

## 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 Questions

#### Asylum Seekers

**Siobhan McMahon:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it has made representations to (a) Glasgow City Council, (b) Serco or its sub-contractor, Orchard and Shipman, and (c) the Scottish Refugee Council regarding the transfer of properties during the changeover of the contract from Y People to Serco to provide accommodation and transport services to asylum seekers and, if so, what representations. (S4W-10627)

**Reply from Michael Matheson:** Asylum and Immigration are matters reserved to the UK Government, the United Kingdom Borders Agency (UKBA) and its delivery partners. However, the Scottish Government remains clear that whilst asylum seekers are in Scotland they are to be welcomed and supported, and to that end has regular discussions with UKBA and its delivery partners about the myriad issues relating to asylum seekers living here.

The Scottish Government has engaged with Glasgow City Council on the potential impact of the contract transfer, however, as the contract between Serco/Orchard

## Immigration and Asylum Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

& Shipman is with the UK Government, neither Scottish Ministers or officials have engaged directly with them. Officials meet regularly with the Scottish Refugee Council and discuss the range of issues relating to asylum seekers and refugees, including the transfer of contract for accommodation and transport services.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10627&ResultsPerPage=10>

### Asylum Seekers

**Siobhan McMahon:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it received representations from or made representations to the UK (a) Government or (b) Border Agency during the transfer of the contract to provide accommodation and transport services to asylum seekers in Scotland and, if so, what representations. (S4W-10629)

**Reply from Michael Matheson:** Asylum and Immigration are matters reserved to the UK Government, the United Kingdom Borders Agency (UKBA) and its delivery partners. However, the Scottish Government remains clear that whilst asylum seekers are in Scotland they are to be welcomed and supported, and to that end has regular discussions with UKBA and its delivery partners about the myriad issues relating to asylum seekers living here.

In December 2011, the Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs, Fiona Hyslop MSP wrote to Home Office Minister Damian Green MP stating that asylum seekers in Scotland should not be adversely affected by the change in contractor and there will be minimum disruption to their lives. She also wished to be kept fully informed during the roll out of the contract in Scotland. Scottish Government officials met with UKBA and their delivery partners on 3 occasions during the summer months, in the lead up to the transfer of the contract.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10629&ResultsPerPage=10>

### Asylum Seekers

**Siobhan McMahon:** To ask the Scottish Government what information it has on the reason for it not being possible to transfer some properties during the changeover of the contract to provide accommodation and transport services to asylum seekers in Scotland. (S4W-10630)

**Reply from Michael Matheson:** Asylum and Immigration are matters reserved to the UK Government, the United Kingdom Borders Agency (UKBA) and its delivery partners. However, the Scottish Government remains clear that whilst asylum seekers are in Scotland they are to be welcomed and supported, and to that end has regular discussions with UKBA and its delivery partners about the myriad issues relating to asylum seekers living here.

The Scottish Government, where informed by UKBA and the contractors, understands that there was a delay of approximately two weeks in transferring some of the properties, due to it taking longer than originally anticipated to finalise some aspects of the contract. However, as this is a reserved matter and not the responsibility of the Scottish Government, I would refer the member to UKBA.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10630&ResultsPerPage=10>

### Asylum Seekers

**Siobhan McMahon:** To ask the Scottish Government what information it has on how the reported 143 asylum seekers living in the properties that could not be transferred during the changeover of the contract to Serco to provide accommodation and transport services have been relocated and whether they were relocated (a) in or (b) outwith Scotland. (S4W-10631)

## Immigration and Asylum Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

**Reply from Michael Matheson:** Asylum and Immigration are matters reserved to the UK Government, the United Kingdom Borders Agency (UKBA) and its delivery partners. However, the Scottish Government remains clear that whilst asylum seekers are in Scotland they are to be welcomed and supported, and to that end has regular discussions with UKBA and its delivery partners about the myriad issues relating to asylum seekers living here. As responsibility for asylum seekers is reserved it would be for the UKBA to provide this information.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10631&ResultsPerPage=10>

### Asylum Seekers

**John Lamont:** To ask the Scottish Government how much legal aid was paid to lawyers to represent asylum seekers in each year since April 2008. (S4W-10642)

**Reply from Kenny MacAskill:** The figures given are for advice and assistance and legal aid. They include payments for legal fees to solicitors, advocates and solicitor advocates and for other expenditure such as translators and expert witnesses. The separation into immigration cases and asylum cases is not entirely reliable, since there is an element of overlap between the categories and the figures depend on reporting by solicitors. Asylum was only introduced as a separate category in 2008, so the increase in that number may be affected by increased familiarity by solicitors with the categorisation.

