resulting data will enable an assessment of the impact of migration on public services, such as social housing, at the regional level. The research will be published in 2013.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120614/text/120614w0002.htm#12061456000011>

Immigration: Children

Lord Lester of Herne Hill: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many children under 18 have been placed in immigration detention at airports over the period since 16 December 2010. [HL408]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): Statistics for the number of children under 18 that have been placed in immigration detention at airports since 16 December 2010 are not collected centrally.

The Home Office publishes statistics on children in detention, but these exclude short-term holding rooms at ports and airports (for less than 24 hours). These data on children in detention can be found at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/child-detention-apr2012>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120611w0002.htm#12061118003349>

Immigration: Detention

Lord Lester of Herne Hill: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many judgments have been given during the past three years in which (1) the First-tier Tribunal, (2) the Upper

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Tribunal, (3) the Court of Appeal, and (4) the Supreme Court, have (a) dismissed, or (b) upheld, the UK Border Agency's decision to detain an individual.[HL404]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): The UK Border Agency does not hold central records of the information requested. To obtain this information, from the period of time specified, would require a manual check of case files and appeal judgments, which would incur disproportionate costs.

Lord Lester of Herne Hill: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many individuals (1) who claim to have been tortured, (2) who claim to have mental health problems, and (3) about whom mental health problems have been observed, have been placed in immigration detention in each of the past three years or are currently in immigration detention.[HL405]

Reply from Lord Henley: The information requested is not recorded centrally and could only be provided by examination of individual records at disproportionate cost. Specifically in relation to mental health conditions, this information is held on an individual's medical file, which is confidential.

Each detainee is seen by a nurse within two hours of arrival at an immigration removal centre. They are then given an appointment to see a GP within 24 hours, unless the nurse considers an earlier examination is required.

Lord Lester of Herne Hill: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many individuals have (1) died, (2) committed suicide, and (3) attempted suicide while in immigration detention or during removal in each of the past three years.[HL406]

Reply from Lord Henley: The number of individuals who have died in immigration detention or during removal in each of the past three years is as follows.

2009: 0;

2010: 2; and

2011: 4.

No individuals committed suicide in immigration detention or during removal in 2009 or 2010.

It is not possible to provide a figure as the 2011 circumstances are still subject to investigation by the Prison and for Probation Ombudsman or the Coroner.

Records are not held for the numbers of individuals who have attempted suicide in detention or during removal.

The information provided for incidents of self-harm requiring medical treatment is based on management information only and has not been subject to the detailed checks that apply for National Statistics publications. These figures are provisional and subject to change. The UK Border Agency takes the safety of those in our care very seriously, and operates a system called Assessment Care in Detention and Teamwork (ACDT) to identify and help those who are at risk of suicide or self-harm. Notices in various languages are displayed around immigration removal centres setting out that, where there is a concern about a fellow detainee, this should be brought to the attention of a member of staff.

Lord Lester of Herne Hill: To ask Her Majesty's Government what written guidance and instructions the UK Border Agency gives to airport operators on the construction of airport immigration detention facilities.[HL407]

Reply from Lord Henley: The UK Border Agency provides standards specifications on the construction of new holding room facilities to all airport operators, and advises on the accommodation and security requirements for a holding room.

Lord Hylton: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many persons entered immigration or asylum detention in 2010, 2011 and in 2012 to date; what were the average and median lengths of detention; and whether they will appoint an independent auditor of detention, with full rights of access.[HL439]

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Reply from Lord Henley: Published detention figures relate to those detained solely under Immigration Act powers, and exclude both those detained for criminal purposes and those who are detained under both criminal and immigration powers. Published detention statistics currently exclude detainees in short-term holding rooms at ports and airports (for less than 24 hours), police cells and prison service establishments.

In 2010, 25,904 people entered detention.

In 2011, 27,072 people entered detention.

In the first quarter of 2012, the latest date for which published information is available, 7,516 people entered detention.

Information on length of detention of those who entered detention during these periods is not available.

