

## 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

### Westminster Debate

**Immigration (Romania and Bulgaria)**

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121204/halltext/121204h0001.htm#12120444000001>

### Westminster Parliamentary Questions

#### Immigration Controls

**Caroline Lucas:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether, prior to the May 2012 changes to rules for qualifying for indefinite leave to remain, as announced in the written statement on 15 March 2012, *Official Report*, column 41WS, her Department conducted a cost-benefit analysis of the UK economy on the presence of

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

overseas university staff who obtain visas to work in UK universities, including the effects of the 180 day absence limit over five years for tier 2 visa holders wishing to apply for indefinite leave to remain; if she will consult with UK universities on relaxing this restriction; and if she will make a statement. [130952]

**Reply from Mark Harper:** The changes announced on 15 March 2012 and set out in the Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules (HC 1888) aim to break the link between coming to the UK to work and settling permanently, and to reserve settlement for those who make the most contribution to the UK's economy. In particular, they introduce a minimum pay threshold of £35,000 per annum for tier 2 (skilled worker) migrants applying to settle after April 2016.

The Government published an impact assessment of the changes on 15 March, which is available on the Home Office website and in the Library of the House. The impact assessment found no impact on scientific researchers, researchers, or teachers in higher education as these are all PhD level occupations exempt from the £35,000 minimum salary requirement.

No changes were made in HC 1888 in respect of the five year period of continuous lawful residence required for settlement of skilled workers, or to the levels of absence permitted during the five year period. However, following representations from employers and others, including from the research sector, we announced on 22 November that from 13 December 2012, the level of permitted absences from the UK will be relaxed. Up to 180 days' absence in each qualifying year for settlement will be permitted, provided those absences are work-related, consistent with annual leave or for compelling compassionate reasons.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121204/text/121204w0001.htm#12120457000047>

### Immigration

**Stewart Jackson:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if she will seek a variation of the EU Free Movement Directive 2004 to restrict entry to the UK from Bulgaria and Romania after 2014. [129023]

**Reply from Mark Harper:** Transitional controls limiting Romanian and Bulgarian access to the UK labour market are imposed under the terms of the Accession Treaties rather than the Free Movement Directive. The Government has extended these transitional controls until December 2013 which is the maximum time possible under the Treaties. No further extension is possible.

**Kate Green:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what steps the Government is taking to monitor the effect of new family migration rules affecting sponsorship of non-EEA spouses, partners, or adult/elderly dependants which came into force on 9 July 2012, on family life in the UK. [129469]

**Reply from Mark Harper:** The new family migration rules are intended to reduce burdens on the taxpayer, promote integration and tackle abuse, as reflected in the impact assessment published on 13 June 2012. The Government will keep the impact of the new rules in achieving these objectives and more generally on family life in the UK under review in the light of the published immigration statistics and other sources of information available on the operation of the rules.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121206/text/121206w0001.htm#12120660000048>

### Immigration: Children

**Andy Slaughter:** To ask the Secretary of State for Justice what assessment he has made of the potential effect of planned changes to legal aid from April 2013 on local authorities' ability to meet their statutory obligations to look after children and care leavers with immigration claims. [131138]

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

**Reply from Jeremy Wright:** We do not anticipate that the changes to legal aid from 2013 will impact significantly on local authorities' ability to look after children and care leavers with immigration claims. Unaccompanied migrant children become part of the care system and as such are entitled to the full range of support and services as all looked after children. Post age 18, subject to their immigration status, many will be treated as care leavers and will continue to be entitled to a range of support from local authorities.

Legal aid will remain available for asylum cases, which will account for the vast majority of cases brought by unaccompanied children. Victims of trafficking, including children, will also be able to get funding for legal advice in relation to immigration or damages claims.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121205/text/121205w0003.htm#12120575000106>

### Asylum

**Bridget Phillipson:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many asylum seekers have participated in the detained fast track process in each year since its inception, by country of origin. [131053]

**Reply from Mark Harper:** The number of asylum seekers, excluding dependants, that have been accepted onto the fast track process by country of nationality are published in a number of Home Office statistical bulletins.

