

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

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

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

The Scottish and UK Parliaments have been in recess, and will return today.

Immigration and Asylum

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Entry Clearances

Chris Bryant: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) how many people who have applied for a Tier 2 visa in the UK have been waiting more than four weeks for a decision on their application; [140183]

(2) what the average waiting time for Tier 2 visa applications made inside the UK was in (a) 2010, (b) 2011 and (c) 2012; and how many such applicants waited more than four weeks for a decision on their application. [140184]

Reply from Mark Harper: As of 24 January 2013 a total of 2,779 Tier 2 applications had been waiting more than four weeks for a decision.

Tables 1 and 2 provide figures for processing times within Tier 2. We have recently committed additional resource to this area to ensure that the service standard of processing 90% of applications within four weeks is met.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Table 1: Average processing time (days) based on despatch date, 1 January 2010 to September 2012

	Despatch years:		
	2010	2011	2012(1)
Tier 2	31	32	44
(1) January to September			

Table 2: Tier 2 application processing times (weeks), 1 January 2010 to 30 September 2012

	Despatch years:					
	2010		2011		2012(1)	
Processing time (weeks)	0-4	4+	0-4	4+	0-4	4+
Tier 2	11,765	15,021	8,590	13,011	7,278	15,992

(1) January to September Notes: 1. All figures quoted have been derived from management information and are therefore provisional and subject to change. This information has not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols. 2. Figures relate to main applicants only. 3. Figures relate to postal and premium (i.e. submitted at public enquiry offices) applications. 4. Processing time is based on the average number of calendar days between the application raised (i.e. received) and decision despatch date.

Chris Bryant: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what the average waiting time for a Tier 5 visa application was in (a) 2010, (b) 2011 and (c) 2012. [148979]

Reply from Mark Harper: The information you have requested is shown in the following tables:

Table 1: Tier 5 overseas visa application processing times (working days), January 2010 to December 2012

Despatch year	Average processing time (working days)
2010	6
2011	6
2012	7

Notes: 1. All figures quoted have been derived from management information and are therefore provisional and subject to change. This information has not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols. 2. Figures relate to individuals, main applicants and dependants. 3. Data relate to Tier 5 visa applications processed between 1 January 2010 and 31 December 2012. 4. Processing time is based on the average number of working days from biometric enrolment to decision date. Figures relate to completed applications only. 5. Data generated on 15 March 2013.

Table 2: Tier 5 in-country application average processing times, January 2010 to December 2012

Despatch year	Average processing time (calendar days)	
	Postal applications	Premium applications
2010	24	1
2011	46	4
2012	56	8

Notes: 1. All figures quoted have been derived from management information and are therefore provisional and subject to change. This information has not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols. 2. Figures relate to main applicants only. 3. Figures relate to postal applications and to premium applications submitted at UKBA Public Enquiry Offices (PEOs). 4. All figures relate to Tier 5 applications decided and despatched between 1 January 2010 and 31 December 2012. 5. Processing time is based on the average number of calendar days from application raised (i.e. received) date to decision despatch date. Figures relate to completed applications only. 6. Premium applications submitted at Public Enquiry Offices (PEOs) are prioritised and

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

considered on the same day where possible. However, there will always be a number of applications which do not contain all information required to allow the Agency to decide the case on the same day. In these cases, additional clarification is sought and as a consequence applications may take longer to decide. 7. Data generated on 15 March 2013.

The UK Border Agency had experienced higher than forecast volumes of applications across a range of in-country immigration categories and measures have been put in place, including recruiting new staff where necessary, in order to reduce delays.

The Department aims to return to operating within the published service standards by early in the new financial year.

The published service standard for consideration of in-country applications for leave to remain, under the Tier 5 route is already being met.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130410/text/130410w0001.htm#13041015000006>

Immigration

Keith Vaz: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many leave to remain applications were not processed within target in quarter 4 of 2012. [150144]

Reply from Mark Harper: The UK Border Agency publishes figures on its performance against migration service standards on a quarterly basis as part of its commitment to transparency. These data are disaggregated by quarter and work stream and cover the period from April 2010 to December 2012. The latest figures are available on the UK Border Agency website at:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/percentage-of-migration/>

Based on the published figures, a total of 73,276 in-country leave to remain applications were processed in the 4th quarter of 2012. Of these, 28,135 (38%) of applications were processed within service standards, and 45,141 (62%) were processed outside service standards.

Measures have been put in place, including recruiting further casework staff, in order to return to operating within public service standards across all leave to remain application routes.