The Home Office releases statistics on detention, solely under Immigration Act powers, including length of detention on those leaving detention (dt.05 and dt.05.q) and as at the last day of each quarter (dt.09.q), on a quarterly basis, within the latest release "Immigration Statistics January-March 2012", available from the Home Office's Science, Research and Statistics website at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/immigration-q1-2012/>.

Immigration detention facilities are subject to independent oversight by HM Chief Inspector of Prisons, who has a statutory responsibility for the UK Border Agency's immigration removal centres (IRCs), short-term holding facilities and the role of escorts. The inspectorate undertakes both announced and unannounced inspections. An Independent Monitoring Board also operates in each IRC and reports on the way in which they and short term holding facilities are run, in particular on detainee welfare issues.

Lord Hylton: To ask Her Majesty's Government what methods they will use to ensure that Rule 35 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001 is fully implemented to protect victims of torture from further harm.[HL440]

Reply from Lord Henley: There are existing procedures and safeguards in place, but these are being tightened by a range of measures to improve Rule 35 processes. This includes improved written instructions, with a revised asylum casework instruction and detention services order pending publication, and training for medical practitioners, other healthcare staff working in immigration removal centres and case owners. After full implementation of these revised measures, the agency will review compliance, quality and performance through an internal audit.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120611w0002.htm#12061118003350>

Asylum: Young People

Lisa Nandy: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if she will evaluate the effects of the age assessments dental x-ray pilots; and if she will ensure that young people are consulted as part of such an evaluation. [106406]

Reply from Damian Green: When the dental x-ray trial is completed it will be fully evaluated. The trial will be open only to those asylum applicants who are assessed by Croydon council as adults. The agency expects to take into account the views of participants as part of the trial evaluation.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120611/text/120611w0003.htm#12061210000009>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Asylum Seekers

Baroness Lister of Burtersett: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they have conducted a formal assessment as to whether the level of financial support they provide for asylum-seeking families meets their obligations under Article 27 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and Article 11 of the International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. [HL570]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): Support paid to asylum-seeking families is currently under review, in order to assess whether they continue to meet the Government's obligation to provide for "essential living needs", as set out in the Asylum Support Regulations 2000. The Government are satisfied that this test, provided for by Section 95 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, is compatible with our obligations under Article 27 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and Article 11 of the International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Baroness Lister of Burtersett: To ask Her Majesty's Government why 16 and 17 year-old asylum-seeking young people are treated as adults for the purposes of financial assistance, unlike in the mainstream benefits system.[HL571]

Reply from Lord Henley: Support paid to asylum seeking families is currently under review, in order to assess whether it continues to meet the Government's obligation to prevent asylum seekers becoming destitute and to enable them to meet their "essential living needs", as set out in the Asylum Support Regulations 2000. The support is expected to be temporary in its nature, and is paid in addition to fully equipped accommodation, with utility bills paid. The rate paid in respect of 16 and 17 year-olds is lower than the rate paid to children, though higher than that paid to adults, to reflect the fact that 16 and 17 year-old asylum seekers are not required to continue in full time education and are, therefore, in a position more akin to that of an adult.

Baroness Lister of Burtersett: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether children's views were taken into account in the development of the asylum support system and in particular the Azure payment card scheme; and, if so, how. [HL572]

Reply from Lord Henley: The basis of the asylum support system was established by the enactment of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. The views of children were not therefore specifically taken into account. The Azure payment card is the means by which failed asylum seekers supported under Section 4 of the 1999 Act obtain food and other essential living needs from supermarkets and other retail outlets. It replaced the previous payment system whereby these goods were obtained through vouchers. Children's views were not specifically taken into account before the change to the Azure card, but a wide range of voluntary sector organisations that work with children in the asylum system contributed their views.