I will place a collated copy of all published tables from 2001 to 2011 in the Library of the House.

The Home Office publishes annual statistics on the number of asylum seekers that have been accepted onto the fast track process. Data for 2010 onwards are available in Table as.11, in asylum excel tables volume 4 of the quarterly Immigration Statistics.

The latest release Immigration Statistics April-June 2012 is available in the Library of the House and from the Home Office Science website at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/science-research/research-statistics/migration/migration-statistics1/>

Information for 2008 and 2009 is available from the Control of Immigration: Statistics United Kingdom 2009 and 2008 Supplementary Tables (Tables 2s and 2u in 2009, Tables 2r and 2t in 2008). Information prior to 2008 is available from the Asylum Statistics, United Kingdom, 2001 to 2007 Bulletins. These are also available from the Library of the House or:

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110218135832/http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/asylum.html>

**Bridget Phillipson:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what safeguards she has put in place to prevent victims of torture and other vulnerable applicants from being assigned to the detained fast track process. [131057]

**Reply from Mark Harper:** Published policy has specific "suitability exclusion criteria" to prevent entry into the detained fast track process of those accepted as being particularly vulnerable, including victims of torture. Suitability for the process is reviewed throughout an individual's detention, not just at the point of prospective entry. If at any stage it is clear that the suitability exclusion criteria are engaged, the detainee would be released from the detained fast track process. Criteria includes:

Women who are 24 or more weeks pregnant;

Family cases;

Children (whether applicants or dependants), whose claimed date of birth is accepted by the UK Border Agency;

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Those with a disability which cannot be adequately managed within a detained environment;

Those with a physical or mental medical condition which cannot be adequately treated within a detained environment, or which for practical reasons, including infectiousness or contagiousness, cannot be properly managed within a detained environment;

Those who clearly lack the mental capacity or coherence to sufficiently understand the asylum process and/or cogently present their claim. This consideration will usually be based on medical information, but where medical information is unavailable, officers must apply their judgement as to an individual's apparent capacity;

Those for whom there has been a reasonable grounds decision taken (and maintained) by a competent authority stating that the applicant is a potential victim of trafficking or where there has been a conclusive decision taken by a competent authority stating that the applicant is a victim of trafficking;

Those in respect of whom there is independent evidence of torture.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121205/text/121205w0002.htm#12120575000087>

### Asylum

**Bridget Phillipson:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many people (a) applied for asylum, (b) were granted asylum, (c) appealed against a refusal of refugee status and (d) were successful in such appeals, by gender, in each year since 2005. [131603]

**Reply from Mark Harper:** Figures on how many main applicants (a) applied for asylum, (b) were granted asylum, (c) appealed against an initial decision and (d) received an allowed appeal, by gender have been published in a number of Home Office statistical bulletins over the years.

The latest release Immigration Statistics July to September 2012 is available in the Library of the House and from the Home Office Science website at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/immigration-q3-2012/>

Information on the number of asylum applications and grants of asylum received for 2005 to 2007 is available from Asylum Statistics 2005, Table 5.1 and 5.2, Asylum Statistics 2006, Table 5.1 and Asylum Statistics 2007, Table 5:

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110218135832/http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/asylum.html>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121206/text/121206w0001.htm#12120660000045>

### Human Trafficking: Repatriation

**James Clappison:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what information her Department holds on how many victims of human trafficking have been returned to their home countries by Refugee Action, by country, since April 2011; and what funding is available from her Department to help with the reintegration of such victims into their home countries. [130397]

**Reply from Mark Harper:** Data on the number of persons identified as victims of human trafficking who have been returned to their home country by Refugee Action is not collated centrally. The information could only be provided by examination of individual records at disproportionate cost.

