

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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Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

Linda Fabiani: To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S3W-33599 by Michael Russell on 27 May 2010, what information it has received from the UK Government regarding the ending of detention of children and dawn raids following its letters to the Home Secretary and the Minister of State for Immigration dated 18 May 2010 and 20 May 2010 respectively. (S4W-10972)

Reply from Aileen Campbell: Responses were received on 26 May 2010 and 9 June 2010 in response to the letters sent to Theresa May and Damian Green. One of these responses sets out that the UK Government ended the overnight detention of families with children at Dungavel House on 19 May 2010.

The current position, however, is that children from across the UK are detained at a secure facility in West Sussex pending deportation. The Scottish Government, remains opposed to detaining any children of asylum seekers anywhere in the UK, including those who may be transferred from Scotland, and urge the UK

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Government to end this practice immediately.

I would like to also take this opportunity to reassure you that my officials will be monitoring the position and will continue to reaffirm our opposition to the forcible removal of children and dawn raids.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10972&ResultsPerPage=10>

Linda Fabiani: To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S3W-33599 by Michael Russell on 27 May 2010, what information it has received from the UK Government regarding its comprehensive review of detention of children. (S4W-10973)

Reply from Aileen Campbell: The Scottish Government was notified of the publication of Review into ending the detention of children for immigration purposes on 16 December 2010. A copy of the report has been added to the Scottish Parliament's Reference Centre under (Bib. number 54476).

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10973&ResultsPerPage=10>

Linda Fabiani: To ask the Scottish Government whether personnel from the social work or education departments of any local authority have been involved in work with families with children who have been held at the Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre since 1 May 2010 and, if so, on how many occasions and on what dates. (S4W-10975)

Reply from Aileen Campbell: The Scottish Government does not hold this information centrally, however, we are seeking to establish the position and, if possible, will share this information with the member at the first opportunity.

The Scottish Government, remains opposed to detaining any children of asylum seekers anywhere in the UK, including those who may be transferred from Scotland, and urge the UK Government to end this practice immediately.

I would like to also take this opportunity to reassure you that my officials will be monitoring the position and will continue to reaffirm our opposition to the forcible removal of children and dawn raids.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10975&ResultsPerPage=10>

Linda Fabiani: To ask the Scottish Government whether Scottish police force personnel have been involved in the transfer of asylum-seeking families with children to or from the Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre since 1 May 2010 and, if so, on how many occasions and on what dates. (S4W-10976)

Reply from Aileen Campbell: The Scottish Government does not hold this management information centrally, however, the Scottish Government remains opposed to detaining any children of asylum seekers anywhere in the UK, including those who may be transferred from Scotland, and urge the UK Government to end this practice immediately.

I would like to also take this opportunity to reassure you that my officials will continue to reaffirm our opposition to the forcible removal of children and dawn raids.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10976&ResultsPerPage=10>

Linda Fabiani: To ask the Scottish Government whether personnel from the social work department of any local authority have been involved in the transfer of asylum-seeking families with children to or from the Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre since 1 May 2010 and, if so, on how many occasions and on what dates. (S4W-10977)

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Reply from Aileen Campbell: The Scottish Government does not hold this information centrally, however, we are seeking to establish the position and, if possible, will share this information with the member at the first opportunity. The Scottish Government, remains opposed to detaining any children of asylum seekers anywhere in the UK, including those who may be transferred from Scotland, and urge the UK Government to end this practice immediately. I would like to also take this opportunity to reassure you that my officials will be monitoring the position and will continue to reaffirm our opposition to the forcible removal of children and dawn raids.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10977&ResultsPerPage=10>

Linda Fabiani: To ask the Scottish Government whether personnel from any NHS board have been involved in work with families with children who have been held at the Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre since 1 May 2010 and, if so, on how many occasions and on what dates. (S4W-10978)

Reply from Aileen Campbell: The Scottish Government does not hold this information centrally, however, we are seeking to establish the position and, if possible, will share this information with the member at the first opportunity. The Scottish Government, remains opposed to detaining any children of asylum seekers anywhere in the UK, including those who may be transferred from Scotland, and urge the UK Government to end this practice immediately. I would like to also take this opportunity to reassure you that my officials will be monitoring the position and will continue to reaffirm our opposition to the forcible removal of children and dawn raids.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-10978&ResultsPerPage=10>

Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

S4M-05435 Christina McKelvie: Improving the Lives of Refugees in Scotland after the Referendum: An Appraisal of the Options—That the Parliament welcomes the report, Improving the Lives of Refugees in Scotland after the Referendum: An Appraisal of the Options, which was published by the Scottish Refugee Council at its recent annual general meeting; notes that the report sets out the Scottish Refugee Council's key principles for a fair and humane refugee protection system; believes that the Scottish Refugee Council, as a charity, does not feel that it has a role in the political debate on the merits or otherwise of the current constitutional settlement or independence for Scotland, but considers that the debate on Scotland's future does provide the Scottish Refugee Council with an opportunity to put forward its vision for a fair and just asylum system that offers a safe country of refuge and allows it to set the tone of debate on this issue, which, it believes, can help to show the world the civic-mindedness of Scots and the responsibility that Scotland takes as a nation.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-05435&ResultsPerPage=10>

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Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Immigration

Douglas Carswell: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department when she expects the Government to achieve its target of reducing net annual immigration to below 100,000 people. [138649]

Reply from Mark Harper: The Government's policy is to reduce net migration from the hundreds of thousands to the tens of thousands by the end of this Parliament. Net migration fell by a quarter from 242,000 for year ending March 2011 to 183,000 for year ending March 2012, which shows we are bringing immigration back under control.

Our tough new policies are taking effect and this marks a significant step towards bringing net migration down to sustainable levels and restoring public confidence in the system.