Fin Year	Description	Total Paid (inc vat)
	Immigration	£3,346,023
	Asylum seekers	£447,350
Total 2008-09		£3,793,372
	Immigration	£3,317,381
	Asylum seekers	£1,086,045
Total 2009-10		£4,403,426
	Immigration	£3,308,238
	Asylum seekers	£1,787,614
Total 2010-11		£5,095,851
	Immigration	£2,946,542
	Asylum seekers	£2,177,800
Total 2011-12		£5,124,342

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10642&ResultsPerPage=10>

## Holyrood Parliamentary Motions

**S4M-04864 Linda Fabiani: Open Your Eyes to Destitution in Scotland**—That the Parliament believes that many volunteers and organisations, including churches, charities and community groups, work hard to try to alleviate some of the problems experienced by asylum seekers living in destitution; commends the campaign, Open your Eyes to Destitution in Scotland, by the Scottish Refugee Council and the Refugee Survival Trust, which argues that current UK laws can force asylum seekers, many of whom have fled war and torture in their own countries, to beg or leave them with no home, money or food; recognises calls for an improved decision-making process in dealing with asylum claims, for proper support for asylum seekers waiting to be granted protection or returned home safely and for those asylum seekers who have been in the UK for more than six months to have the right to work, and welcomes support for the campaign.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-04864&ResultsPerPage=10>

## Immigration and Asylum

### Holyrood Parliamentary Motions (continued)

**S4M-04857 Christina McKelvie: Migrants' Rights Day**—That the Parliament welcomes the Migrants' Rights Day celebrations that will take place across the country on 18 December 2012; notes that the date marks the 22nd anniversary of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1990; appreciates the continuing contribution that migrants from around the world make to Scotland, both economically and culturally, and continues to support people seeking sanctuary and solace in Scotland; commends the work of the organisation, Migrants' Rights Scotland, in its bid to promote the rights of all migrants, regardless of where they are from and acknowledges their commitment to providing support for migrant community organisations (MCOs), and understands that Migrants' Rights Scotland supports MCOs in representing themselves more effectively in the immigration system by sharing information and building on existing knowledge and campaigns on their behalf for justice across all social policy areas.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-04857&ResultsPerPage=10>

## Westminster Parliamentary Question

### Asylum

**David Davies:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if she will publish the standards required from landlords who are contracted by the UK Border Agency to house asylum seekers. [126616]

**Reply from Mark Harper:** In line with Government transparency commitments, details of the standards required are already in the public domain.

The particular document that details the standards is titled “COMPASS Project Schedule 2 Accommodation and Transport—Statement of Requirements” and is available on the Contracts Finder website at:

<http://www.contractsfinder.businesslink.gov.uk>

It is also available on the UK Border Agency website at:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/aboutus/workingwithus/workingwithasylum/compassprogramme/>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121112/text/121112w0001.htm#12111225000023>

## News

### Bulgarian and Romanian migration control to end

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/uk/bulgarian-and-romanian-migration-control-to-end-1-2628515>

### Five face trial accused of human trafficking

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/five-face-trial-accused-of-human-trafficking.19402781>

### Senior judge attacks meritless immigration challenges

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/9678568/Senior-judge-attacks-meritless-immigration-challenges.html>

### New immigration rules accused of splitting up families

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/new-immigration-rules-accused-of-splitting-up-families-8324254.html>

## Immigration and Asylum

### News (continued)

**From Pouncefoot to Patel and Piotrowski: Traditional surnames are becoming extinct because of immigration, research shows**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/from-pouncefoot-to-patel-and-piotrowski-traditional-surnames-are-becoming-extinct-because-of-immigration-research-shows-8326976.html>

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## Race Relations

### Press Release

**Faith Minister visits temple to start Diwali celebrations**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/faith-minister-visits-temple-to-start-diwali-celebrations>

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## Equality

### Westminster Parliamentary Question

#### Equality Act 2010

**Lord Ouseley:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of (1) any differences in the state of race relations and race equality between England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, and (2) of any benefits or disadvantages experienced in Northern Ireland resulting from the specific legislative responsibilities and duties in place there.[HL2933]

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Communities and Local Government (Baroness Hanham):** The Equality Act 2010 applies to England, Scotland and Wales and the legislation is reserved to the UK Parliament for race. Northern Ireland is covered by the Race Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, as amended.