The Home Office publishes immigration statistics annually and quarterly, which are available from the Home Office Research and Statistics website. This includes

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

information on assisted voluntary returns by nationality. The latest statistics can be found in the Library of the House as well as on the following website:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/immigration-asylum-research/immigration-q2-2012/>

Refugee Action administers, on behalf of the UK Border Agency, an Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) scheme which if certain criteria is met can be provided to victims of human trafficking. AVR refers to programmes that are available to those who do not have a permanent right to remain in the UK and wish to return permanently to their country of origin (or, where permanently admissible, to a third country). There are three AVR programmes each offering slightly different levels of reintegration support.

1. The Assisted Voluntary Return of Illegal Migrants (AVRIM) programme, designed for individuals who have not made an application for asylum.
2. The Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration programme (VARRP), for those who have made an asylum application.
3. The Assisted Voluntary Return for Families and Children programme (AVRFC) for families and children regardless of whether they are asylum or non-asylum cases.

Full details on eligibility and the levels of support are available from the UKBA website at:

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

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121204/text/121204w0001.htm#12120457000046>

## New Publication

### **Settling In: OECD Indicators of Immigrant Integration 2012**

[http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/settling-in-oecd-indicators-of-immigrant-integration-2012\\_9789264171534-en](http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/settling-in-oecd-indicators-of-immigrant-integration-2012_9789264171534-en)

## News

### **Prison for pair who preyed on vulnerable immigrants**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/education/prison-for-pair-who-preyed-on-vulnerable-immigrants.19558202>

### **Border Agency customer service 'shockingly poor'**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-20601282>

### **Fears over detainees**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/fears-over-detainees.19593794>

### **Labour Must Stand Up Against Immigration Hate Speech, Says Hope Not Hate's Nick Lowles**

[http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2012/12/06/labour-immigration-hope-not-hate\\_n\\_2253365.html?utm\\_hp\\_ref=uk](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2012/12/06/labour-immigration-hope-not-hate_n_2253365.html?utm_hp_ref=uk)

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## Race Relations

### Press Release

**Conference on freedom of religion or belief**

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/news/latest-news/?view=News&id=841366682>

### News

**Mixed-race Brits rising fast as prejudice wanes**

[http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk\\_news/Society/article1173053.ece](http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/Society/article1173053.ece)

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## Equality

### Westminster Parliamentary Question

#### **Arts: Ethnic Groups**

**Stephen Timms:** To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport what recent assessment she has made of the representation of ethnic minority employees in the creative industries for which her Department leads in providing support; and if she will make a statement. [130763]

**Reply from Ed Vaizey:** Data from the 2011 Sector Skills Assessment for the Creative Industries (produced by Creative Skillset and Creative and Cultural Skills) suggests that BME representation in the creative industries is 7%, compared with 9% for the whole UK Economy.

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport is committed to improving equality of access and opportunity to those working within its sectors, and works to promote a diverse creative industries sector that supports growth. Support for the sector is primarily channelled through the joint Government and Industry forum, the Creative Industries Council, which addresses barriers and issues facing the sector. A report on skills produced by a council working group earlier this year highlighted the need to increase and enrich pathways into the sector, so that talent from all backgrounds can enter the creative industries and prosper. Government and Industry are now working together to take forward action against recommendations in this report which include greater apprenticeship and internship provision.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121130/text/121130w0001.htm#12113053000044>

### Press Release

**Minority forum marks 20 years of rights advocacy**

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/Minorityforummarks20years.aspx>

### New Publication

**Publishing Equality Information: Commitment, Engagement and Transparency**

[http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded\\_files/PSD/publishing\\_equality\\_information\\_final.pdf](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/PSD/publishing_equality_information_final.pdf)

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# Racism and Religious Hatred

## Westminster Parliamentary Questions

### Racism

**Lord Dykes:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made as to whether there is a link between severe austerity periods and an increase in racial abuse and attacks.[HL3749]

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach):** No assessment has been made of the relationship between the economy and racial abuse and attacks. Many factors influence crime rates and it is not possible to make simple links.

