

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

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

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

Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

S4M-03489 Sandra White: Indefinite Detention and Destitute Asylum Seekers—That the Parliament condemns indefinite detention, the practice of arresting and detaining people by a national government or law enforcement agency without a trial, which violates national, international and human rights law such as Articles 5 and 9 of the UN Declaration of Human Rights, according to which no one shall be subjected to torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile; condemns the UK Government, which, having promised not to detain children in Scotland, simply removes them from Scotland and detains them in England under what, according to the UK Government's own Independent Monitoring Board, can be in degrading conditions; understands that, as a result of the cancellation of Y People's contract to provide housing for asylum seekers with the UKBA, hundreds of asylum seekers in Glasgow may become destitute; further understands that those who have been refused asylum are not eligible for any support or public housing and are not

Immigration and Asylum Holyrood Parliamentary Motion (continued)

allowed to work, which leads to destitution for many, while the UK Government's policy refuses to formally acknowledge the limbo status of asylum seekers, and acknowledges calls for the UK Government to stop what it considers to be the practice of indefinite detention and support destitute asylum seekers.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-03489&ResultsPerPage=10>

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Immigration: Children

Lord Lester of Herne Hill: To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Henley on 11 June (WA 196), how many children under 18 have been placed in immigration detention at Heathrow Airport since 16 December 2010; and whether they will in future collect statistics on the number of children placed in immigration detention at airports.[HL753]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): We are unable to provide any statistics for the number of children under 18 who have been placed in immigration detention at airports since 16 December 2010.

The Home Office does publish statistics on children in detention but this excludes short-term holding rooms at ports and airports (for less than 24 hours). These data on children in detention can be found on the Home Office website. I have placed a copy of the latest figures (relating to April 2012) in the Library of the House and these are also available at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/child-detention-apr2012>. There has been a previous request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 asking for information on children held at ports. Please find the information relating to children held at Heathrow that was released under this request in the table below.

<i>Breakdown of the number of children held at Heathrow Airport between May 2011 and the end of August 2011</i>		
May-11	Unaccompanied	In Family
Heathrow Terminal 1	3	5
Heathrow Terminal 3	1	8
Heathrow Terminal 4	4	28
Heathrow Terminal 5	4	0
Jun-11	Unaccompanied	In Family
Heathrow Terminal 1	1	14
Heathrow Terminal 3	2	44
Heathrow Terminal 4	11	30
Heathrow Terminal 5	4	8
Jul-12	Unaccompanied	In Family
Heathrow Terminal 1	11	16
Heathrow Terminal 3	2	43
Heathrow Terminal 4	13	51
Heathrow Terminal 5	13	18

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Aug-11	Unaccompanied	In Family
Heathrow Terminal 1	6	14
Heathrow Terminal 3	11	52
Heathrow Terminal 4	1	55
Heathrow Terminal 5	3	14

These data are based on management information only and have not been subject to the detailed checks that apply for national statistics publications. These figures are provisional and are subject to change.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120625w0001.htm#12062546000876>

Immigration: Detention

Lord Hylton: To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their assessment of the level of (1) mental illness, and (2) HIV infection among (a) African, and (b) other women in United Kingdom detention and removal centres, and of the adequacy of treatment available in those centres for such conditions.[HL656]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Health (Earl Howe): Information about the level of mental illness and human immunodeficiency virus infection among African women and other women who are held in immigration and removal centres (IRCs) is not collected centrally.

Although the United Kingdom Border Agency (UKBA) operating standards require that all detainees must have available to them the same range and quality of health services as the public receives from the National Health Service, both the Department of Health and Home Office agreed that the necessary level of clinical expertise to inform commissioning of healthcare or standard-setting rests firmly with NHS organisations.

Currently, the majority of IRC healthcare facilities are provided by private providers who are contracted by the UKBA. The department is now working with the UKBA on a phased programme to transfer commissioning and funding responsibility for healthcare provision within IRCs fully to the NHS from April 2014.

Lord Lester of Herne Hill: To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Henley on 11 June (WA 196), why the UK Border Agency does not maintain central records of the number of individuals placed in immigration detention who claim to have been tortured, claim to have mental health problems or about whom mental health problems have been observed; and whether they will do so in future. [HL833]

Reply from The Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): The UK Border Agency has no plans to create a central record of the number of individuals placed in immigration detention who claim to have been tortured, claim to have mental health problems or about whom mental health problems have been observed.