Baroness Lister of Burtersett: To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the impact on asylum-seeking children's welfare and safety of the cashless Azure payment card scheme.[HL573]

Reply from Lord Henley: There has been no formal assessment, but regular meetings are held with the voluntary sector organisations that the UK Border Agency funds to assist people who need to use the Azure card in order to obtain food and other essential goods. One of the issues raised at the meetings is the difficulty some people have experienced in finding retail outlets that accept the card and the particular impact this has on those who have children. This is one of the reasons why arrangements have been made so that the card can now be used in over 8,800 outlets, including all branches of the main supermarket chains.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120611w0001.htm#12061118003287>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Human Trafficking

Peter Bone: To ask the Secretary of State for Justice what training his Department provides to enable its staff to recognise victims of human trafficking. [111753]

Reply from Crispin Blunt: Prison and probation staff receive core training in assessing and managing offenders' risk of harm, in order to develop a plan to manage offenders' risk of harm. In developing a risk management plan, offender managers (probation) and offender supervisors (prisons) need to use all available information about offenders, in order to, amongst other things, identify individuals who might be at risk from those offenders, including victims of human trafficking. Offenders convicted of the most serious sexual and violent offences fall to be managed under the statutory Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA). Within MAPPA, the police, probation and Prison Services are required to work together to manage the risks presented by eligible offenders. Thus, for MAPPA-managed offenders, local police who have intelligence and information that offenders are engaged in, or might be engaged in, human trafficking, would feed such intelligence and information into risk management plans, in order to protect known and potential victims.

Assistance is available from the UK Human Trafficking Centre which provides tactical advice via a 24/7 helpline and can deliver bespoke training material on request.

Awareness of human trafficking may be raised amongst prison and probation by means of training and guidance produced by the Home Office.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120614/text/120614w003.htm#12061462000047>

Human Trafficking

Peter Bone: To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions what training his Department provides to enable its staff to recognise victims of human trafficking. [111757]

Reply from Chris Grayling: The learning programme for the Department for Work and Pensions focuses on raising awareness of the customer's personal circumstances and also recognises that these can affect individuals in different ways and will change over time.

All staff receive foundation learning which covers excellent customer service, diversity and customer needs. These deal with the wide range of circumstances that our customers may have, some less obvious than others, and stress how important it is to look for signs where the customer does not give us this information directly and to offer appropriate support.

In particular the learning programme for Jobcentre Plus advisers is regularly updated to ensure advisers have up-to-date skills to deal with any customer interaction, and supports them in making relevant and appropriate decisions on individual customers. The key messages throughout the learning focus on providing a personalised, flexible service to customers and treating them as individuals, building strong relationships with them.

The learning provides an understanding of why this approach is important; what it means to the claimant; what it looks like and how it works in practice. It further supports the adviser to identify the range of claimants and the level of individual support they would need to provide.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120614/text/120614w0001.htm#12061455000019>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Human Trafficking: Children

Michael Connarty: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department pursuant to the answer to the hon. Member for Burnley of 17 May 2012, *Official Report*, column 256W, on human trafficking: children, what steps she is taking to (a) enhance her Department's ability to act early upstream and (b) achieve smarter multi-agency work at the border in order to tackle child trafficking. [109523]

Reply from Damian Green: The Government's Human Trafficking strategy includes a number of actions designed to enhance the United Kingdom's ability to act early and to deliver smarter multi-agency working at the border to better identify and protect human trafficking victims, including child victims.

Specifically, the Home Office, working in partnership with a range of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and other partners, is using existing networks abroad to tackle this issue. For example we have written to Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) posts stationed in identified priority countries to include human trafficking in their country business plans and to raise awareness. We have also facilitated contact between CEOP International Child Protection Networks abroad and NGOs to ensure that we combine all our efforts to act early upstream on this issue.

The Home Office is also reviewing the information available on embassy websites for people intending to travel or work in the UK, in order to raise awareness of the threat of trafficking.