Notes:

1. The figures quoted were derived from the performance against migration service standards publication. These figures are based on management information and are therefore provisional and subject to change.
2. Figures relate to the following Temporary Migration work streams only: Family and Visiting the UK (2011-12)/Family (2012-13), Visiting the UK (2012-13), Employment, Study, and Sponsor Licensing.
3. Figures relate to postal applications as well as premium applications submitted at UKBA Public Enquiry Offices (PEO).

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130410/text/130410w0002.htm#13041015000009>

Illegal Immigrants: Employment

Chris Bryant: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many employers were fined for using illegal workers in each of the last five years. [146414]

Reply from Mark Harper: The information requested is in the following table. The figures are based on the number of civil penalties served at visited business addresses.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Penalties issued to businesses</i>
29 February to 31 December 2008	1,169
2009	2,269
2010	2,092
2011	1,424
2012	1,215

Note: The figures provided are sourced from a UK Border Agency management information system which is not quality assured under National Statistics protocols and is subject to change due to internal data quality checking. Figures provided from this source do not constitute part of National Statistics and should be treated as provisional.

The decrease in the number of businesses served with civil penalties can be explained as follows: employers' increased awareness of the regime together with improved guidance on the UK Border Agency website; and providing clear advice on how to conduct document checks to verify a person's right to work, which has contributed to an increase in employer compliance. The Agency's work in summer 2012 under Operation May apple targeted enforcement activity on overstayers, including students whose leave had been curtailed. This activity drives up compliance across the board. Robust debt recovery processes have been implemented with employers becoming increasingly aware that where penalties are not paid debt recovery enforcement action will commence against them.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130410/text/130410w0002.htm#13041015000008>

Immigration: Deportation

Lord Hylton: To ask Her Majesty's Government, following the report by HM Inspectorate of Prisons of October 2012 on the Cedars pre-departure accommodation for families, whether they will order the UK Border Agency, and its contractors, not to use force when deporting pregnant women and children.[HL6317]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach): The recommendation in the report by HM Inspectorate of Prisons on Cedars pre-departure accommodation that force should never be used to effect the removal of pregnant women and children was rejected by the UK Border Agency. However, the UK Border Agency has taken the decision to adopt a policy not to use force solely to effect removal in such cases until a consultation on its use has taken place.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/130410w0002.htm#13041011001832>

Human Trafficking

Baroness Doocey: To ask Her Majesty's Government, in the light of the Salvation Army's report that it helped 378 victims of trafficking in 2011-12, what assessment they have made of how many of those victims were children at the time they arrived in the United Kingdom.[HL6365]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach): The needs of each victim, whether adult or child, are assessed immediately following their referral into the National Referral Mechanism. Child victims, or those thought to be children at the time they are assessed, are referred to the relevant local authority children's services for accommodation and support. No formal assessment is currently made of the numbers of adult victims who may have been trafficked into the UK as a child.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201213/ldhansrd/text/130410w0002.htm#13041011001831>

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

Press Releases

Statement of intent outlines new requirements for settlement and naturalization

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2013/april/15-settlementrequirements1>

Update on applying online in the UK under Tier 2 (intra-company transfer)

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsfragments/83-tier2-ict>

Immigration fees change on 6 April 2013

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2013/april/09-fees-april>

6 April changes to the Immigration Rules

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2013/april/10-rules-april>

New pre-payment system to prevent abuse of premium visa appointments

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-pre-payment-system-to-tackle-abuse-of-premium-visa-appointments>

Tougher language requirements announced for British citizenship

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/tougher-language-requirements-announced-for-british-citizenship>

New immigration rules benefitting businesses and students come into force

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-immigration-rules-benefitting-businesses-and-students-come-into-force>

Campaign against human trafficking 'Two Little Girls'

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/campaign-against-human-trafficking-two-little-girls>

Migrant children more likely to end up in poor schools, report says

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-13-323_en.htm?locale=en

Europe is losing out by failing to recognise the talents of migrants and ethnic minorities

<http://cms.horus.be/files/99935/MediaArchive/pdfpress/2013-04-09%20hidden%20talents%20publication.pdf>

New Publications

Human Trafficking: practical guidance

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/181550/Human_Trafficking_practical_guidance.pdf

Study on educational support for newly arrived migrant children

http://ec.europa.eu/education/more-information/doc/migrants/report_en.pdf

News

Immigration curbs 'utterly out of step with needs of Scotland'

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/political-news/immigration-curbs-utterly-out-of-step-with-needs-of-scotland.20659574>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

How the invasion of immigrants into every corner of England has made a mockery of PM's promise to close the door

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2301743/How-invasion-immigrants-corner-England-mockery-PMs-promise-close-door.html>

Police: Trafficking victims will not be prosecuted

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/scotland/police-trafficking-victims-will-not-be-prosecuted-1-2871323>

Romanian and Bulgarian immigrant numbers played down

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-22031724>

Report downplays new migrant fears

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/report-downplays-new-migrant-fears.20711080>

Flood of Romanian and Bulgarian migrants 'unlikely', says report

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/flood-of-romanian-and-bulgarian-migrants-unlikely-says-report-8560657.html>

Romanian and Bulgarian migrants 'unlikely to head for UK' – report

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2013/apr/05/eastern-european-migrants-report>

Bulgarian and Romanian immigrants – how much impact will they really have?