Case owners take a number of factors into consideration, including any claim to have been tortured and reported or observed mental health issues, in order to reach a decision on whether detention or continuing detention is appropriate.

There are processes to inform the ongoing individual risk assessment for each case. A centralised record of torture claims and mental health issues would not alter the decisions made in each individual case but would result in resource implications to capture, monitor and maintain the record across a number of directorates and immigration removal centres.

Lord Lester of Herne Hill: To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Henley on 11 June (WA 196), what information is known by immigration detention centre managers and the UK Border Agency about the mental health status of individual detainees.[HL834]

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Reply from Lord Henley: Medical records for detainees are confidential. Medical information is not shared with UK Border Agency staff unless the detained person has given explicit consent.

Where a medical practitioner believes that a detainee's health is likely to be injuriously affected by continued detention or suspects a detained person of having suicidal intentions, he or she is required to inform the UK Border Agency.

Lord Lester of Herne Hill: To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Henley on 11 June (WA 197), what measures they (1) have taken, (2) are taking, and (3) will take, to avoid any and all further deaths during enforced returns.[HL835]

Reply from Lord Henley: The UK Border Agency paused the use of restraint techniques on scheduled removal flights for 10 days following the death of Mr Jimmy Mubenga in October 2010. Restraint techniques for all escorted scheduled removal flights were reinstated on 25 October, when the UK Border Agency was satisfied that restraint techniques were not inherently dangerous.

While the UK Border Agency is satisfied that techniques are safe, no use of restraint can be totally risk-free, which is one of the reasons why it is used only as a last resort. Professionals in the use of restraint from the National Offender Management Service are reviewing the techniques used on aircraft in order to see if they can be made even safer.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120625w0001.htm#12062546000878>

Asylum Seekers

Baroness Lister of Burtersett: To ask Her Majesty's Government, in each of the past five years, how many families with dependent children (1) applied for Section 4 asylum support, (2) were granted the support, and (3) were refused support.[HL696]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): The information requested is shown in the following table. Please note that the information is derived from local management information and has not been subject to National Statistics protocols.

Outcome	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Undecided	-	-	*	*	*	-	-
Refused	-	5	16	26	23	19	*
Grants	898	581	1045	987	495	262	63
Total	898	586	1062	1015	519	281	67

(1) All figures quoted are management information which has been subject to internal quality checks.

(2) Figures below 5 are indicated with an "*"; zero is indicated with an "-".

Baroness Lister of Burtersett: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many asylum-seeking children in receipt of Section 4 asylum support lived in hostel accommodation in the past five years; and for what average length of time.[HL697]

Reply from Lord Henley: The information requested on the number of asylum-seeking children in receipt of Section 4 support is shown in the following table. Please note that the information is derived from local management information and has not been subject to National Statistics protocols. Figures below five are not released, as it may be possible to identify individuals. The policy of the Home Office is not to disclose, to a third party, personal information about another person, as the department has obligations under the Data Protection Act and in law generally to protect this information.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

It is not possible to determine the average length of time asylum-seeking children in receipt of Section 4 support lived in hostel accommodation in the past five years without a manual search of individual cases, which would incur disproportionate costs.

Children receiving Section 4 support and accommodated in hostels	
Year	Children in Hostels
2012	*
2011	*
2010	*
2009	5
2008	5

Baroness Lister of Burtersett: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many individuals, including dependants, who had a disability were in receipt of Section 95 asylum support in each of the last five years, broken down by age. [HL699]

Reply from Lord Henley: The information requested is shown in the following table.

Cases in receipt of Section 95 asylum support that had a disability recorded against them in March of each of the past five years	
Date	Disability cases
March 2008	164
March 2009	174
March 2010	130
March 2011	93
March 2012	72

(1) All figures quoted are management information which has been subject to internal quality checks. (2) The figures refer to a snapshot of a single day in March of each of the past five years. (3) Disability figures refer to the number of applications with someone having disability, and the applications may correspond to one or more individuals. Please note that the information is derived from local management information and has not been subject to National Statistics protocols. The figures refer to a snapshot of a single day in March of each of the past five years. Disability figures refer to the number of applications with someone having a disability and the applications may correspond to one or more individuals.