Douglas Carswell: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) how many Ethiopian immigrants her Department estimates will arrive in the UK in each of the next five years; [138650]

(2) how many Iraqi immigrants her Department estimates will arrive in the UK in each of the next five years; [138651]

(3) how many Nigerian immigrants her Department estimates will arrive in the UK in each of the next five years. [138652]

Reply from Mark Harper: The Home Office does not routinely produce forecasts or estimates of future levels of migration from individual countries. It would be difficult to produce reliable forecasts to estimate the likely levels of immigration from Ethiopia, Iraq and Nigeria, as migration levels are complicated by a broad variety of factors.

However, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) produces estimates of future population available as population projections. Although these projections are not broken down by nationality, they provide an indication of the future size and age structure of the population based on recent demographic trends. These projections are available from the ONS website at:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Population+Projections>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130124/text/130124w002.htm#13012463000144>

Entry Clearances

Guto Bebb: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what assessment she has made of the potential risks in returning documents to third party registered visa agencies which have since gone out of business. [137664]

Reply from Mark Harper: Applicants can request that their documents be sent to third party agencies at their own risk. The UK Border Agency does not have access to a record of which such agencies have gone out of business.

Guto Bebb: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many visa agencies are registered with the Office of Immigration Services Commissioner. [137665]

Reply from Mark Harper: The type of organisations that the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC) regulates varies widely from small community-based organisations and sole traders through to national charities and large specialist profit-making advisory services. The OISC regulates immigration advisers in order to ensure that those who provide immigration advice and services are competent to do so. Not for profit organisations are exempted from paying a registration fee.

As at 31 December 2012, the OISC regulated 1,956 organisations authorised to provide immigration advice and services. This total was made up of 1,089 for profit organisations, which charged their client for services and described as

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“registered”, and 867 not for profit organisations, which made no charge to the client and are described as “exempt”.

Guto Bebb: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) what steps she is taking to ensure that there is sufficient manpower to deal with visa extensions following the backlog after the Christmas period; [137666]

(2) what recent progress has been made by her Department in reducing delays to processing extensions to ancestry visas. [137667]

Reply from Mark Harper: The UK Border Agency has recruited several hundred additional temporary staff to reduce waiting times.

The Agency is also reviewing processes so as to deliver improved performance. By the end of the financial year, customers applying to remain in the UK, including those who wish to remain under the UK ancestry arrangements, should receive a decision on their application within the published service standards.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130121/text/130121w0001.htm#13012128000016>

Entry Clearances

Meg Hillier: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many family visitor visa applications there were in each of the last five years; how many were refused in each year; and of those refused how many were allowed on appeal in each year. [137879]

Reply from Mark Harper: The data on the number of applications and refusals are available from the UK Border Agency management information and are provided in the following table.

<i>Visit—family visit</i>		
	<i>Applications</i>	<i>Refusals</i>
2008	414,708	114,913
2009	426,785	112,419
2010	423,047	89,341
2011	444,373	85,151
2012(1)	315,458	66,534
(1) 2012 figures are for applications received up to September 2012.		

This data is based on internal UK Border Agency management Information. It is provisional and subject to change.

The data on allowed appeals as provided in the following table are available from published statistics.

<i>First-tier tribunal (immigration and asylum chamber): Family visit visa statistics</i>	
<i>Time period</i>	<i>Allowed</i>
2008	23,200
2009	26,300
2010	25,600
2011	16,800
January-September 2012	7,900

Figures in the tables have been rounded independently. The following convention has been used: Values of 1,000 and over are rounded to the nearest hundred.

Barry Sheerman: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if she will take steps to ensure that rugby league players are given fair consideration when applying for visas and work permits. [138688]

Reply from Mark Harper: The UK Border Agency has a category specifically for sports people under paragraph 245HB of the immigration rules. Sports people apply for leave to enter under tier-2 of the points based system. In order to obtain

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entry clearance as a tier 2 (sports person) the applicant would have to meet the requirements of paragraph 245HB of the immigration rules. There is no differentiation between rugby league players and other sports people. All applications are treated in accordance with the immigration rules and decisions are made based on the individual merits of the application not their sports background.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130124/text/130124w0002.htm#13012463000140>

Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

Paul Blomfield: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many students who were interviewed out-of-country in 2012 as part of the visa application process had their visa application refused; what the (a) country and (b) region of origin was of those students; at what level they had planned to study; and what subjects they had planned to study. [136786]

Reply from Mark Harper: To provide accurate data to answer this question would incur disproportionate costs.

Chris Bryant: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what estimate she has made of the number of overseas students based in the UK who were unable to return home in December 2012 as a result of delays by the UK Border Agency in returning travel documents to them. [136829]

Reply from Mark Harper: The UK Border Agency received a total of 79 requests during December 2012 for passports for return travel. All these requests were completed and passports returned by 24 December 2012.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130122/text/130122w0001.htm#13012263000028>

Asylum

Jim Sheridan: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if she will take steps to make the list of dangerous countries regarding refugee status the same as the list of dangerous countries for British nationals published by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. [137014]

Reply from Mark Harper: The UK Border Agency does not maintain a list of dangerous countries regarding refugee status. Each application for international protection is considered on its individual merits taking into account the relevant country situation.

The agency's Country of Origin Information Service continually monitors the situation in the countries of those nationals who seek protection in the UK, with information provided from a wide range of recognised and respected sources.