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2013/apr/05/bulgarian-romanian-immigrants-impact-numbers>

Immigration study that failed to predict Romanians and Bulgarians a waste of money says MP

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/9973869/Immigration-study-that-failed-to-predict-Romanians-and-Bulgarians-a-waste-of-money-says-MP.html>

Britain has 'moral obligation' to offer Afghan interpreters asylum

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2013/apr/06/britain-moral-obligation-afghan-interpreters>

'Gay? Prove it then – have you read any Oscar Wilde?': Judges accused of asking lesbian asylum seekers inappropriate questions

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/gay-prove-it-then--have-you-read-any-oscar-wilde-judges-accused-of-asking-lesbian-asylum-seekers-inappropriate-questions-8558599.html>

Lost in Cricklewood: the immigrants who wound up living on the A5

<http://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/tv/features/lost-in-cricklewood-the-immigrants-who-wound-up-living-on-the-a5-8556752.html>

Legal aid curbs for foreign migrants

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/9976786/Legal-aid-curb-for-foreign-migrants.html>

Migrant workers home in on Scotland

<http://www.scotsman.com/scotland-on-sunday/migrant-workers-home-in-on-scotland-1-2881456>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

MSP: Review convictions of slaves forced into crime

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/politics/msp-review-convictions-of-slaves-forced-into-crime-1-2886514>

London Met wins back foreign student licence

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-22080301>

Tories propose 'offshore' camps for migrants

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/National/article1245320.ece

The Somali organisation bypassing the language barrier to care jobs

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2013/apr/09/somali-language-barrier-care-jobs>

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Race Relations

Press Releases

International Roma Day: Commission calls for decisive action to further Roma integration

[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release MEMO-13-306_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-13-306_en.htm)

More work is needed to ensure Roma integration policies are implemented in practice

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2013/more-work-needed-ensure-roma-integration-policies-are-implemented-practice>

"Unity in diversity" – International Roma Day, 8 April 2013

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13214&LangID=E>

OSCE human rights office calls for greater efforts to ensure security for Roma and Sinti communities

<http://www.osce.org/odihr/100564>

News

Muslim History Should Be Included In School Syllabus, Urge Campaigners Curriculum For Cohesion

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2013/04/12/muslim-history_n_3070107.html

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Equality

News

Vegans can milk equality rights

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/Society/article1242001.ece

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

S4M-06173 Drew Smith: Unite Against Fascism Scotland Conference—That the Parliament congratulates Unite Against Fascism (UAF) Scotland on what it considers its successful conference on 23 March 2013 in Glasgow, which was supported by the Scottish Trades Union Congress, Show Racism the Red Card, Pollokshields Community Council, Glasgow Campaign to Welcome Refugees and many other organisations; reaffirms its commitment to the aims of UAF Scotland to counter the threat of racism and fascism in Scotland; understands that over 60 delegates attended the conference and that discussions included how to fight the Scottish and English Defence League locally and nationally and the rise and threat of fascist parties in Europe; notes that John McFadden of the Fire Brigades Union was elected as the new chairperson; notes that Liz Cushnie and Steve McBroom were elected as joint secretaries; further understands that Ken Cameron of the Fire Brigades Union, who is one of the founding members of UAF Scotland and the outgoing chair having served four years, is UAF Scotland's first honorary president, and wishes the new committee, including a number of MSPs from different political parties, well in the year ahead.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-06173&ResultsPerPage=10>

Press Releases

'Challenge it, report it, stop it' – a plan to tackle hate crime

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/challenge-it-report-it-stop-it-a-plan-to-tackle-hate-crime>

Strong European response against anti-Roma racism needed

<http://cms.horus.be/files/99935/MediaArchive/pdfpress/2013-04-08%20Roma%20Day%20final.pdf>

News

Rangers chief Charles Green criticised for 'racist' remark

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-22064369>

Catholic anger at school claim by sheriff

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/crime-courts/catholic-anger-at-school-claim-by-sheriff.20738798>

Uefa proposes a minimum 10-game ban for racist abuse from next season

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/football/2013/apr/10/uefa-football-racism-bans>

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Other Holyrood

Press Release

Huge rise in organ donation

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2013/04/organ-donation11042013>

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Other Westminster

Press Releases

Prime Minister's message for Easter

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/news/easter-message-david-cameron/>