The UK Government/DCLG has not made any assessments concerning differences in the state of race relations and race equality between England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Responsibility for race relations in Northern Ireland is a devolved matter.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/121113w0001.htm#12111397000400>

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## Racism and Religious Hatred

### Press Release

**Help for people who feel they have been unfairly discriminated against**

[http://www.culture.gov.uk/news/news\\_stories/9524.aspx](http://www.culture.gov.uk/news/news_stories/9524.aspx)



## Racism and Religious Hatred (continued) New Publication

**Hate Crimes in the OSCE Region: Incidents and Responses: Annual Report for 2011**  
[http://tandis.odihhr.pl/hcr2011/pdf/Hate\\_Crime\\_Report\\_full\\_version.pdf](http://tandis.odihhr.pl/hcr2011/pdf/Hate_Crime_Report_full_version.pdf)

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### Other Holyrood

#### Parliamentary Questions

##### Female Genital Mutilation

**Bill Walker:** To ask the Scottish Government for what reason there have been no prosecutions for female genital mutilation (FGM) in Scotland. (S4W-10765)

**Reply from Kenny MacAskill:** There have been no prosecutions because no FGM (female genital mutilation) related incidents have been reported to relevant authorities. This is because it is a hidden problem which affects some women and girls from some minority ethnic communities who are very reluctant to disclose or report it. Some of them have said that they would not disclose FGM for fear of stigma from society and exclusion from their own community. FGM is a harmful traditional practice which involves force, coercion and sometime violence.

There is no evidence that the practice is widespread in Scotland but the Government is not complacent and work is being done to prevent FGM by: Working closely with minority ethnic community groups and organisations that support victims of FGM and girls at risk, raising awareness, empowering women and increasing confidence to report. The Scottish Government has funded Saheliya, a minority ethnic women's organisation in Edinburgh, £225,000 over the three years 2012– 2015 to work with women from communities affected by FGM.

Raising awareness that FGM is a harmful traditional practice which has serious implications on health and wellbeing of women and girls

Publicising and disseminating information, training presentations and sponsoring of a screening of a film about FGM.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10765&ResultsPerPage=10>

##### Female Genital Mutilation

**Bill Walker:** To ask the Scottish Government how it protects girls at risk of female genital mutilation, in light of the Home Office's estimation that over 20,000 children under 15 in the UK are at risk each year. (S4W-10766)

**Reply from Kenny MacAskill:** Scottish Government takes the issue of female genital mutilation (FGM) very seriously and sees it as a form of physical abuse of women and girls and a violation of their human rights. The Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation (Scotland) Act 2005 made it illegal to perform or arrange to have female genital mutilation carried out in Scotland or abroad, and carries a maximum penalty of 14 years' imprisonment and fine. Dedicated guidance to aid practitioners in the identification, assessment and co-ordinated management of females at risk is provided in the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010.

The Government considers prevention as the most effective way of protecting girls at risk of FGM. A number of methods are used to prevent it: Working closely with minority ethnic community groups and organisations that support victims of FGM and girls at risk, raising awareness, empowering women and increasing confidence to report. The Scottish Government has funded Saheliya, a minority

## Other Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

ethnic women's organisation in Edinburgh, £225,000 over the three years 2012–2015 to work with women from communities affected by FGM.

Raising awareness that FGM is a harmful traditional practice which has serious implications on health and wellbeing of women and girls

Publicising and disseminating information, training presentations and sponsoring of a screening of a film about FGM

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10766&ResultsPerPage=10>

### Child Abuse

**Jenny Marra:** To ask the Scottish Government how many victims of (a) ritual child abuse, (b) child abuse linked to religion and (c) child sexual exploitation have been identified in each of the last five years. (S4W-10913)

**Reply from Aileen Campbell:** The following table shows the number of sexual offences against children recorded by the police in Scotland for the past 5 years.

