

## 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](mailto:MEMO@scojec.org) and requests to be added to circulation to [mail@bemis.org.uk](mailto:mail@bemis.org.uk)**

**The UK Parliament is prorogued until 8 May 2013.**

**Prorogation is the period between the end of one session of Parliament and the State Opening of Parliament that begins the next session.**

## Immigration and Asylum

### News

**How has immigration changed Britain?**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-22339080>

**White Britons 'will be minority' before 2070, says professor**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/white-britons-will-be-minority-before-2070-says-professor-8600262.html>

**Ukip confirms immigration policy is 'under review'**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2013/may/03/ukip-immigration-policy-under-review>

**Ground-breaking Scottish service for young refugees 'a model for others'**

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/latest\\_news/1979\\_ground-breaking\\_scottish\\_service\\_for\\_young\\_refugees\\_a\\_model\\_for\\_others](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/1979_ground-breaking_scottish_service_for_young_refugees_a_model_for_others)

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## Race Relations

### Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

**S4M-06367 John Mason: A Pluralistic Society**—That the Parliament welcomes the decision of the Court of Session that two midwives should be allowed to opt out of any involvement in abortions, while accepting that such procedures can still be carried out by colleagues in the public sector; believes that such freedom of speech and of conscience represents a good model for a modern, pluralistic Scotland; considers that state funding of both secular and faith schools is also consistent with such a model, and hopes that this type of tolerance of diversity and freedom of speech in the public sector represents a good model for dealing with other contentious issues.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-06367&ResultsPerPage=10>

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## Equality

### Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

#### Equality

**Siobhan McMahon**To ask the Scottish Government what emphasis it places on its work on equality. (S4O-02068)

**Reply from the Minister for Commonwealth Games and Sport (Shona Robison):** The Scottish Government places a strong emphasis on equality because it believes in a fair and just Scotland, because equality is at the heart of realising improved outcomes for the people of Scotland and because it matters for our economic and social wellbeing. The “Scottish Government Equality Outcomes and Mainstreaming Report”, which was published on 30 April, summarises much of the action that we have taken to date.

**Siobhan McMahon:** In light of the recent announcement, will the minister explain why the religion aspect of equality remains part of the justice portfolio, while the rest of the protected characteristics fall under her remit as Minister for Commonwealth Games and Sport? What is the justification for that?

**Reply from Shona Robison:** I am sure that Siobhan McMahon appreciates that the equality agenda spans many ministers’ portfolios and that many ministers have an input into it. One reason why I was keen to take on aspects of the equality agenda was to give momentum to many aspects of the Government’s policy. I will ensure that the equality agenda is pursued across all those aspects but, of course, I will work closely with other ministers. I will work closely with Roseanna Cunningham, the minister who has responsibility for religion and belief. I hope that I can give Siobhan McMahon some reassurance on that.

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8117&mode=html#job\\_73685](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8117&mode=html#job_73685)

### New Publications

**Scottish Government Equality Outcomes:  
Mainstreaming Report**

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0042/00421238.pdf>

**Religion and Belief Evidence Review**

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0042/00420970.pdf>

## Equality

### New Publications (continued)

#### Age Evidence Review

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0042/00420898.pdf>

#### Disability Evidence Review

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0042/00420991.pdf>

#### Gender Evidence Review

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0042/00421042.pdf>

#### Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Evidence Review

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0042/00420922.pdf>

#### Pregnancy and Maternity Evidence Review

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0042/00421066.pdf>

#### Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service: Equality Outcomes and Mainstreaming Report

[http://www.crownoffice.gov.uk/images/Documents/Equality\\_Diversity/EAG\\_Minutes/2013%2004%2030%20Mainstreaming%20Report%20%20Outcomes.pdf](http://www.crownoffice.gov.uk/images/Documents/Equality_Diversity/EAG_Minutes/2013%2004%2030%20Mainstreaming%20Report%20%20Outcomes.pdf)

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## Racism and Religious Hatred

### Press Release

#### End Racism this Generation: invitation to tender

<http://tinyurl.com/dy8nhmb>

### New Publication

#### Viewed with suspicion: the human cost of stop and search in England and Wales

<http://www.stop-watch.org/uploads/documents/vws-report.pdf>

### News

#### Claims millions being wasted by anti-bigotry campaigners

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/claims-millions-being-wasted-by-anti-bigotry-campaigners.20951629>

#### Referees to get more power as Fifa launches new fight against racism

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/football/2013/may/01/fifa-anti-racism-referees>

#### Boy, 14, arrested after racist attack on Muslim women

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/boy-14-arrested-after-racist-attack-on-muslim-women.1367681633>

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## Other Holyrood

### Debate

#### **Voluntary Sector (Funding)**

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8115&mode=html#iob\\_73671](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8115&mode=html#iob_73671)