Bridget Phillipson: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what recent estimate she has made of the cost to her Department of initial asylum decisions being overturned in each year for which figures are available. [137253]

Reply from Mark Harper: The UK Border Agency publishes annual asylum performance against 15 key performance measures. The statistics cover the financial year 2011-12 (see link). These show that the quality of initial decisions remains high, the majority of appeals are won by the UK Border Agency, and that average cost of asylum cases is falling;

Initial decision quality rose from 88% in 2010-11 to 89% in 2011-12;

appeal win rate roughly stayed the same being 68% in 2010-11 and 67% in 2011/12; and

the average cost per asylum case (including all initial casework, appeals and any enforcement actions) fell from £15,415 in 2010-11 to £15,215 in 2011-12;

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<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/further-key-data/>

We are unable to provide more specific information regarding the costs associated to overturned initial decisions as such statistics are not held in a format that is compatible with National Statistics Protocols.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130121/text/130121w0001.htm#13012128000006>

Asylum

Bridget Phillipson: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many asylum seekers have (a) died, (b) given birth and (c) been found to be a victim of trafficking or torture while in the fast track detention process in each year since its inception. [131054]

Reply from Mark HarperThe information is as follows:

(a) Deaths within detention facilities are extremely rare and figures for deaths within the detained fast track process are not held in a format compatible with National Statistics protocols. Internal management information shows that since the inception of the fast track process two deaths of asylum seekers have occurred. One in 2004 and one in 2011.

(b) No asylum seekers have given birth while in Detained Fast Track. Pregnant females may only be detained within the fast track process up until the 24 week of pregnancy.

(c) We do not hold data regarding the number of applicants within the Detained Fast Track who have been found to be victims of trafficking or torture.

However, once it is considered that there are reasonable grounds to believe that applicants may potentially be a victim of trafficking, the case is removed from the DFT process. It follows that those “found to be victims of trafficking” will already have been released much earlier and will not be in the process when they are so found.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130122/text/130122w0001.htm#13012263000023>

Asylum

Sarah Teather: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what assessment she has made of the length of time asylum seekers are in receipt of support under section 95 of the Asylum Act 1999. [134478]

Reply from Mark Harper: Asylum seekers who are recognised as refugees usually receive section 95 support for short periods of time because they are able to access the full UK benefits system after they receive the positive decision. Failed asylum seekers continue to be supported if they have children. This means that they stay on support for longer periods if their departure from the United Kingdom has to be enforced.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130124/text/130124w0002.htm#13012463000134>

Asylum Seekers: Support

The Lord Bishop of Ripon and Leeds: To ask Her Majesty's Government what was the basis for their decision not to increase provision for asylum support under Sections 4 and 95 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 in 2012; and when they will decide on the level of such provision for 2013.

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach): My Lords, there is no statutory obligation to carry out an annual review of asylum support rates and it would be wrong to raise expectations

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in this area given the current constraints on funding. However, we are committed to an approach to asylum support that is fair, balanced and reasonable. Rightly, no one who has sought our protection need be destitute while waiting for an application to be decided, but, if it is refused and the decision is upheld by the courts, we expect these people to return home.

The Lord Bishop of Ripon and Leeds: My Lords, I am grateful for, but somewhat puzzled by, that Answer. If the purpose of the support is to prevent anyone falling into destitution, how can that support be reduced in real terms by 6.2% over two years without redefining destitution? Will the Minister commit himself to studying the evidence for destitution in the cross-party report on asylum support for children to be published next week and to take any action necessary to avoid destitution for all, especially children?

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: I hope that I can reassure the right reverend Prelate. There is an ongoing review of our approach to asylum support, which I expect to be concluded by the end of the financial year. That review will take into account the views of partners, including any recommendations set out in the report of the Children's Society inquiry into asylum support for children and young people, due to be published next week, I believe.

I put on record my thanks to the right reverend Prelate for his involvement in the production of the report. As noble Lords might assume, any changes to the arrangements will be reported to Parliament.

Lord Avebury: My Lords, I declare an interest as a member of the All-Party Group on Children. Is my noble friend aware that it is unreasonable and unfair not to uprate the benefits paid to asylum seekers in common with all other recipients of benefit? With respect to Section 4 support, how much is saved by having a different regime for those people compared to those on Section 95 support? Would it not be better if every asylum seeker was on the same level of benefit, to avoid driving those on Section 4 support into destitution, as has happened?

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: My noble friend makes a very good point. In the briefing that I had before answering this Question, I was surprised to discover that there were two levels of benefit. It is important to emphasise what I said in answer to the right reverend Prelate's supplementary question: a review is going on and we should await that to see what recommendations it makes. It must be important to take on board the point that my noble friend makes.

Baroness Smith of Basildon: My Lords, as we have heard, children are the most vulnerable and at their most vulnerable in asylum and immigration cases. In the coalition agreement, it was pledged to end all child detention for immigration, and the mid-term review states that that pledge has been kept. Up to October last year, 113 children have been detained, albeit some in the more family-friendly unit at the Cedars, but 41 were detained elsewhere. In October 2012, 16 children were being held in detention; there were eight in the Cedars and another eight in other centres, including Yarl's Wood and Tinsley House which has not even been approved by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons. Can the Minister confirm whether any children are today in detention, including in the Cedars?

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: No, I cannot confirm that to the noble Baroness; I do not have the up-to-date figures. As she indicated, there is a clear drive by the Government to eliminate situations where children are kept in those settings and to find alternative ways to accommodate families so that children are not separated, if that is possible.

I should point out that the level of support for families in this country is far greater for a family of four, for example, compared with Sweden or Denmark. Indeed, if there is any sector where there is a lesser payment than elsewhere, it tends to be for single adults.

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Lord Roberts of Llandudno: To come from a slightly different angle, so many of those from the European Union who come to the UK find themselves destitute here. What plans have the Government to publicise the availability of accessing national insurance payments that have been made in Poland, Estonia, or wherever, in the United Kingdom?

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: As my noble friend rightly points out, this is a slightly different question. Indeed, those benefits are payable by the Department for Work and Pensions rather than the Home Office, but I am sure that I can communicate my noble friend's suggestion to my colleague in that department.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/130124-0001.htm#13012450000869>

Detainees

Jim Sheridan: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what steps her Department is taking to improve conditions for those in detention centres. [136811]

Reply from Mark Harper: The continuing improvement of conditions in immigration removal centres is achieved through the service improvement and action plans drawn up in response to the recommendations in reports from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons and the Independent Monitoring Boards. These plans are regularly reviewed to ensure action is taken.