There is no evidence from official statistics to suggest that there has been an increase in racial abuse and attacks in recent years. For example, the latest figures for the number of racist incidents (any incident which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated by a hostility or prejudice based on a person's race or perceived race) reported to the police forces in England and Wales show a decrease of 8% between 2010-11 and 2011-12.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/121204w0001.htm#12120463000694>

### Anti-Semitism

**John Mann:** To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government what assessment he has made of the trends in the reporting of incidents of anti-Semitism in November 2012. [131912]

**Reply from Don Foster:** Individual police forces collate and analyse intelligence on the number of anti-Semitic attacks, in order to inform local operational decisions and to provide adequate protection at times of demand. In addition, the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) analyses this intelligence to inform forces of any emerging challenges.

ACPO's National Community Tension Team (NCTT) did see an increase in protest activity linked to events in Israel/Gaza in November 2012. Historical precedents point towards the potential for such an increase as NCTT saw with the Israel-Gaza conflict in 2008-09. Updates from police members of the NCTT anti-Semitic Hate Crime Working Group indicate that no significant tensions or changes in levels of hate incidents have been noted through standard Tension Monitoring processes. However, the Community Security Trust (CST) who monitor anti-Semitic incidents have highlighted a number of hate crime incidents that they believe have occurred due to current events in Israel/Gaza. CST has indicated that anti-Semitism had potentially doubled in the London area in one week compared to the previous week. Most reports were of verbal anti-Semitic abuse, graffiti and inflammatory postings on Facebook and Twitter. In light of this NCTT has reminded all police forces of the potential for an increase in anti-Semitic incidents and they have been asked to take proactive measures where appropriate and to report any critical changes to NCTT as a matter of urgency.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121206/text/121206w0003.htm#12120664000005>

### Football: Racial Discrimination

**John Mann:** To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport what recent discussions she has had with representatives of football on the use of racist chanting and abuse in that sport. [131913]

**Reply from Hugh Robertson:** As a result of the Downing street summit in February, the Government has asked the football authorities to publish a clear plan of action on what can be done to tackle racism in the game. We continue to

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

meet with the authorities to check progress with this.

I have also written in the strongest terms to UEFA following the scenes at the England U21 match in Serbia. It is now in their hands and we await their formal judgment.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121206/text/121206w0003.htm#12120660000109>

## Westminster Early Day Motion

**Alex Cunningham (829) Innocence of Muslims film** – That this House notes the anger of Muslim constituents in response to the online video, The Innocence of Muslims; is offended by the vile, Islamophobic slurs it makes about a faith followed by over two billion people worldwide; believes that the film constitutes incitement to hatred on the grounds of race and religion; further believes that the film itself is of appallingly poor quality; and urges the Government to make provision for its banning.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2012-13/829>

## New Publications

**Ethnic Minority Female Unemployment: Black, Pakistani and Bangladeshi Heritage Women**

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/publications/pdfs/APPGfemaleunemploymentReport-2012.pdf>

**Video: BME Female Unemployment**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCZOiv5QIkU&list=UU9TriyK6-HhGJCD7MqXtRVw&index=2>

## News

**Workplace discrimination prompts 'whitened' job applications**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-20608039>

**Black And Minority Ethnic Women 'Discriminated Against At Every Stage' Of Recruitment Process**

[http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2012/12/07/bme-women-runnymede-trust-jobs\\_n\\_2256589.html?utm\\_hp\\_ref=uk](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2012/12/07/bme-women-runnymede-trust-jobs_n_2256589.html?utm_hp_ref=uk)

**Ethnic minority women face jobs crisis**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/dec/07/ethnic-minority-women-jobs-crisis>

**Fighting discrimination at job interview**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/money/work-blog/2012/dec/07/fighting-discrimination-job-interview>

**Respect MP attacks new rule on veils saying the restriction discriminates against Muslim women**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2245307/Respect-MP-attacks-new-rule-veils-saying-restriction-discriminates-Muslim-women.html>