2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
2250	2049	2219	2173	2233

Police forces in Scotland do not record instances of child abuse by means of the sub-categories referred to.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10913&ResultsPerPage=10>

### Child Abuse

**Jenny Marra:** To ask the Scottish Government how many police investigations related to (a) ritual child abuse, (b) child abuse linked to religion and (c) child sexual exploitation have been carried out in each of the last five years. (S4W-10914)

**Reply from Aileen Campbell:** I refer the member to answer to question S4W-10913 on 15 November 2012. Police investigations are not formally categorised or recorded other than by reference to the crime type under investigation. All answers to written Parliamentary Questions are available on the Parliament's website, the search facility for which can be found at

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx>

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10914&ResultsPerPage=10>

### Child Abuse

**Jenny Marra:** To ask the Scottish Government what training is given to police on how to investigate (a) ritual child abuse, (b) child abuse linked to religion and (c) child sexual exploitation. (S4W-10917)

**Reply from Aileen Campbell:** Training on the above categories is incorporated into other training and appropriately tailored to the needs of the students on any particular course. Probationer training at the Scottish Police College will encompass inputs on child protection and sex offenders. This training will touch on various types of offending such as child sexual exploitation or ritual child abuse and will take place within the training delivered to specialist officers deployed to deal with the victims of serious sexual offences, or the training delivered on specific child protection courses.

Initial detective training also encompasses these areas and there are inputs on supervisory training courses.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10917&ResultsPerPage=10>

## Other Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### Child Abuse

**Jenny Marra:** To ask the Scottish Government how it tackles (a) ritual child abuse, (b) child abuse linked to religion and (c) child sexual exploitation. (S4W-10923)

**Reply from Aileen Campbell:** We have introduced measures to improve standards and ensure practitioners have the necessary skills and knowledge to protect children from neglect and abuse. The National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland, published in 2010, sets a national framework to help shape local practices and procedures. It highlights that all agencies and services have a shared responsibility for protecting children and safeguarding their welfare.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10923&ResultsPerPage=10>

### Child Abuse

**Jenny Marra:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it has set up advisory groups to deal with (a) ritual child abuse, (b) child abuse linked to religion and (c) child sexual exploitation and, if so, how often they have provided advice. (S4W-10925)

**Reply from Aileen Campbell:** We have set up a group to oversee the refresh of the National Guidance for Child Protection which will examine how well the Guidance continues to address all aspects of abuse. In addition, a working group has been set up to develop multi-agency local protocols on a number of child protection issues for all parts of Scotland.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10925&ResultsPerPage=10>

### Child Abuse

**Jenny Marra:** To ask the Scottish Government how much it has spent on improving its response to (a) ritual child abuse, (b) child abuse linked to religion and (c) child sexual exploitation in each of the last five years. (S4W-10926)

**Reply from Aileen Campbell:** Since 2007 we have invested £4.25 million in services for survivors of sexual abuse, awareness raising and training for staff in statutory and voluntary organisations. Further funding of £1.65 million has been allocated for 2012-2014.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10926&ResultsPerPage=10>

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## Other Westminster

### Parliamentary Question

#### Female Genital Mutilation

**Karl Turner:** To ask the Secretary of State for Health if he will consider including a mandatory data collection question about female genital mutilation on GP registration forms. [127597]

**Reply from Anna Soubry:** We have no plans to introduce a mandatory data collection question about female genital mutilation (FGM) on general practitioner (GP) registration forms.

There are several reasons why it would not be appropriate to ask a woman or girl if they have been subject to FGM on the registration form. Doing this would



## Other Westminster Parliamentary Question (continued)

breach patient confidentiality since the forms are read and used by general practice staff for registration rather than clinical purposes. In addition, it is highly unlikely that those registering at a new practice would wish to reveal something this sensitive on an initial registration form; it can take a long time for a woman to build up the confidence in a health care practitioner to tell them that she has been mutilated. We would not want to deter people from registering with a GP by asking such a personal question at the time. In the case of girls, it is unlikely that parents registering their children would reveal this in any case since it is illegal to subject a child to FGM and declaring this would implicate the parents as perpetrators which may deter them from registering their daughters with a GP.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121113/text/121113w0004.htm#121113109000095>

## Press Releases

### David Cameron's Diwali Message

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/news/david-camerons-diwali-message/>

### Secretary of State sends best wishes to Scottish communities for Diwali

<http://www.scotlandoffice.gov.uk/scotlandoffice/18105.html>

### The Foreign Secretary's Diwali message

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/news/latest-news/?view=News&id=834040782>