### Parliamentary Motion

**S4M-06405 Gavin Brown: Funding of the Voluntary Sector**—That the Parliament acknowledges the outstanding contribution made across Scotland by the third sector; recognises the importance of multi-year funding to the sector in order to allow it to maximise its contribution; notes the Joint Statement on the Relationship at Local Level between Government and the Third Sector, which states that "as a general rule funders will aim to take a three-year approach to both grant and contract funding"; is concerned by reports that this three-year approach does not happen as widely as it could; calls on local authorities, NHS boards and the wider public sector to take a three-year approach as a general rule, and further calls on the Scottish Government to encourage the application of the joint statement on the ground and to review how widely the three-year approach currently happens in practice.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-06405&ResultsPerPage=10>

### Press Release

#### **500 days to the referendum**

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2013/05/500-days05052013>

### New Publications

#### **Building Community Resilience: Scottish Guidance on Community Resilience**

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0042/00421210.pdf>

#### **Press regulation**

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S4/SB\\_13-23.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S4/SB_13-23.pdf)

#### **Death Certification Test Site Evaluation**

Report <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0042/00420840.pdf>

Research Findings <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0042/00420835.pdf>

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## New Publications

#### **Protecting data, protecting people: A guide for charities**

[http://www.cfg.org.uk/resources/Publications/~media/Files/Resources/CFDG%20Publications/Data\\_Protection2013.ashx](http://www.cfg.org.uk/resources/Publications/~media/Files/Resources/CFDG%20Publications/Data_Protection2013.ashx)

## New Publications (continued)

### **The World's Muslims: Religion, Politics and Society**

[http://www.pewforum.org/uploadedFiles/Topics/Religious\\_Affiliation/Muslim/worlds-muslims-religion-politics-society-full-report.pdf](http://www.pewforum.org/uploadedFiles/Topics/Religious_Affiliation/Muslim/worlds-muslims-religion-politics-society-full-report.pdf)

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## Other News

### **Sikhs from all over Scotland gathered for a procession to mark the opening of the new gurdwara in Glasgow**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/day-of-celebration-sikhs-from-all-over-scotland-gathered-for-a-procession-to-mark-the-opening-of-the-new-gurdwara>

### **Dual authorisation for charity transactions online and by phone promised for year-end**

[http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/bulletin/third\\_sector\\_daily\\_bulletin/article/1180589/dual-authorisation-charity-transactions-online-phone-promised-year-end/?DCMP=EMC-CONThirdSectorDaily](http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/bulletin/third_sector_daily_bulletin/article/1180589/dual-authorisation-charity-transactions-online-phone-promised-year-end/?DCMP=EMC-CONThirdSectorDaily)

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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>

Proposed amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/62992.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>

Health and Sport Committee: Stage 1 evidence session

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8110&mode=pdf>

### **Bills in Progress**

#### **Westminster**

#### **Draft Communications Data Bill**

Draft Bill as published

<http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm83/8359/8359.pdf>

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## Consultations

\*\* new or updated this week

### **Draft guidance to charities on the Scottish independence referendum**

(closing date 15 May 2013)

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/news-and-events/latest-news/new-draft-guidance-on-scottish-independence-referendum/>

### **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/DSLs-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](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>

### **Interests of the Members of the Scottish Parliament Bill** (closing date 22 July 2013)

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_StandardsProceduresandPublicAppointmentsCommittee/Inquiries/FINAL\\_consultation\\_document.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_StandardsProceduresandPublicAppointmentsCommittee/Inquiries/FINAL_consultation_document.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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## Events/Conferences/Training

\*\* new or updated this week

**\*\* this week!**

### **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](mailto:train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) or see <http://tinyurl.com/9l2b3te>.



## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### **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](mailto:creid@ed.ac.uk) or see <http://mpeees.eventbrite.co.uk>

### **\*\* Dealing with discrimination**

22 May 2013 in Inverness (1.00 – 4.30)

Equality and Human Rights Commission training focusing on individual protection against discrimination, and providing an update on discrimination law and, by using case studies, building knowledge of how to identify and tackle discrimination. For information contact David Reilly 0141 228 5967 / [scotlandcommunication@equalityhumanrights.com](mailto:scotlandcommunication@equalityhumanrights.com)

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) or see <http://tinyurl.com/c8k983b>.

### **\*\* Mental Health and Ethnicity**

30 October 2013 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

West of Scotland Health and Ethnicity Conference to present an evidence based approach to influence the development of a healthier minority ethnic community in Scotland. Deadline for submissions: 31 July 2013. For information contact Sidra Shirjeel [sidra.shirjeel@cc3.org.uk](mailto:sidra.shirjeel@cc3.org.uk) or see <http://tinyurl.com/bmvj354>

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## Useful Links

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

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

## Useful Links (continued)

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

**Directgov (links to UK Government Departments)**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**BBC Parliament online**

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

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



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



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

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