Data broken down by age are not available.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120625w0001.htm#12062546000842>

Detention Centres: Pregnant Women

Richard Fuller: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether it is her policy that pregnant women are always allowed to keep their hand-held maternity records (maternity notes) when they enter immigration detention. [114270]

Reply from Damian Green: Pregnant women who have been issued with hand held records or a medical book while in the community are permitted to retain these on entering immigration detention. While detained, such records are maintained by the immigration removal centre's healthcare department to ensure continuity of care.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120628/text/120628w0001.htm#120628101000032>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Immigration: Detention

Lord Lester of Herne Hill: To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answers by Lord Henley on 11 June (WA 197), whether they will publish (1) figures for self-harm during immigration detention, (2) the UK Border Agency's standard specifications on construction of holding room facilities for airport operators and advice on accommodation and security requirements for holding rooms, (3) the written instructions on the application of Rule 35 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001, (4) the revised asylum casework instruction on Rule 35 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001, (5) the detention services order on Rule 35 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001, (6) the manual and materials used for training medical practitioners, other healthcare staff working in immigration removal centres and case owners on Rule 35 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001, and (7) the internal audit of compliance, quality and performance on Rule 35 decisions, once completed; and, if so, where they will be published.[HL836]

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): The UK Border Agency does not record centrally every incident of self-harm by detained persons, only those where some form of medical treatment was required. Figures for incidents of self-harm requiring medical assistance in each of the past three calendar years are:

2009: 204;

2010: 185; and

2011: 157.

To put this in context, 28,001 persons entered detention in 2009, 25,904 in 2010 and 27,072 in 2011.

Data on self-harm requiring medical assistance are normally used for management information only and are not subject to the detailed checks that apply for National Statistics publications. They are provisional and subject to change.

The UK Border Agency's standard specifications on the construction of holding rooms were not prepared with the intention for publication as they contain certain security considerations not suitable for the public domain.

A revised Detention Services Order on Rule 35 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001 is under development and will be published when ready. The existing Detention Services Order (3/2008 Special Illnesses and Conditions) is available on the UK Border Agency website at:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/policyandlaw/detention-services-orders/>.

The UK Border Agency will publish the revised asylum casework instruction on Rule 35 once the responses to the consultation exercise on the revisions, which closed on 18 May, have been considered. Until then, the existing Rule 35 Asylum Instruction is available on the UK Border Agency website at: <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/policyandlaw/asylumprocessguidance/detention>.

There is at present no single manual or standardised material used for training medical practitioners or other healthcare staff in immigration removal centres on the application of Rule 35. Case owners are trained to consider all material facts on a case by case basis. The instructions available to assist case owner decision-making are grouped under "Policy and Law" on the UK Border Agency website, including guidance on how to assess Rule 35 reports and the required actions.

Existing procedures and safeguards are being further improved by a range of measures including: improved written instructions, with a revised Asylum Casework Instruction and Detention Services Order, and training for medical practitioners and healthcare staff working in immigration removal centres and case owners. After full implementation of these revised measures, the UK Border

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Agency will review compliance, quality and performance through an internal audit. The results of the audit, once carried out, will be published on the UK Border Agency website.

Lord Lester of Herne Hill: To ask Her Majesty's Government under what powers the conduct of enforced returns is contracted out by the UK Border Agency.[HL857]

To ask Her Majesty's Government how they fulfil their investigative obligations under Articles 2 and 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights in relation to services contracted out by the UK Border Agency; and how they ensure that the internal review mechanisms of the contractors used by the UK Border Agency and their subcontractors fulfil the requirement of independent and impartial investigation under Articles 2 and 3 of the Convention.[HL858]

Reply from Lord Henley: Section 156 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 provides for the Secretary of State to make arrangements for, among other things, the delivery of detained persons from their places of detention for the purpose of their removal from the UK in accordance with removal directions and to enter into contracts for the provision of detainee custody officers for such a purpose. Section 154 of the 1999 Act requires persons working as detainee custody officers to be accredited by the Secretary of State, while Schedule 13 sets out the powers and duties of such officers when acting in accordance with escort arrangements. Private sector escorting companies also operate within a clear framework set out in operating standards and instructions published on the UK Border Agency's website at:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/managing%20ourborder/removalcentres/>.