### Baroness Warsi sends her best wishes on Diwali

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/newsstories/newsroom/2254050>

## New Publication

### House of Lords Committee on the Constitution: The Agreement on a referendum on independence for Scotland

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldselect/ldconst/62/62.pdf>

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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>

Stage 1 Report

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_FinanceCommittee/Reports/fir-12-06w.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_FinanceCommittee/Reports/fir-12-06w.pdf)

## Bills in Progress

### Holyrood (continued)

#### **\*\* Scotland Act 1998 (Modification of Schedule 5) Order 2013**

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0040/00404790.pdf>

Referendum Committee evidence from Professor Aileen McHarg, University of Strathclyde; □ Alan Trench, University College London and University of Edinburgh; □ Rt Hon Michael Moore MP, Secretary of State for Scotland

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=7507&mode=pdf>

and

Dr Nicola McEwen and Navraj Singh Ghaleigh, University of Edinburgh; □ Nicola Sturgeon, Deputy First Minister

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=7544&mode=pdf>

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

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

Revised Explanatory Notes

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_Bills/Social%20Care%20\(Self%20directed%20Support\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/b10as4-stage2-en-rev.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Social%20Care%20(Self%20directed%20Support)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/b10as4-stage2-en-rev.pdf)

Supplementary Delegated Powers Memorandum

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_Bills/2012.11.14\\_Supplementary\\_DPM.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/2012.11.14_Supplementary_DPM.pdf)

proposed amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/56781.aspx>

## Bills in Progress

### 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/121113-0001.htm#12111394000025>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/121113-0002.htm#121113110000169>

proposed amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2012-2013/0049/amend/ml049-recir.htm>

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

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

#### **Small Charitable Donations Bill**

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

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## Consultations

\*\* new or updated this week

### **The UK Government's new approach to consultation**

(closing date 30 November 2012)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/secondary-legislation-scrutiny-committee/inquiries/parliament-2010/consultations/>

### **Review of the impact of ending employment restrictions on Bulgarian and Romanian nationals on the agriculture and food processing sectors**

(closing date 18 January 2013)

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/workingwithus/mac/call-saw-sbs.pdf>

### **National Action Plan for Human Rights** (closing date 29 March 2013)

<http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/actionplan/participatesnap>

### **\*\* Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator: Equality Strategy**

(closing date 9 February 2012)

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/news-and-events/latest-news/tell-us-what-you-think/>

### **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](http://www.ceji.org/facingfacts/?page_id=158)

### **Engagement of PTAs and Parent Councils with parents from ethnic minority communities** (no closing date given)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JQVRK5R>

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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!**

#### **National Police Service Consultation**

19 November 2012 in Glasgow (5.45 – 8.00)

In April 2013 all the police organisations across Scotland will join together to become a single police service. This is the biggest change to Scottish policing for more than a generation and your views can help shape the new organisation. For information see

[http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/12xi\\_wsrec\\_police.pdf](http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/12xi_wsrec_police.pdf) or contact Janila Stanley [janstanley@wsrec.co.uk](mailto:janstanley@wsrec.co.uk) / 0141 337 6626.

## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**\*\* this week!**

### **Completing the new OSCR Returns**

20 November 2012 in Inverness (1.30-4.00)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator training to look at the ways in which charities report to OSCR, and will include an introduction to OSCR Online. For information see <http://www.scvo.org.uk/oscr/oscr-outreach-completing-oscr-returns/>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Our Scotland No Racism**

24 November 2012 in Glasgow (11.00)

STUC anti-racism rally. For information see <http://www.stuc.org.uk/st-andrews-day>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Meet the Charity Regulator**

25 November 2012 in Paisley (1.30 – 3.30: public session)

25 November 2012 in Paisley (4.00 – 6.30: charity session)

27 November 2012 in Stirling (10.00 – 4.00: public session)

27 November 2012 in Stirling (1.45 – 4.00: charity session)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator events for the public, explaining how charities must operate and report to the Regulator, and for charity trustees, highlighting how charities can work with the regulator to meet challenges they face. For information see [http://www.oscr.org.uk/news-and-events/meet-the-charity-regulator/meet-the-charity-regulator-stirling-\(public-session\)/](http://www.oscr.org.uk/news-and-events/meet-the-charity-regulator/meet-the-charity-regulator-stirling-(public-session)/) (Stirling) and [http://www.oscr.org.uk/news-and-events/meet-the-charity-regulator/meet-the-charity-regulator-paisley-\(charity-session\)/](http://www.oscr.org.uk/news-and-events/meet-the-charity-regulator/meet-the-charity-regulator-paisley-(charity-session)/)