The UK Border Agency also operates a comprehensive complaints system for detainees who feel that they have not been treated in accordance with the Detention Centre Rules 2001 and the Operating Standards for Immigration Removal Centres. In all instances the complainant, and/or his representative receives a response to their complaint which details the inquiries made and includes findings and conclusions with recommendations to address any substantiated finding. Recommendations for the UK Border Agency following a complainant appeal to the prison and probation ombudsman are addressed as part of a local action plan.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130121/text/130121w001.htm#13012128000014>

Detention Centres: Radio

Julian Huppert: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether refugees and asylum seekers held in detention centres have access to (a) public radio stations and (b) Refugee Radio. [137424]

Reply from Mark Harper: All individuals who are held in immigration removal centres can access public radio stations, of which Refugee Radio is one, through personal radios or through the facilities provided at centres.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130121/text/130121w001.htm#13012128000015>

Immigrants: Detainees

Bridget Phillipson: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) how many detainees (a) were and (b) were not released from detention following submission of a report to UK Border Agency under Rule 35 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001 in each year for which figures are available; [137251]

(2) how many reports have legal and healthcare teams submitted to UK Border Agency under Rule 35 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001 in each year for which figures are available. [137252]

Reply from Mark Harper: Reports made under Rule 35 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001 may be made only by the medical practitioners at immigration removal centres.

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Management information for the administration of reports submitted under Rule 35 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001 is available for the period 1 January 2012 to 30 September 2012. This information does not form part of published statistics and is not subject to the detailed checks that apply for National Statistics publications. It is provisional and subject to change.

Records prior to this period were locally held manual records for administrative purposes and are not available.

2012	Total
Rule 35 Reports	983
Detention Maintained	909
Detainee Released	74

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130124/text/130124w0002.htm#13012463000143>

Deportation

Priti Patel: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department pursuant to the answer of 19 December 2012, *Official Report*, column 778W, on immigration controls, (1) how many foreign nationals subject to deportation orders have been awaiting deportation for (a) one month or less, (b) between one and three months, (c) between three and six months, (d) between six and nine months, (e) between one and two years, (f) between two and three years, (g) between three and four years, (h) between four and five years, (i) between five and six years, (j) between six and seven years, (k) between seven and eight years, (l) between eight and nine years, (m) between nine and 10 years and (n) more than 10 years; [136052]

(2) how many foreign nationals subject to deportation orders are prevented from being deported due to their (a) identity or (b) nationality being unknown. [136053]

Reply from Mark Harper: The following table shows the number of foreign nationals subject to deportation orders who are awaiting deportation for the periods requested as at 24 September 2012. The total figure quoted of 3,133 relates to foreign nationals who have passed their Early Removal Scheme date or Earliest Release date.

Time category	Total
1 month or less	96
1-3 months	174
3-6 months	225
6-9 months	187
9-12 months	155
1-2 years	540
2-3 years	398
3-4 years	399
4-5 years	350
5-6 years	249
6-7 years	176
7-8 years	97
8-9 years	45
9-10 years	17
10+ years	25
Total	3,133

Despite the best efforts of the UK Border Agency, deportation of foreign national offenders can be delayed in many ways. Deportation can be delayed through the use of judicial challenges or by the individual's failure to comply with the re-

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documentation process. This can lengthen the period of time an individual spends in immigration detention.

As at 24 September 2012 there are 64 foreign nationals subject to deportation orders who are prevented from being deported due to their identity or nationality being unknown.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130124/text/130124w0002.htm#13012463000139>

Deportation: Children

Jim Sheridan: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what steps her Department is taking to ensure that no unaccompanied minors are sent back to dangerous countries as a result of an inaccurate assessment. [136810]

Reply from Mark Harper: The UK Border Agency does not enforce the return of unaccompanied children whose claims for international protection have been refused, unless adequate care and reception arrangements are in place in their countries of origin. The agency's Country of Origin Information Service provides information on the situation in the countries of those unaccompanied children who seek protection in the UK, using a wide range of recognised and respected sources. Decision makers have access to this information and each application for international protection is considered on its individual merits, taking into account the relevant country situation.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130121/text/130121w0001.htm#13012128000013>

Human Trafficking

Michael Connarty: To ask the Secretary of State for Education if he will review the system of placing child victims of trafficking in local authority care. [138422]

Reply from Edward Timpson: Lone migrant children, including those that may have been trafficked, come into care, and then receive the full range of support and care that all looked after children are entitled to. Local authorities must allocate each child a social worker to assess his or her needs and draw up a care plan which sets out how the authority intends to respond to the full range of the child's needs. This includes ensuring they have the necessary legal and other support they need, including access to health, education and appropriate and safe accommodation, whether through a foster care arrangement, children's home, or supported accommodation. They also have an Independent Reviewing Officer to oversee their care arrangements, as well as access to an advocate and an independent visitor.

Some local authorities are very effective in supporting these vulnerable young people, and others less so. We want all local authorities to come up to the standard of the best. The Government, with support from the Office of the Children's Commissioner, has commissioned a piece of work to examine the practical care arrangements for looked after children who have or may have been trafficked. This will identify good practice as well as issues to be considered.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130122/text/130122w0003.htm#13012271000014>

Human Trafficking

Michael Connarty: To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what steps he is taking to help victims of trafficking return to their countries of origin while providing them with reintegration support; and what funding his Department makes available to support this process. [138421]

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Reply from Hugo Swire: The British Government are committed to helping victims of trafficking who wish to return to their countries of origin. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) held a ministerial event in October 2012 to encourage foreign embassies, high commissions and consulates in London to expedite the process for securing travel documentation for their nationals who are victims of trafficking and wish to return home.