In the unfortunate event of a death in immigration custody or while under escort, separate independent investigations are carried out by the police, and the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman. There will also be a coroner's inquest (or, in Scotland, a procurator fiscal's investigation). The combination of these investigations meets the investigative obligation arising from Article 2 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

The UK Border Agency operates a comprehensive complaints system as part of its contract monitoring arrangements. All detainees are told how to complain on arrival at a removal centre and upon escort, and complaints forms are widely available in a range of different languages. Complaints about the use of force are referred to the UK Border Agency's Professional Standards Unit for investigation and are also referred automatically to the police for their own parallel investigation. The Professional Standards Unit uses a team of dedicated investigators, who are all professionally trained to police standards. Where detainees are not satisfied with the outcome of their complaints, they may refer the matter to the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman and are told at the time how to do so.

The UK Border Agency contract monitor will consider whether an allegation is such that it is appropriate to suspend the certification of any officers involved in that incident pending its investigation. The management of the escorting service will also commission an internal investigation.

Any allegation substantiated by the UK Border Agency will lead to some form of disciplinary action against the person(s) concerned. This ultimately includes the revocation of an individual's accreditation to work as a detainee custody officer. The individual may also face criminal charges if the police and Crown Prosecution Service (or, in Scotland, the procurator fiscal) decides there is evidence that an offence may have been committed.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120627w0001.htm#12062771000215>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Detention Centres: Females

Richard Fuller: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what steps are taken by the UK Border Agency to seek permission for disclosure of medical records for women in detention for the purpose of identifying when women who are pregnant or have serious health conditions are being detained. [112755]

Reply from Damian Green: Where a medical practitioner believes that a detainee's health is likely to be injuriously affected by continued detention, including any elevated risk during pregnancy, he or she is required to inform the UK Border Agency.

If a pregnant woman chooses to inform removal centre healthcare staff of her condition, the detail would be held on her medical file which is confidential between patient and doctor. The UK Border Agency does not hold such information centrally and does not seek permission for disclosure.

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

Heidi Alexander: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) whether health advice is provided to pregnant women in immigration detention whom the UK Border Agency plans to remove to sub-Saharan African countries where there is high risk of chloroquine resistant malaria, and who have contra-indications to other anti-malarials due to early pregnancy or mental ill health; [112841]

(2) what steps the UK Border Agency is taking to monitor whether appropriate advice is given by its contractors to pregnant women in immigration detention who are to be removed to sub-Saharan African countries where there is high risk of chloroquine resistant malaria, and who have contra-indications to other anti-malarials due to early pregnancy or mental ill health; [112845]

(3) what her Department's policy is on the immigration detention and removal of pregnant women to sub-Saharan African countries where there is high risk of chloroquine resistant malaria in cases where appropriate anti-malarials cannot be administered due to contra-indications with early pregnancy or mental ill health. [112842]

Reply from Damian Green: Medical care and health care advice for persons in detention is provided by the health care professionals at immigration removal centres (IRCs). The UK Border Agency (UKBA) does not provide medical care or advice directly to individuals in detention but does liaise regularly with the Department of Health (DH) and the Health Protection Agency in order to ensure that any necessary safeguards as to health are followed.

Individuals who are proposing to leave the UK voluntarily, or who are liable to enforced removal, are generally expected to make their own health protection arrangements.

Currently, the majority of IRC health care facilities are provided by private providers who are contracted by the UKBA. The DH is now working with the UKBA on a phased programme to transfer commissioning and funding responsibility for health care provision within IRCs fully to the national health service within the current spending review period.

The level and type of advice provided to pregnant women or those suffering from a mental illness in detention will depend on the clinical judgment of the health care professionals in the immigration removal centres in which they are detained, taking into account the circumstances of the person concerned and their proposed destination country. In addition, pregnant women or those suffering from mental

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

health issues who are leaving the United Kingdom under an assisted voluntary returns scheme would be able to discuss protection against malaria and other risks with the independent Choices service. This provides confidential and impartial advice to help asylum seekers and irregular migrants decide and plan their return home. Pregnant women in families being removed under the family returns process would have their health and vaccination needs considered by the Family Returns Panel as part of the panel's consideration of the proposed removal plan before entering the pre-departure accommodation.