The Department for International Development (DFID) is also supporting a new regional anti-trafficking project in South Asia, focusing especially on labour migration of women and girls in the garment and domestic sectors in India, Bangladesh and Nepal. The programme aims to reduce trafficking of 60,000 women and girls in these sectors over four years and the Home Office is represented on its steering group. The Government is also working to raise awareness locally and build on the success of multi-agency child safeguarding teams at the border such as Operation Newbridge and Paladin by mapping the key components of these models and working to ensure that intelligence structures are in place to support identification of priority threat ports. We are raising awareness of these models locally for example through inclusion of these good practice examples in updated guidance for practitioners 'Safeguarding Children who may have been trafficked'. This guidance can be found at:

<https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/standard/publicationDetail/Page1/DFE-00084-2011>

We are also raising awareness of child trafficking as a form of human trafficking with the airline industry, and this has successfully been tested with Virgin Atlantic.

John Robertson: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department with reference to the answer of 19 April 2012, *Official Report*, column 459W, on human trafficking: children, how many UK nationals were victims of child trafficking in each year since April 2009. [109595]

Reply from Damian Green: The following data, provided by the UK Human Trafficking Centre, set out the numbers of conclusive decisions made on UK minors under the National Referral Mechanism (NRM), in each year for which data are available since 2009.

<i>Victims of human trafficking—UK national minors</i>	
	<i>Number</i>
2009 (from 1 April)	25
2010	8
2011 (to 30 September)	16

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

These data show the number of minors referred to the NRM who have received a positive Conclusive Grounds decision and have, therefore, been found to be a victim of trafficking.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120611/text/120611w0003.htm#12061210000032>

Press Releases

Scottish Refugee Council launches guidance to help social workers assess age of young people seeking asylum

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/1725_scottish_refugee_council_launches_guidance_to_help_social_workers_assess_age_of_young_people_seeking_asylum

Family migration changes announced

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2012/june/13-family-migration>

South Korea is added to the Tier 5 youth mobility scheme

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2012/june/14-yms>

MRC looking for young migrant candidates to attend training on migrants and the media at summer school in Sweden

<http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/news/2012/mrc-looking-young-migrant-candidates-attend-training-migrants-and-media-summer-school-swed>

New Publications

Age Assessment Practice Guidance: An Age Assessment Pathway for Social Workers in Scotland

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0000/4415/Age_Assessment_Practice_Guidance_GCC-SRC_June_2012_FIRST_EDITION.pdf

Age Assessment: An Information Guide for Young People

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0000/4416/Age_Assessment_info_guide_June_2012.pdf

Statement of Intent: Family Migration

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/news/soi-fam-mig.pdf>

Public Sentiments Towards Immigration in Wales

<http://www.wiserd.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/MannTommisPublicSentimentsTowardsImmigrationinWales.pdf>

News

1.5 years of destitution for asylum seekers

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/scotland/1-5-years-of-destitution-for-asylum-seekers-1-2348709>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Around 100 refugees and asylum seekers are living in destitution in Scotland

<http://www.thirdforcenews.org.uk/2012/06/around-100-refugees-and-asylum-seekers-are-living-in-destitution-in-scotland/>

Theresa May to curb deportation 'human rights'

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/uk/theresa-may-to-curb-deportation-human-rights-1-2348644>

Theresa May tells courts to cut number of prisoners allowed to stay in UK

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/theresa-may-tells-courts-to-cut-number-of-prisoners-allowed-to-stay-in-uk-7834913.html>

Migrant workers reveal abuse and exploitation they suffer at hands of rogue bosses

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/real-life/2012/06/14/migrant-workers-reveal-abuse-and-exploitation-they-suffer-at-hands-of-rogue-bosses-86908-23895691/>

Law change to tackle sex trafficking

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/crime-courts/law-change-to-tackle-sex-trafficking.17752497>

Visa staff 'unfair to Africans'

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/uk/visa-staff-unfair-to-africans-1-2353803>

Conti hits out at asylum seeker proposals

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/conti-hits-out-at-asylum-seeker-proposals.17890891>

Immigrants don't come here for the weather – they want to work

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2012/jun/11/immigrants-uk-theresa-may>

Asylum-seekers are told: 'Go home and lie'

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/asylumseekers-are-toldgo-home-and-lie-7856649.html>

Now it's Glasgow Girls: The Musical

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/now-its-glasgow-girls-the-musical.17886707>

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Race Relations

New Publication

Runnymede Spring Bulletin

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/96399870/Spring-2012-Runnymede-Bulletin-Sport>

News

What does it mean to be British – and does it still matter?