The FCO supports numerous projects overseas to provide reintegration of returning migrants, including the victims of trafficking, through several channels. The FCO; along with the UK Border Agency, Department for International Development and the Ministry of Justice, manage the returns and reintegration fund. This fund has been used, for example, for a project in Vietnam to help provide accommodation for female victims of trafficking.

In addition to this, some of our posts overseas use their bilateral programme budgets to help support local projects, such as a counter trafficking project in India, to support the reintegration of Indian victims of trafficking. The FCO has also pledged to support a joint EU-funded Victims of Trafficking programme coordinated by the International Organisation for Migration.

Michael Connarty: To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs which organisations in which countries receive funding from his Department to support the integration and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking in their country of origin. [138423]

Reply from Hugo Swire: The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) has provided funding to the following organisations to facilitate the integration and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking:

<i>Country</i>	<i>Organisation</i>
India	Anyay Rahit Zindagi (ARZ)—(Commercial Sexual Exploitation counter trafficking project)
Vietnam	Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (DOLISA)—(Lao Cai Reintegration Shelter)

The FCO has also provided funding to the following organisations to help reintegrate returning migrants, which may include victims of trafficking, but these programmes have a broader remit:

<i>Country</i>	<i>Organisation</i>
Afghanistan	International Organisation for Migration (IOM)
Iraq	European Technology and Training Centre (ETTC); World Economic Outlook (WEO)
Pakistan	Women Empowerment Literacy and Development Organisation (WELDO)

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130123/text/130123w0001.htm#13012373000069>

Human Trafficking: Children

Lisa Nandy: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what her Department's plans are to fulfil its obligations to appoint guardians to child victims of trafficking under Article 14(2) and Article 16(3) of the EU Directive on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims. [138827]

Reply from Mark Harper: The Government believes the UK is already compliant with this measure in the directive. Local authorities have a statutory duty to ensure that they safeguard and promote the welfare of all children under section 11 of the Children Act 2004, regardless of their immigration status or nationality. In addition to a social worker and independent reviewing officer, a looked after child also has access to an independent advocate. Under these arrangements, looked after children are provided with access to all their needs be they in relation to

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

education, accommodation, psychological or health needs.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130124/text/130124w0002.htm#13012463000142>

Westminster Early Day Motion

George Galloway (974) Immigration Service – That this House notes that a backlog of 16,000 immigration cases has been discovered by inspectors, some of them dating back 10 years, many involving applications for spouse visas; condemns the Minister for Immigration's claim that this is merely a customer service issue and the Minister's attempt to blame the applicants for this hugely embarrassing backlog; further notes that 54 per cent of cases involving spouse visa applications which are appealed have the appeal upheld and the decision to refuse overturned; believes that British citizens with a right to have their spouses come to this country, and others also with a right to come to this country, have had their rights abused by this excessive delay in the handling of their cases; urges a change of view on the part of the Government so that applicants for spouse and other visas are not presumed to be attempting to come to this country on an illegitimate or fraudulent basis; and further urges the Government to provide the UK Border Agency with the resources and management skills to ensure that applicants for visas get the service they have a right to expect.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2012-13/974>

Press Releases

More training to identify and support victims of human trafficking

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/training-human-trafficking>

Giving up (renouncing) British nationality refunds

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2013/january/34-renouncing>

New Publications

British culture and history at heart of new Life in the UK test

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/life-in-the-uk>

New Director General of Border Force announced

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/charles-montgomery-border-force>

Independent Chief Inspector's report on an inspection of applications to enter, remain and settle in the UK on the basis of marriage and civil partnerships April – October 2012

<http://icinspector.independent.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/marriage-and-civil-partnerships-FINAL-PDF.pdf>

UK Border Agency response to the Independent Chief Inspector's report on an inspection of applications to enter, remain and settle in the UK on the basis of marriage and civil partnerships April – October 2012

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/workingwithus/chief-insp/marriage-civil.pdf>

Immigration and Asylum (continued) **News**

Migrants paying gangs to smuggle them out of Britain

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-21014676>

Thousands trafficked to the UK and forced to work for a pittance

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/uk/thousands-trafficked-to-the-uk-and-forced-to-work-for-a-pittance-1-2748531>

2014 Commonwealth Games criteria anger refugee body

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/politics/2014-commonwealth-games-criteria-anger-refugee-body-1-2755171>

Watchdog finds two more UKBA immigration backlogs

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-21170495>

Immigration Backlog Slammed As UK Border Agency Investigation Shows More Than 16,000 Pending Cases

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2013/01/24/immigration-backlog-uk-border-agency-16000-cases_n_2539779.html?utm_hp_ref=uk

New backlog of 16,000 immigrants just a 'customer service' issue, says minister

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/9823039/New-backlog-of-16000-immigrants-just-a-customer-service-issue-says-minister.html>

Immigration backlog of 16,000 migrants uncovered by inspectors

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/9821560/New-backlog-of-16000-migrants-uncovered-by-inspectors.html>

UK Border Agency has backlog dating back 10 years, inspector finds

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2013/jan/23/inspector-uk-border-agency-backlog>

Thousands of immigrants caught up in Border Agency forgotten box farce blunder

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/thousands-of-immigrants-caught-up-in-border-agency-forgotten-box-farce-blunder-8463904.html>

Theresa May blocks moves to ease immigration rules

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/9827660/Theresa-May-blocks-moves-to-ease-immigration-rules.html>

Deportation flights leave UK two thirds empty

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/National/article1202814.ece

Want to become a British citizen? Better swot up on Monty Python

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2013/jan/27/british-citizenship-test>

Tory right presses Cameron to close UK to Bulgarians and Romanians

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2013/jan/27/tory-right-cameron-bulgaria-romania>