Vaisakhi message from Prime Minister David Cemeron

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/news/vaisakhi-message-from-prime-minister-david-cameron/>

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New Publication

Managing and supporting employees experiencing domestic abuse

http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/Wales/domesticabuseguide.pdf

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Other News

Scotland's first Islamic secondary planned for Gorbals building

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/disused-school-to-become-islamic-institute.20661393>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Holyrood

Post-16 Education Bill

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

Scottish Independence Referendum Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/61076.aspx>

Scottish Independence Referendum (Franchise) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/60464.aspx>

**** Victims and Witnesses Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/59133.aspx>

Scottish Parliament Information Centre briefing

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S4/SB_13-21.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>

Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Bill

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

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

** *closes this week!*

Asylum (closing date 15 April 2013)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/inquiries/parliament-2010/asylum/>

Making Justice Work - Courts Reform Bill (closing date 24 May 2013)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/02/5302/downloads>

Beyond 2011: user requirements for future population and socio-demographic information (closing date 10 June 2013)

<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/beyond-2011/consultations-events/consultations/user-requirements.html>

Design of the Data Sharing and Linking Service (closing date 29 May 2013)

<http://www.isdscotland.org/Products-and-Services/eDRIS/DSLIS-consultation/>

Scottish Independence Referendum Bill (closing date 6 June 2013)

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_ReferendumScotlandBillCommittee/RefBill_call_for_evidence_21_March_2013.pdf

**** See Hear: A strategic framework for meeting the needs of people with a sensory impairment in Scotland** (closing date 28 June 2013)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0041/00417992.pdf>

Our Communities, Your Duties (no closing date given)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KN9FT6N>

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Job Opportunities

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

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Funding Opportunities

Scottish Ethnic Communities Fund

Grants of between £500 and £10,000 available for projects relating to youth work and young people, social enterprise, and community engagement. For details and application form, see <http://www.events2013.org/sec-100k-fund-2/>

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Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Meet the Charity Regulator

16 April 2013 in Aberdeen (2.00 – 4.15)

25 April 2013 in Oban (6.00 – 8.15)

1 May 2013 in Wick (10.00 – 12.15)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator events to provide an opportunity to hear about the latest developments in charity regulation, equality and fundraising. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/c8f7kh8> or contact Lorna Edwards communications@oscr.org.uk / 01382 220446.

**** this week!**

Challenging Fuel Poverty

16 April 2013 in Glasgow (2.30 – 4.00, and 5.30 – 7.00)

West of Scotland Regional Equality Council event challenging fuel poverty and supporting minority ethnic communities to make their homes more energy efficient. For information contact admin@wsrec.co.uk / 0141 337 6626.

**** this week!**

Funding Workshops

17 April 2013 in Aberdeen (10.30)

18 April 2013 in Inverness (11.00)

Voluntary Action Fund workshops to promote its new grant schemes; answer enquiries from potential applicants; and hold surgery sessions to discuss individual project proposals. For information contact 01383 620 780 / VSFenquiries@vaf.org.uk or see http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/files/3013/6327/3641/Roadshow_flyer.pdf

**** BEMIS AGM**

24 April 2013 in Glasgow (time tbc)

For information contact mail@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees

30 April 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.

The Human Rights Question: What sort of Scotland, and what sort of constitutional future?

1 May 2013 in Glasgow (10.00 – 4.00)

Seminar to examine how those involved in civil society groups are working to promote and protect rights, and consider the extent to which the referendum context affects this work. For information see <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/event/5386404882>.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

UKBA asylum support

8 May 2013 in Glasgow (9.15 – 4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course to explore the support arrangements available to asylum seekers from the beginning to the end of the asylum process. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/9l2b3te>.

**** Muslim Families' Experiences of the Education System in England and Scotland**

13 May 2013 in Edinburgh (2.00 – 5.30)

Centre for Research in Education Inclusion and Diversity launch of research findings about Muslim pupils' educational outcomes in England and Scotland, Muslim families' educational aspirations, Muslim families' negotiation of school choice and attitudes to faith schools, and Home/school negotiations of cultural practices. For information contact Fannie Kong creid@ed.ac.uk or see <http://mpeees.eventbrite.co.uk>

**** Influencing Politicians and Political Structures**

22 May 2013 in Glasgow (10.30 – 4.30)

Coalition for Equality and Rights training to communicate effectively with political decision makers. For information contact Nadia nadia@crer.org.uk / 0141 418 6530 or see <http://www.crer.org.uk/training/influencing-politicians-political-structures>

The housing journey from seeking asylum to settling in Scotland

30 May 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 contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/c9wuzp9>.

Working with interpreters

30 May 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 contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/c8k983b>.

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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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