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/jun/17/being-british-does-it-matter>

Race Relations News (continued)

The Three Faiths Forum – helping children understand

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2012/jun/13/three-faiths-forum-children-15-3ff>

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Equality

Westminster Early Day Motion

Sandra Osborne (163) Funding of the Equality and Human Rights Commission – That this House is deeply concerned that the Government is ignoring the result of its own consultation on the future of the Equality and Human Rights Commission and the majority of respondents who urged against cutting the funding and remit of the body; notes that the 62 per cent budget cut and 72 per cent staff cut on levels in 2007 will result in the loss of vital services and functions including regional offices; further notes that the Bristol and Nottingham offices closed over a year ago, and that further offices planned for closure are Birmingham, Newcastle, Bangor, Guildford, Cambridge and Leeds, and that offices in Manchester, London, Glasgow and Cardiff will be reduced; regrets the closure of the direct helpline with conciliation and legal assistance powers which will be privatised in September 2012 and replaced with a referral line and no provision in Scotland or Wales as there is now; further regrets the end of the grants function to charities or projects that are often the first port of call for victims of discrimination and harassment; warns that the Commission's UN A status is in real jeopardy due to a loss of independence following the new Framework Agreement; regards as contrary and dangerous the decision to repeal crucial sections of the Equality Act 2006 that were secured with cross-party support in this House; and urges the Government urgently to rethink these cuts and commit to maintaining the funding and remit of the body, especially at a time of growing inequality.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2012-13/163>

News

More female judges appointed - but ethnic minority candidates making slower progress

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/law/2012/jun/14/more-female-judges-appointed>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

S4M-03288 Hanzala Malik: Racist Incidents in Scotland—That the Parliament welcomes what it considers the small reduction in the number of racist incidents reported to the police in Scotland for the year 2010-11; expresses concern, however, about the increase in racist incidents in 13 local authority areas, including Glasgow, over the same period; believes the statistics to be no grounds for complacency; reaffirms that racism

Racism and Religious Hatred Holyrood Parliamentary Motion (continued)

has no place in Scotland, and considers that all members and the Scottish Government should remain vigilant in tackling racism and hatred in all their forms.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-03288&ResultsPerPage=10>

Westminster Parliamentary Question

Race Relations: EU Action

Dominic Raab: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether the UK has fully implemented EU Council Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA; and what assessment her Department has made of its effectiveness in combating racism and xenophobia. [111068]

Reply from Lynne Featherstone: The UK Government fully complies with the provisions of the Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia through the use of existing domestic legislation and common law.

Although the UK has no specific criminal offences of publicly condoning, denying or grossly trivialising crimes of genocide; crimes against humanity; war crimes; and crimes against peace (as required in Article 1 (1) (c) and (d) of the Framework Decision), conduct of this type carried out in a manner likely to incite violence or hatred would be covered by existing offences.

While no formal assessment of the framework's effectiveness has been undertaken, post-legislative scrutiny of the Racial and Religious Hatred Act was undertaken and is available from the Vote Office and at:

<http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm81/8164/8164.pdf>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120614/text/120614w0002.htm#12061456000015>

Press Releases

Racist incidents statistics published

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/06/racist-incidents12062012>

New research underlines need for faster progress on stop and search

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/news/2012/june/new-research-underlines-need-for-faster-progress-on-stop-and-search/>

New Publications

Racist Incidents Recorded by the Police in Scotland, 2010-11

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0039/00394647.pdf>

Race disproportionality in stops and searches under Section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994

http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/ehrc_-_briefing_paper_no.5_-_s60_stop_and_search.pdf