Thousands of Bulgarians and Romanians 'plan to flood UK in 2014' as employment restrictions relax

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2268952/Thousands-Bulgarians-Romanians-plan-flood-UK-2014-employment-restrictions-relax.html>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

New questions facing migrants to UK are revealed

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/new-questions-facing-migrants-to-uk-are-revealed.1359288786>

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Race Relations

News

'I had never had any contact with a Jewish person'

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/faith/article3668769.ece>

Neighbours rally round to help victims of violence, Holocaust survey shows

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/faith/article3668429.ece>

Rise of 'white flight': British families are 'self-segregating' as more Caucasians abandon urban areas for the countryside

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2269058/British-families-self-segregate-whites-abandon-urban-areas-countryside.html>

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Equality

News

New generation of senior police on course to be 'stubbornly white'

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article3663329.ece>

Equality commission loses its office, but is it losing its purpose?

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2013/jan/25/equality-commission-office>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Holyrood Parliamentary Question

Learning and Justice

John Lamont: To ask the Scottish Government how many of the racist incidents recorded by the police from 2004 to 2012 were against police officers. (S4W-11891)

Reply from Kenny MacAskill: Information held centrally on the number of racist incidents recorded by the police cannot identify the occupation of a victim of a racist incident and therefore racist incidents against police officers cannot be identified separately.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-11891&ResultsPerPage=10>

Racism and Religious Hatred (continued) Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

S4M-05416 Stewart Maxwell: Holocaust Memorial Day 2013—That the Parliament notes that 27 January 2013 marks Holocaust Memorial Day, the 68th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and an opportunity for schools, colleges, faith groups and communities across Scotland to remember the six million men, women and children murdered by the Nazi regime in occupied Europe; further notes that the theme of Holocaust Memorial Day 2013 is Communities Together: Build A Bridge; values the Holocaust Educational Trust's Lessons from Auschwitz Project, which gives two post-16 students from every school and college in Scotland the opportunity to visit Auschwitz-Birkenau; applauds Beth Nicoll and Stevie Low, two students from St Machar Academy in Aberdeen, who took part in the project and who will deliver the Parliament's Time for Reflection message on 29 January 2013; celebrates the Holocaust survivors who have enriched Scotland as a nation, and re-commits to ensuring that racism, sectarianism and bigotry are never allowed to go unchallenged in Scotland.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-05416&ResultsPerPage=10>

Westminster Debate

Holocaust Memorial Day

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130124/debtext/130124-0003.htm#1301243800002>

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Higher Education: Anti-Semitism

David Amess: To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills what information sources officials in his Department with policy responsibility for dealing with anti-Semitism in universities have access to, to ensure they are well informed about issues facing the Jewish community in higher education; what recent representations he has received on that matter from the Jewish community; and if he will make a statement. [R] [133082]

Reply from David Willetts: Policy officials have access to a range of information sources from both across Government and external partners, including published reports. I refer my hon. Friend to the answer that I gave on 10 December 2012, *Official Report*, columns 30-1W.

David Amess: To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills what recent meetings he has had with the Board of Deputies of British Jews on anti-Semitism on university campuses; what was discussed and what responses he gave; and if he will make a statement. [R] [133083]

Reply from David Willetts: I have not met the Board of Deputies for British Jews. I refer my hon. Friend to the answer that I gave on 10 December 2012, *Official Report*, columns 30-1W.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130121/text/130121w0005.htm#13012142000046>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121210/text/121210w0002.htm#1212114000007>

Racism and Religious Hatred

Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Anti-Semitism

John Mann What recent assessment [the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland] has made of the level of anti-Semitism in Northern Ireland. [137935]

Reply from the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (Mrs Theresa Villiers):

The Community Security Trust, which monitors anti-Semitic activities, estimates that there were fewer than 10 incidents in Northern Ireland last year. As we approach Holocaust memorial day, I know the whole House will join me in condemning anti-Semitism and all forms of hatred on the grounds of a person's ethnicity, religion, disability or sexual orientation.

John Mann: I thank every Northern Ireland politician and every Northern Ireland party present in the House today for their active engagement in the parliamentary committee against anti-Semitism. Will the Secretary of State ensure that the interests and concerns of the very tiny Jewish community in Northern Ireland remain an important priority, despite their smallness in number?

Reply from Theresa Villiers: I can give the hon. Gentleman that assurance. He is right that the Jewish community in Northern Ireland is small—around 200, I believe—but that does not make it any less important to combat anti-Semitism. This is a disgraceful crime. The UK Government take it very seriously, and I would like to pay tribute to the hon. Gentleman for his work on combating anti-Semitism throughout the UK.

Ian Paisley (North Antrim) (DUP): I, too, commend the work of the hon. Member for Bassetlaw (John Mann) in this regard, and I thank the Secretary of State for what she has said today. Does she agree that the attack on anyone's symbol or identity causes serious problems everywhere—as we have seen in Belfast and on other issues—and will she assure me that the Police Service of Northern Ireland will be given adequate resources, if required, to deal with anything that amounts to anti-Semitism arising in Ulster?

Reply from Theresa Villiers: It is important that the police take anti-Semitism and other forms of hate crime very seriously, both in Northern Ireland and in the rest of the United Kingdom—I know they do, as does Justice Minister David Ford. It is also important to reflect on the fact that a number of identities are present in modern Northern Ireland, including the Jewish identity. People should be able to practise their identities in a way that is free from oppression by other people.

Mark Durkan (Foyle) (SDLP): The Secretary of State is right to stress that there is no tolerable level of prejudice against any minority, no matter how small. Someone who espoused the ethic that no minority was too small to be protected or cherished was Inez McCormack, whose funeral takes place today. Will the right hon. Lady join in paying tribute to the work Inez McCormack did, not just as a trade unionist, but in stressing that the benchmarks for a new fair society in Northern Ireland must include equality, cherishing of difference and the protection of all minorities?