Further advice and information, including a newly produced Health Protection Agency leaflet on prevention of malaria is provided by the health care team at the accommodation.

Pregnant women who are considered to be 'at risk' of malaria are routinely provided with mosquito nets free of charge on removal and provided with the appropriate course of anti-malaria medication.

The delivery and quality of health care arrangements, including medical advice for those who are pregnant or suffering from a mental illness, at immigration removal centres and short-term holding facilities is monitored through the UK Border Agency's compliance monitoring arrangements and through independent inspection by Her Majesty's inspectorate of prisons.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120625/text/120625w0001.htm#12062534000041>

Press Releases

Changes to applications from overstayers

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2012/june/53-overstayers>

UN expert calls for justice for all victims of human trafficking ... even the 'imperfect' ones

<http://www.ohchr.org/FR/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=12290&LangID=E>

New Publications

Monthly asylum application tables - April 2012

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

Children entering detention held solely under Immigration Act powers May 2012

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/child-detention-may2012?view=Binary>

Strategies to End Double Violence Against Undocumented Women - Protecting Rights and Ensuring Justice

<http://picum.org/picum.org/uploads/publication/Double%20Violence%20Against%20Undocumented%20Women%20-%20Protecting%20Rights%20and%20Ensuring%20Justice.pdf>

News

Theresa May 'planning changes to immigrant test'

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-18662531>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

UK migrants to face 'patriotic' citizenship test

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/jul/01/uk-migrants-patriotic-citizenship-test>

Citizenship test to be rewritten by the Government

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/citizenship-test-to-be-rewritten-by-the-government-7902098.html>

British Citizenship Test To Be Rewritten To Include National Anthem And William Shakespeare

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2012/07/01/british-citizenship-test-questions_n_1640810.html?utm_hp_ref=uk

God Save the Queen test for migrants

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/National/article1072324.ece

It's silly not to count students as migrants, says minister

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/universityeducation/9357974/Its-silly-not-to-count-students-as-migrants-says-minister.html>

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Race Relations

New Publication

Understanding Society

<http://research.understandingsociety.org.uk/files/research/findings/Understanding-Society-Findings-2012.pdf>

News

Ethnic minorities in UK feel most British, research finds

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2012/jun/30/ethnic-minorities-uk-british-research>

Britishness is more valuable to migrants

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article3461491.ece>

Muslims are truest of true Brits, claims study into national sense of belonging

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article3461486.ece>

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Equality

Westminster Debate

BME Communities (Educational Attainment)

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120626/halltext/120626h0001.htm#12062675000002>

Black and Minority Ethnic Communities

Thomas Docherty: What assessment she has made of the potential effect of recent labour market trends on black and minority ethnic communities. [114074]

Reply from the Minister for Equalities (Lynne Featherstone): Tackling unemployment is a priority for this Government. Our approach is to support people according to their individual needs and circumstances rather than segregate them according to ethnicity. That is why we have introduced personalised support through the Work programme, the youth contract, and the Get Britain Working measures. The significantly increased flexibility that we have given to providers and Jobcentre Plus means that interventions can be tailored to address an individual's specific needs.

Thomas Docherty: Given, however, that 44.4% of economically active 16 to 24-year-old black people are without work, compared with just 20% of white people, is not this policy not working?

Reply from Lynne Featherstone: The hon. Gentleman raises the issue of the number of young black men who are out of work. However, the recent press coverage gave inaccurate figures. Figures from the Office for National Statistics show that less than a third of black men aged 18 to 24 are unemployed. The Government recognise that that figure is still too high, which is why we have introduced tailored and personalised support to help people get back into the labour market.

Claire Perry: The whole House recognises the difficulty of getting certain groups of people into work. Does the Minister agree that payment by results is the way to ensure that the right level of resources is targeted at those who are hardest to help?

Reply from Lynne Featherstone: My hon. Friend highlights exactly the right point. Work programme providers are encouraged by payment by results, which means that when a young black man comes in, the providers will not get paid unless they remove the barriers that are prohibiting him from getting work, whether through education, training, skills or whatever else.