Pedlars of Hate: the violent impact of the European far Right

<http://www.irr.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/PedlarsOfHate.pdf>

Racism and Religious Hatred (continued)

News

Racist incidents fall for fourth year in Scotland

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-18408682>

Racism down but still 15 incidents every day in Scotland

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/scotland/racism-down-but-still-15-incidents-every-day-in-scotland-1-2350881>

Fourth yearly drop in racism reports

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/fourth-yearly-drop-in-racism-reports.17854775>

Racist incidents down in Scotland according to new government figures

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/2012/06/12/racist-incidents-down-in-scotland-according-to-new-government-figures-86908-23894878/>

Fife posts dramatic rise in racist hate crimes

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/News/National/article/23316/fife-posts-dramatic-rise-in-racist-hate-crimes.html>

Police up to 28 times more likely to stop and search black people – study

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/jun/12/police-stop-and-search-black-people>

Police planning response after Scottish Defence League's vow to ignore Dundee demonstration ban

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/News/Dundee/article/23373/police-planning-response-after-scottish-defence-league-s-vow-to-ignore-dundee-demonstration-ban.html>

I'm a victim of prejudice says sacked BNP bouncer

<http://www.scotsman.com/edinburgh-evening-news/i-m-a-victim-of-prejudice-says-sacked-bnp-bouncer-1-2354481>

'Are you a Gypsy?' Ikea tells camper van owner that Travellers are barred from its car parks

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/are-you-a-gypsy-ikea-tells-camper-van-owner-that-travellers-are-barred-from-its-car-parks-7845046.html>

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Other Westminster

Press Release

Communications Data Bill published

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/communications-data-bill.html>

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New Publications

Sock Puppets: How the government lobbies itself and why

<http://www.iea.org.uk/sites/default/files/publications/files/Sock%20Puppets.pdf>

Small Charities, Communities & Localism Report 2012

<http://www.thefsi.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Small-Charities-Communities-Localism-Report-2012-Summary.pdf>

European Parliament resolution on ending female genital mutilation

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P7-TA-2012-0261+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN>

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Other News

Volunteers asked to share experiences in new VDS campaign

<http://www.vds.org.uk/NewsEvents/News/tabid/145/Default.aspx?newsItemID=4287>

Panel from voluntary sector will choose charities to benefit from ATM giving

http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/bulletin/third_sector_daily_bulletin/article/1135914/panel-voluntary-sector-will-choose-charities-benefit-atm-giving/?DCMP=EMC-CONThirdSectorDaily

Government should stop funding lobbying by charities

<http://www.iea.org.uk/in-the-media/press-release/government-should-stop-funding-lobbying-by-charities>

Scottish Charity Awards winners revealed

<http://www.scvo.org.uk/uncategorized/media-release-scottish-charity-awards-winners-revealed/>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Holyrood

Freedom of Information (Amendment) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/51531.aspx>

**** Police and Fire Reform Bill**

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

Supplementary delegated powers memorandum

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

Justice Committee consideration of Stage 2 amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=7072&mode=pdf>

Bill as amended at Stage 2

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Police%20and%20Fire%20Reform%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/b8as4-amend.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Police%20and%20Fire%20Reform%20(Scotland)%20Bill/b8as4-amend.pdf)

Bills in Progress

Holyrood (continued)

Police and Fire Reform Bill

Proposed Stage 3 amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/52079.aspx>

and

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/52157.aspx>

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>

Proposed Stage 2 amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/51873.aspx>

Welfare Reform Committee consideration of Stage 2 amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=7077&mode=pdf>

Westminster

**** Draft Communications Data Bill**

Draft Bill as published

<http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm83/8359/8359.pdf>

Crime and Courts Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-13/crimeandcourts.html>

Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Further Provisions and Support for Victims) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-13/humantraffickingandexploitationfurtherprovisionsandsupportforvictims.html>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

International Migration Statistical Outputs (closing date 5 July 2012)