Reply from Theresa Villiers: I am happy and enthusiastic to join the hon. Gentleman in paying that tribute. For many years, I have campaigned against anti-Semitism, and I believe that it is a hallmark of a civilised society that it protects minorities. That is one of the vital reasons why we should all continue to be vigilant on the matter of anti-Semitism and other forms of hate crime.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130123/debtext/130123-0001.htm#13012356000020>

ECHR (British Airways)

Andrew Stephenson: What assessment the Church Commissioners have made of the decision of the European Court of Human Rights that British Airways acted unreasonably in banning an employee from wearing a cross at work. [139097]

Racism and Religious Hatred

Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Reply from the Second Church Estates Commissioner (Sir Tony Baldry): The Church of England welcomed the recent judgments from the European Court of Human Rights. The victory of Ms Eweida is a straightforward victory for common sense. In a free country, the wearing of symbols of one's religious faith should be entirely uncontroversial. I do not believe that Christians, just because they are Christians, should have any greater rights than anyone else in the community, but certainly Christians, because they are Christians, should not have fewer rights.

Andrew Stephenson: I thank my hon. Friend for that answer. While Nadia Eweida won her case against British Airways, which I wholeheartedly welcome, a nurse lost her case regarding the wearing of a cross at work, something she had done for 30 years. The Right Reverend the Bishop of Exeter has described the laws as balanced against the rights of conscience and faith. Does my hon. Friend agree with those of us who believe that we still need to do more to protect religious freedoms and tolerance in the British workplace?

Reply from Sir Tony Baldry: Personally, I think the ECHR got the balance on religious symbols about right. While fully upholding the right of Christians and others to wear discreet religious symbols at work, this, like many other rights, cannot be an absolute. In the case of Ms Chaplin, we fully accept that the need for hospitals to preserve the highest standards of hygiene, and safety has to come first.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130124/debtext/130124-0001.htm#13012438000046>

Human Rights: Religion

John Spellar: To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport what the total legal costs to the Government have been of opposing the appeals at the European Court of Human Rights in the cases of Eweida and others to date. [138325]

Reply from Helen Grant: These cases were brought against the UK Government and it was only right that the Government defended them. It would have been wrong to settle the cases out of court, at great expense to the taxpayer, when we had a strong prospect of success.

The costs of work carried out by the Government's own legal services cannot be broken down in respect of individual legal cases in the way requested. However, the cost of instructing external legal advisers to defend litigation against the United Kingdom in respect of the four Christian applications to the European Court of Human Rights is approximately £37,000.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130124/text/130124w0001.htm#13012463000048>

Westminster Early Day Motion

Keith Vaz (945) Recording of Islamophobia as a crime – That this House notes the recognition of anti-Muslim sentiment and hate crime in the Department for Communities and Local Government's document Creating the Conditions for Integration; further notes that the document acknowledges the limited collection of data on anti-Muslim hate crime; recognises that currently only the Metropolitan Police Service specifically records this hate crime under the definition Islamophobia as a specific crime flag, similar to anti-Semitism, racism and others, whereas the recording of this crime outside of London is under different recording flags in different constabularies; and believes that all police constabularies should record this hate crime under the same flag, which will bring national uniformity in the recording of this crime and enable authorities to gather data that will aid in tackling this issue.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2012-13/945>

Racism and Religious Hatred (continued) **Press Releases**

FCO Minister attends Holocaust Memorial Day commemoration

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fco-minister-attends-holocaust-memorial-day-commemoration>

International Holocaust remembrance, a timely reminder of the need to step up efforts to fight racism and antisemitism in the EU

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2013/international-holocaust-remembrance-timely-reminder-need-step-efforts-fight-racism-and>

Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on International Holocaust Remembrance Day

http://www.consilium.europa.eu//uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/135036.pdf

Courage to fight for a better world honoured at UN Holocaust commemoration

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=44005&Cr=holocaust&Cr1=#.UQV-96VXsTw>

Statement by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, to mark the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=12951&LangID=E>

On International Holocaust Remembrance Day, OSCE Chair urges renewed efforts to fight intolerance, stressing importance of youth human rights education

<http://www.osce.org/cio/98937>

New Publication

Introduction to the Holocaust: Footballers remember

<http://het.org.uk/index.php/education-general/footballers-remember>

News

Fury as right-wingers lay wreath for murder victim

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/fury-as-right-wingers-lay-wreath-for-murder-victim.19974515>

Paige Bain, 16, jailed over racist attack in Glasgow

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-21122254>

'Profound mistrust' fuelling anti-Muslim hatred, says Baroness Warsi

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/faith/article3666500.ece>

Baroness Warsi Slams Media For Fuelling Anti-Muslim Hatred

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2013/01/23/baroness-warsi-islam-media_n_2537142.html

Baroness Warsi Was Right - Anti-Muslim Prejudice Seems to Be Increasingly Acceptable

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/fiyaz-mughal/baroness-warsi-was-right-anti-muslim-prejudice_b_2541363.html?utm_hp_ref=uk-politics

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

Baroness Warsi: Fewer than one in four people believe Islam is compatible with British way of life

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/baroness-warsi-fewer-than-one-in-four-people-believe-islam-is-compatible-with-british-way-of-life-8464026.html>

French Union Of Jewish Students Wins Twitter Anti-Semitism Suit

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/01/24/french-union-jewish-students-twitter-anti-semitism-suit_n_2542201.html?utm_hp_ref=religion

Why you should visit Auschwitz

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/history/world-war-two/9827678/Why-you-should-visit-Auschwitz.html>

Sixty-eight years after Auschwitz: Why we still remember

<http://blogs.independent.co.uk/2013/01/27/sixty-eight-years-after-auschwitz-why-we-still-remember/>

Candles mark Holocaust day

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/National/article1202947.ece

'No more than 50,000 people died here'

<http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/Magazine/Features/article1199062.ece>

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New Publication

Faithful Providers

http://www.demos.co.uk/files/Faithful_Providers_-_web.pdf?1358533399

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Other News

Get religious groups on board with Work Programme, think tank urges

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/get-religious-groups-on-board-with-work-programme-think-tank-urges-8461687.html>

How can faith bodies provide welfare when their own cupboards are bare?