**Jewish students running gauntlet of hate: welcome to 21st century Britain**  
<http://phillipsblog.dailymail.co.uk/2012/12/jewish-students-running-gauntlet-of-hate-welcome-to-21st-century-britain.html>

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## Other Holyrood

### Press Releases

#### **Independence unity pledge**

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/12/independence-unity-pledge03122012>

#### **FM invites cross-party suggestions on press group**

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/12/Leveson04122012>

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## Other Westminster

### House of Lords Debate

#### **Ugandan Asians**

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/121206-0002.htm#12120659000796>

### House of Commons Debate

#### **Ugandan Asians**

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121206/debtext/121206-0002.htm#12120640000001>

### Parliamentary Question

#### **Circumcision**

**Andrew Stephenson:** To ask the Secretary of State for Health (1) if he will estimate the cost to the NHS of dealing with problems arising from circumcisions performed at home in each of the last three years; [131236]

(2) what steps he plans to take to encourage the performance of safe circumcisions. [131238]

**Anna Soubry:** No information is held centrally on the cost to the national health service of dealing with problems arising from circumcisions performed at home in each of the last three years.

The Department is clear that circumcision should ordinarily only be carried out for medical reasons. Where this, is the case, circumcision is undertaken by qualified medical clinicians to ensure minimal risk to patients.

In England, the national health service does not fund ritual circumcision. In some cases, where there have been instances of harm to children following non-therapeutic circumcision, local primary care trusts have decided to commission non-therapeutic circumcision services to ensure they comply with their duty to protect the health of their populations.

## Other Westminster Parliamentary Question (continued)

The Department agrees with General Medical Council, British Medical Association, and the British Association of Paediatric Surgeons that the welfare of infants who are circumcised must be paramount, whatever the reason for undertaking the procedure. Any medical procedure must be undertaken in hygienic conditions, with appropriate pain relief and aftercare.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121205/text/121205w0002.htm#12120575000081>

## Press Releases

**Communities Ministers wish the Jewish community a happy Chanukah**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/communities-ministers-wish-the-jewish-community-a-happy-chanukah>

**David Cameron's message for Chanukah**

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

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## New Publications

**Muslim Faith, Mental Health and Wellbeing resource**

[http://www.voxscotland.org.uk/webfm\\_send/162](http://www.voxscotland.org.uk/webfm_send/162)

flyer

[http://www.voxscotland.org.uk/webfm\\_send/163](http://www.voxscotland.org.uk/webfm_send/163)

Urdu flyer

[http://www.voxscotland.org.uk/webfm\\_send/164](http://www.voxscotland.org.uk/webfm_send/164)

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## Other News

**Act to help victims of forced marriage**

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/scotland/shaykh-amer-jamil-act-to-help-victims-of-forced-marriage-1-2671733>

**One in six charities fear closure as crisis hits, say charity chiefs**

<https://www.cafonline.org/media-office/press-releases/2012/0912-charities-fear-closure.aspx>

**Gypsies settled in Europe 1,500 years ago but they didn't arrive in the UK until five centuries ago**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2245032/Gypsies-settled-Europe-1-500-years-ago-didnt-arrive-UK-centuries-ago.html>

**One in five young prisoners are Muslim, report reveals**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2012/dec/07/young-prisoners-muslim>

## Other News (continued)

**Proportion of young Muslim men in youth jails rises by more than a quarter as one in five offenders say they follow faith**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2244355/Proportion-young-Muslim-men-youth-jails-rises-quarter-offenders-say-follow-faith.html>

**Surveying religious belief needs social science not hard science**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2012/dec/05/nones-on-the-run-religion>

**The mosque combating domestic abuse**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/theguardian/2012/dec/07/mosque-against-domestic-violence>

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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>

Finance Committee consideration of amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=7581&mode=pdf>

**\*\* Post-16 Education Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/56717.aspx>

Press release

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/57366.aspx>

Bill as introduced

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_Bills/Post-16%20Education%20Bill/b18s4-introd.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Post-16%20Education%20Bill/b18s4-introd.pdf)