Yvette Cooper: Is not the fact that young black men are still being hit hardest of all by the Government's economic failure? Should not the Equalities Minister commit to publishing a full audit of what is happening to young men from different BME backgrounds and the impact that that is having? The latest figures show that unemployment among young white men has gone up by three percentage points since the election, and among young black men by 14 percentage points. There is currently no targeted support for young black men in getting apprenticeships, and the Work programme clearly is not working. Faced with this growing crisis, will Ministers now take serious action to provide the support for jobs and opportunities that young people from all backgrounds need, and consider a bankers' bonus tax so that they can do so?

Reply from Lynne Featherstone: The Work programme introduces the conditions that will get young black men into work. That is something that never happened under the Labour Government. The number of people from ethnic minorities who are in work is up by 179,000 compared with 2010. Moreover, on the issue of BME apprenticeships, which the right hon. Lady raised, 2010-11 saw the highest ever percentage of BME apprentices start their training. The labour market trend for the number of people starting apprenticeships has gone up significantly in recent years, from 167,000 in 2003 to 457,200 in 2010-11. We are doing what Labour failed to do. ...

Jim McGovern: Following on from what has been said, black and ethnic minority people seem to figure higher in the unemployment figures in Scotland. Has any of the Ministers present discussed this matter with any Minister in the Scottish Government?

Reply from Lynne Featherstone: We work closely with the Scottish Government

Equality

Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

on this issue. As I said, I refer the hon. Gentleman to the answer that I have given. We have put in place a Work programme that will deliver results; Labour never did.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120628/debtext/120628-0001.htm#12062867000032>

New Publication

Equality and Human Rights Commission Equality Reading lists

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/publications/our-research/reading-lists/>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Press Release

Funding announced to tackle bigotry

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/06/sectarianism25062012>

News

Police response to right-wing protest probed

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/political-news/police-response-to-right-wing-protest-probed.17971560>

EU parliament told of 'rising cases' of anti-semitism in Europe

<http://www.theparliament.com/latest-news/article/newsarticle/eu-parliament-told-of-rising-cases-of-anti-semitism-in-europe/>

New Move To Stamp Out Election 'Anti-Semitism'

<http://www.totallyjewish.com/news/national/c-18369/new-move-to-stamp-out-election-anti-semitism/>

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Other Holyrood

Press Releases

Police and fire reform passed

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/06/policeandfirereformstage327062012>

Recorded crime hits 37 year low

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/06/crime26062012>

Recorded crime in Scotland

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/06/recordedcrime26062012>

Other Holyrood Press Releases (continued)

New Scotland Act powers transferred

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/07/scotland-act03072012>

New Publication

Recorded Crime in Scotland

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0039/00396025.pdf>

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Other Westminster

Parliamentary Questions

Forced Marriage

Jackie Doyle-Price: What steps she has taken to ensure that the criminalisation of forced marriage does not discourage victims from bringing complaints forward. [114073]

Reply from the Secretary of State for the Home Department and Minister for Women and Equalities (Mrs Theresa May): Forced marriage is a hidden problem, and criminalising this abhorrent act will give victims the option of seeking the toughest form of justice. To ensure that victims and others are not discouraged from coming forward, civil remedies will remain available to them. We are also providing a package of support to ensure that victims know what help is available, and we are better equipping practitioners to deal with cases of forced marriage more effectively.

Jackie Doyle-Price: I thank my right hon. Friend for her answer. However, victims will clearly be intimidated in reporting family members who are committing these crimes. What more can be done to encourage other family members and potential witnesses to report the crimes, and what more can she do to raise awareness that this practice will not be tolerated?

Reply from Theresa May: My hon. Friend raises an extremely important point. We have retained the twin-track approach of the criminalised route or the civil remedy route precisely because of a concern about those who may not want to report people because of the criminalisation aspect. Raising awareness is incredibly important. That is why we are putting in place a support package, working with practitioners to help them to identify the signs that somebody might be about to be taken away for a forced marriage. We are also going to run a summer awareness campaign aimed at young people so that they understand the signs as regards not only something that might happen to themselves but what is happening to their friends, and are more willing to come forward.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm120628/debtext/120628-0001.htm#12062867000031>

Press Release

Faith groups: New partnership on aid

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/News/Latest-news/2012/Faith-groups-new-partnership-on-aid/>

Other Westminster (continued) New Publication

Faith Partnership Principles: Working effectively with faith groups to fight global poverty

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/What-we-do/Publications/publications1/Faith-partnership-principles-Working-effectively-with-faith-groups-to-fight-global-poverty/>