### **'Communities Together: Build a Bridge'**

26 November 2012 in Glasgow (4.00 – 6.00)

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust workshop to provide event organisers with information about the theme for Holocaust Memorial Day 2013: 'Communities Together: Build a Bridge'. For information contact 020 7785 7029 / [enquiries@hmd.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@hmd.org.uk)

### **Equality issues in the Forth Valley**

28 November 2012 in Stirling (2.00 – 4.00)

30 November 2012 in Falkirk (1.30 – 5.00)

Central Scotland Regional Equality Council events in partnership with Forth Valley public sector service providers to inform people about new equality legislation, and explain what setting equality outcomes actually means to people in Forth Valley and how communities can contribute to and influence this process. For information contact Gillian Currie 01324 610 950 / [gillian.currie@centralscotlandrec.org.uk](mailto:gillian.currie@centralscotlandrec.org.uk).

### **Becoming a charity and choosing the right legal form**

29 November 2012 in Inveraray (10.00-12.30)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator training to take an in depth look at the pros and cons of registering as a charity, and explain the various legal forms available, including the new Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) structure. For information see <http://www.scvo.org.uk/oscr/oscr-outreach-becoming-a-charity/>

### **Working with interpreters**

29 November 2012 in Glasgow (1.00 – 4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course for those who work with non-English speaking service users, including asylum seekers and refugees, who need a comprehensive understanding of how to work with interpreters. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/9fs8ae5> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / [train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### **Equality in employment**

29 November 2012 in Glasgow (10.30 – 4.30)

GCVS training to provide practical tips and explanations to help organisations meet their legal and ethical responsibilities. Issues covered include recruitment, monitoring and dignity at work, and issues around equality in volunteering. For information see [http://www.gcv.org.uk/whats\\_on/1507\\_equality\\_in\\_employment](http://www.gcv.org.uk/whats_on/1507_equality_in_employment)

### **Freedom to Practice Religion**

30 November 2012 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 11.00)

Interfaith Week discussion on how far religious freedoms should extend, which follows on from recent debates surrounding religious groups' rights to maintain traditional practices such as carrying and wearing symbols or articles of clothing central to their faith (e.g. kirpan, hijab, crucifix). For information contact Frances Hume [fhume@scottishinterfaithcouncil.org](mailto:fhume@scottishinterfaithcouncil.org).

### **Scottish Parliament Family Day**

1 December 2012 at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh (10.00 – 5.00)

To mark St Andrew's Day the Scottish Parliament has a range of special free events for families and visitors. For information see

<http://scottish.parliament.uk/PublicInformationdocuments/FamilyDay091112.pdf>

### **\*\* The essentials of asylum: understanding what causes refugees to flee and the process of seeking protection**

4 December 2012 in Glasgow (1.00 – 4.30)

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 / <http://tinyurl.com/c8w7nha>

### **Racist Incident Reporting in Scotland's Schools**

5 December 2012 in Glasgow (2.30)

Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights report launch examining statistics and policies from Scotland's Local Authorities to explore how the racist incident reporting system operates and whether it meets its potential as a tool to combat racism in schools. For information contact Nadia Rafiq 0141 418 6530 / [nadia@crer.org.uk](mailto:nadia@crer.org.uk).

### **Bridges to Change**

5 December 2012 in East Renfrewshire (6.00 – 8.30)

Voluntary Action conference to identify local equality priorities. For information contact Linda McCullagh 0141 876 9555 / [Linda.McCullagh@va-er.org.uk](mailto:Linda.McCullagh@va-er.org.uk).

### **\*\* The housing journey from seeking asylum to settling in Scotland**

13 December 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 / <http://tinyurl.com/9lca9cq>



## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

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

25 January 2013 in Glasgow (9.15 – 4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council training to identify fundamental issues facing asylum seekers and refugees today, and highlighting current legislation and entitlements. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/cn3znfi> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / <http://tinyurl.com/burro73>

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

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

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

**Scottish Refugee Council** [www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**BBC Parliament online**

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/bbc\\_parliament/default.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/bbc_parliament/default.stm)

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



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



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

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