Explanatory Notes

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_Bills/Post-16%20Education%20Bill/b18s4-introd-en.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Post-16%20Education%20Bill/b18s4-introd-en.pdf)

Policy Memorandum

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_Bills/Post-16%20Education%20Bill/b18s4-introd-pm.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Post-16%20Education%20Bill/b18s4-introd-pm.pdf)

Call for evidence (closing date 18 January)

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_EducationandCultureCommittee/General%20Documents/Call\\_for\\_evidence\(2\).pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_EducationandCultureCommittee/General%20Documents/Call_for_evidence(2).pdf)

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

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

Debate

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=7583&mode=html#iob\\_69266](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=7583&mode=html#iob_69266)

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

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

## **Bills in Progress** (continued) **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-](http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-13/humantraffickingandexploitationfurtherprovisionsandsupportforvictims.html)

[13/humantraffickingandexploitationfurtherprovisionsandsupportforvictims.html](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

### **Post-16 Education Bill** (closing date 18 January 2013)

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_EducationandCultureCommittee/General%20Documents/Call\\_for\\_evidence\(2\).pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_EducationandCultureCommittee/General%20Documents/Call_for_evidence(2).pdf)

### **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/all-saw-sbs.pdf>

### **Scottish Parliament: post-legislative scrutiny** (closing date 25 January 2013)

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_StandardsProceduresandPublicAppointmentsCommittee/Inquiries/Call\\_for\\_views.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_StandardsProceduresandPublicAppointmentsCommittee/Inquiries/Call_for_views.pdf)

### **Parliamentary inquiry into new family migration rules** (closing date 31 January 2013)

<http://www.appgmigration.org.uk/family-inquiry>

### **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/>

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

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

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

## Consultations (continued)

**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!**

### **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>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Have Faith in LGBT People**

13 December 2012 in Edinburgh (7.00 – 9.00)

Equality Network event bringing faith leaders and LGBT people together to share experiences of faith, gender identity, and sexual orientation. For information see [http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/12xii\\_lgbt.pdf](http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/12xii_lgbt.pdf) or contact Paula Manners [paula.manners@lgbtyouth.org.uk](mailto:paula.manners@lgbtyouth.org.uk).

### **\*\* International Migrants Day**

18 December 2012 in the Scottish Parliament (6.00 – 8.00)

Migrants' Rights Scotland event to bring together representatives of minority civil society groups, migrants and their families and MSPs to share deeper understanding of who counts as a migrant and the issues facing real people as a result of immigration policy. For information see <http://migrantsrightsscotland.org.uk/?p=3641>

### **Mainstreaming Equalities**

16 January 2013 in Glasgow

6 February 2013 in Glasgow

27 February 2013 in Glasgow

20 March 2013 in Glasgow

*deadline for applications: 7 January 2013*

Institute of Leadership and Management training to support voluntary sector organisations to develop capacity on mainstreaming equality. For information see [http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/13i-iii\\_equalities.pdf](http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/13i-iii_equalities.pdf) or contact John Robertson 0141 332 2444 / [john.robertson@gcvs.org.uk](mailto:john.robertson@gcvs.org.uk).

## 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>

### **Domestic Abuse and Minority Ethnic Women, Children & Young People**

28 January 2013 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 4.30) and 29 January 2013 (9.30 – 12.30)

25 February 2013 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 4.30) and 26 February 2013 (9.30 – 12.30)

Shakti training course to increase awareness and understanding of issues facing Minority Ethnic women, children & young people affected by domestic abuse. For information contact Mridul, Lisa, or Aleksandra 0131 475 2399 / [info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk](mailto:info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk).

### **Training to support survivors of sexual violence**

11 February 2013 in Dundee

Shakti and Rape Crisis Scotland training for staff and volunteers within minority ethnic organisations. For information contact Ola 0131 475 2399 / [info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk](mailto:info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk).

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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)

## Useful Links (continued)

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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