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New Publications

Scottish Human Rights Commission Annual Report 2011 / 2012

http://scottishhumanrights.com/application/resources/documents/SHRCAnnualReport2011_12Final.pdf

OSCR publishes online tutorials

OSCR Online - getting started

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/about-oscr/oscr-online/oscr-online-getting-started/>

OSCR Online - introduction to updating your details

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/about-oscr/oscr-online/oscr-online-introduction-to-updating-your-details/>

OSCR Online - updating accounting year end and contact details

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/about-oscr/oscr-online/oscr-online-updating-your-accounting-year-end-and-contact-details/>

OSCR Online - Annual Return

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/about-oscr/oscr-online/oscr-online-annual-return/>

OSCR Online - accounts

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/about-oscr/oscr-online/oscr-online-accounts/>

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Other News

Better Together pro-Union campaign launched

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/better-together-pro-union-campaign-launched.1340625680>

Voluntary groups do 13 million hours of work

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/voluntary-groups-do-13-million-hours-of-work.17969512>

Demand for multi-faith spaces is often 'staff led'

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/faith/article3459745.ece>

Muslim parents bid to set up private Islamic school

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/education/muslim-parents-bid-to-set-up-private-islamic-school.18015165>

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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>

Revised Explanatory Notes

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Police%20and%20Fire%20Reform%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/b8as4-stage2-en-rev.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Police%20and%20Fire%20Reform%20(Scotland)%20Bill/b8as4-stage2-en-rev.pdf)

Stage 3

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=7106&mode=html#iob_64748

Debate

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=7106&mode=html#iob_64749

Bill passed

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>

Stage 3

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=7109&mode=html#iob_64829

Debate

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=7109&mode=html#iob_64830

Bill passed

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>

Committee Stage, House of Lords

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120625-0001.htm#12062516000348>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120625-0001.htm#12062536000098>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/120627-0001.htm#12062758000348>

Bills in Progress

Westminster (continued)

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2012-2013/0004/amend/ml004-iv.htm>
and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2012-2013/0004/amend/su004-ivra.htm>

Scottish Parliament Legislative Consent Memorandum

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=7109&mode=html#iob_64833

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

**** Closes 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

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/>

Consultations (continued)

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

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

Investing In and Paying for Your Water Services from 2015 (closing date 11 September 2012)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0039/00395226.pdf>

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

<http://www.snapsurveys.com/swh/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

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

Festival of Politics

17 – 25 August 2012 at the Scottish Parliament

http://www.festivalofpolitics.org.uk/pdf/2012_Festival_of_Politics_Programme.pdf

Scottish Irish Conversation on Sectarianism

17 August 2012 at the Scottish Parliament (10.00 – 11.00)

Festival of Politics discussion to exchange knowledge between community leaders, academics and policy makers. For information see

<http://www.festivalofpolitics.org.uk/65.htm>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Singin I'm No a Billy He's a Tim

17 August 2012 at the Scottish Parliament (6.30 – 8.00)

Festival of Politics performance exploring play exploring bigotry and ethnic identity. For information see <http://www.festivalofpolitics.org.uk/56.htm>

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>.

Who are 'Jock Tamson's Bairns'? – Attitudes Towards Migration in Scotland

24 August 2012 at the Scottish Parliament (10.30 – 11.30)

Festival of Politics debate Scottish about attitudes to immigration, and whether they support the claims of Scotland to be a more welcoming country. For information see <http://www.festivalofpolitics.org.uk/146.htm>

Making the Law Work for You – How Would You Improve the Justice System?

24 August 2012 at the Scottish Parliament (1.00 – 2.00)

Festival of Politics discussion about mediation and arbitration, improving our system of human rights, the benefits of legal aid and making the law 'less legal'. For information see <http://www.festivalofpolitics.org.uk/135.htm>

NGOs Against Modern-Day Slavery

24 August 2012 at the Scottish Parliament (2.30 – 3.30)

Festival of Politics discussion about the role of artists in preventing and combating human trafficking as modern-day slavery. For information see <http://www.festivalofpolitics.org.uk/148.htm>

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/>

Useful Links (continued)

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

Public Sector Equality Duty Guidance

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/scotland/public-sector-equality-duty/non-statutory-guidance-for-scottish-public-authorities/>

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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