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/andrewbrown/2013/jan/24/faith-bodies-welfare-poverty-funds>

How Islamic finance and a more ethical capitalism go hand-in-hand

<http://socialenterprise.guardian.co.uk/social-enterprise-network/2013/jan/24/islamic-finance-ethical-capitalism-social-enterprise>

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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>

Bill passed

**** Post-16 Education Bill**

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

Education Committee Stage 1 evidence session

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=7696&mode=pdf>

Scottish Parliament Information Centre Briefing

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S4/SB_13-05.pdf

Scotland Act 1998 (Modification of Schedule 5) Order 2013

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

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/cm201213/cmpublic/crimeandcourts/130122/am/130122s01.htm>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmpublic/crimeandcourts/130122/pm/130122s01.htm>

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2012-2013/0115/amend/pbc1152201m.29-35.html>

**** Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Bill**

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

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2012-2013/0045/amend/su045-viiia.htm>

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!**

Fee remissions in the First-tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber)
(closing date 29 January 2013)

<https://consult.justice.gov.uk/digital-communications/fee-remissions-immigration-asylum>

**** closes this week!**

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/!](http://www.oscr.org.uk/news-and-events/latest-news/tell-us-what-you-think/)

Marriage and Civil Partnership Bill (closing date 20 March 2013)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0041/00410328.pdf>

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

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

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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!**

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.

**** this week!**

Kick Off Together with United Glasgow FC

February 2013 onwards in Glasgow

United Glasgow Football Club programme of community inclusion and education
□ activities for young men and women from disadvantaged backgrounds aged 18-24. The project will take place over 20 weeks and □ will consist of sports sessions at Hampden Park, a college qualification from □ North Glasgow College, a sports □ first aid course, a coaching education qualification through the Scottish FA Equity Project, □ a first aid course, physiotherapy sessions for existing sports injuries and □ three fitness tests. For information contact Alan White alan@unitedglasgowfc.eu / 07808216421.

**** Show Racism the Red Card**

5 February 2013 at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh (6.00 – 8.00)

Show Racism the Red Card showcase event. Free, but advance booking is essential. For information contact 0141 222 2058 / info@theredcardscotland.org

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Mainstreaming Equalities

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 or contact John Robertson 0141 332 2444 / john.robertson@gcvs.org.uk.

Equality and Involvement with the Public Sector

7 February 2013 in Glasgow (12.00 – 5.00)

Coalition on Racial Equality and Rights seminar to bring together Voluntary and Community Sector organisations which have experience of engaging with the Public Sector to identify some key rights, responsibilities and opportunities for change. For information contact nadia@crer.org.uk / 0141 418 6530.

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

The housing journey from seeking asylum to settling in Scotland

14 February 2013 in Glasgow (1.15 – 4.45)

Scottish Refugee Council course for those who work with people seeking asylum and refugees to provide an introduction to core issues affecting those seeking sanctuary in Scotland. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/9lca9cg> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk.

Beyond 2011

19 February 2013 in Edinburgh

21 February 2013 in Edinburgh

National Records of Scotland events to look at alternative options to the traditional census. For information see <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/beyond-2011/background/index.html> or contact Gemma Jackson 0131 314 4299 / Beyond2011@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

**** SNAP! What Does it Mean for Race Equality?**

21 February 2013 in Glasgow (1.00 – 4.00)

Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights seminar to explore the new Scottish National Action Plan for Human Rights (SNAP), its implications for race equality and the importance of involvement in the development of SNAP for Scotland's minority ethnic communities. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/a9h5srb> or contact Nadia 0141 418 6530 / nadia@crer.org.uk.

Working with interpreters

26 February 2013 in Glasgow (1.15 – 4.45)

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.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Positive on Employment Conference

26 February 2013 in Glasgow

Conference organised in partnership between BEMIS, the STUC, the Scottish Refugee Council, 'see me', Interfaith Scotland, and GRAMNet to discuss positive action on employment in relation to diversity, migrants and employment, religion and faith in relation to employment, mental health and wellbeing, and inclusive recruitment. For information see <http://bemis.org.uk/conference/poe/poe-conference-flyer.pdf> or contact 0141 548 8047 / conference@bemis.org.uk

The Gathering

27-28 February 2013 in Glasgow

Scottish Council of Voluntary Organisations networking event and exhibition. For information see <http://www.gatherscotland.org.uk/intro-text/what-is-the-gathering/>

The essentials of asylum

1 March 2013 in Glasgow (1.15 – 4.45)

Scottish Refugee Council course for those who work with people seeking asylum and refugees to provide an introduction to core issues affecting those seeking sanctuary in Scotland. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/bf86cuy> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk.

An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees

14 March 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/burro73> or contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk.

Progressing Together?

28 March 2013 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 4.45)

CEMVO conference to explore the role of Community Empowerment in Mainstreaming of Race and Equalities across the Public Sector. For information contact Fiaz Khan 0141 248 4830 / fiaz.khan@cemvoscotland.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/d2eyumh>.

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Useful Links

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

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

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

Directgov (links to UK Government Departments)

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

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

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

Useful Links (continued)

Scottish Refugee Council www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

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

Equality and Human Rights Commission <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/>

Equality Advisory Support Service <http://www.equalityadvisoryservice.com>

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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