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/about-ons/consultations/open-consultations/international-migration/international-migration-statistical-outputs---consultation-document.pdf>

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

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

Making Justice Work for Victims and Witnesses (closing date 20 July 2012)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0039/00393452.pdf>

Responsible officers in the new health architecture: Amendments to the Medical Profession (Responsible Officers) 2010 Regulations (closing date 25 July 2012)

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_133601

Consultations (continued)

Scottish Civil Justice Council and Criminal Legal Assistance Bill (closing date 27 July 2012)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/50802.aspx>

Equality Act 2010: employer liability for harassment of employees by third parties (closing date 7 August 2012)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/about-us/consultations/third-party-harassment/consultation-document?view=Binary>

Equality Act 2010: repeal of two enforcement provisions (closing date 7 August 2012)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/about-us/consultations/equality-act-wider-enforcement/consultation-document?view=Binary>

**** Freedom of Information (Amendment) Bill** (closing date 8 August 2012)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/52148.aspx>

Runnymede Equality Survey (closing date 7 September 2012)

<http://rminsight.co.uk/surveys/runnymede/>

Your rights, your future (closing date 9 September 2012)

<http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=EUCitizenship3&lang=en>

Here to Stay: People with learning disabilities from ethnic minority communities including new migrants (no closing date given)

<http://www.snapsurveys.com/swl/surveypreview.asp?k=132127029508>

Facing Facts: EU project to improve monitoring and recording of hate crimes and incidents throughout the European Union (no closing date given)

http://www.ceji.org/facingfacts/?page_id=158

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Job Opportunities

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

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Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Refugee Week

18-24 June, Scotland-wide

For a full programme of events throughout Scotland see

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0000/4300/RWS_programme_2012.pdf

**** this week!**

Supporting Asylum Seekers and Refugees: A Seminar for Faith Communities

20 June 2012 in Glasgow (10.30 – 1.30)

Scottish Interfaith Council seminar to explore ways in which faith communities can provide help and support for asylum seekers and refugees. For information contact Frances Hume: fhume@scottishinterfaithcouncil.org / 0141 420 6982.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Human Rights and citizenship

26 June 2012 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 12.30)

The second in a series of three SCVO debates on human rights in relation to topical issues. To book a place see <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SCVOhumanrights>

UKBA Asylum Support

28 June 2012 in Glasgow (9.15 – 4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course to explore the support arrangements available to asylum seekers from the beginning to the end of the asylum process. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/1576_ukba_asylum_support or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

**** The referendum: What's it got to do with us?**

28 June 2012 in Glasgow (10.30 – 1.30)

Ethnic Minority 3rd Sector Network event to raise awareness and understanding of the independence referendum among ethnic minority communities. For information see <http://www.bemis.org.uk/PDF/20120515-EMSN-Flyer1.pdf> or contact Hugh O'Donnell 0141 548 8047 / <mailto:hugh.odonnell@bemis.org.uk>

Human Rights, poverty, and the economy

28 June 2012 in Glasgow (2.00 – 4.30)

The third in a series of three SCVO debates on human rights in relation to topical issues. To book a place see <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SCVOhumanrights>

The needs and experiences of refugee women

20 July 2012 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide an understanding of fundamental issues affecting women seeking asylum in Scotland. It is appropriate for those working in social work, housing, welfare, education, employment, health, community development or the justice system. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/7osl6r5>.

An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees

24 July 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://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/1577_an_introduction_to_working_with_asylum_seekers_and_refugees or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

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

21 August 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 contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/bmb7pll>.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Working with Interpreters

31 August 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 contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/1574_working_with_interpreters

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Useful Links

Scottish Parliament <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/home.htm>

Scottish Government <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Home>

Westminster Parliament <http://www.parliament.uk/>

Directgov (links to UK Government Departments)

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

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

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

Scottish Refugee Council www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

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

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

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

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

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

Volunteer Development Scotland www.vds.org.uk

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

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

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

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

BBC Parliament online

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

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



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



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

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