

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.*

Contents

[Immigration and Asylum](#)

[Race Relations](#)

[Equality](#)

[Racism and Religious Hatred](#)

[Other Westminster](#)

[New Publications](#)

[Other News](#)

[Bills in Progress](#)

[Consultations](#)

[Job Opportunities](#)

[Funding Opportunities](#)

[Events/Conferences/Training](#)

[Useful Links](#)

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 Parliament is in recess until 28 October 2013.

Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Question

Human Trafficking

Jenny Marra: To ask the Scottish Government what organisations it funds to provide care and support to children who have been trafficked. (S4W-17239)

Reply from Aileen Campbell: Within Scotland our policy around child trafficking is robust. We have firmly embedded child trafficking into the wider child protection system through multi agency working at local level. We do not hold information centrally on the resources these agencies may provide.

We are providing the Scottish Refugee Council, in partnership with Aberlour Childcare Trust, a grant of £200,000 a year for the next three years starting in 2013 to help fund the Scottish Guardianship Service. The Scottish Guardianship Service help unaccompanied asylum seeking and trafficked children and young

Immigration and Asylum Holyrood Parliamentary Question (continued)

people navigate through the immigration and welfare processes and get the help they need when they need it. It is a unique service in the UK and provides independent advocacy both on the matters of immigration and welfare.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-17239&ResultsPerPage=10>

Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

S4M-07995 James Dornan: Welcoming the Launch of the Our Glasgow Website—

That the Parliament welcomes the launch, on 9 October 2013, of what it considers an innovative website, www.ourglasgow.org.uk, which is an online photo-book of the many things to do in the city, made by and for young refugees in Glasgow; anticipates that this will be of value not only to newly arrived refugees but to many others living in and visiting the city; commends in particular the work of the young refugees who created the resource, of Becky Duncan and Jo Wiseman, who facilitated this, providing what it considers excellent skills development in photography and multimedia creation, and the support and funding provided by Open Eye, the British Red Cross, the Scottish Guardianship Service, and the Scottish Refugee Council, and hopes and expects that this resource and the collaborations underpinning it can serve as a template for developing not only a portal for young refugees and others in Glasgow and across Scotland, but also as an example of how to engage marginalised but resilient young people in similar development activities.

Westminster Debates

“Go Home or Face Arrest” Campaign

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131009/halltext/131009h0002.htm#1310095600001>

Immigration: UK Citizenship and Nationality

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131010-gc0002.htm#13101071000445>

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

National Insurance: Asylum

Sarah Teather: To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions what the (a) average, (b) least and (c) greatest time is for an individual who is granted refugee status to be provided with a National Insurance number. [169633]

Reply from Esther McVey: DWP, in partnership with Home Office, provides a fast track national insurance number (NINo) service by which new asylum seekers who have been given leave to remain can securely and efficiently obtain a national insurance number (NINo) without having to attend an evidence of identity interview (EOI) in DWP.

Through this fast track service, the identity of the applicant is verified by the Home Office during the asylum interview and only those applicants granted leave to remain are referred to DWP for a NINo. Dependants and partners are required to obtain a NINo from DWP using standard processes.

A NINo decision letter, addressed to the customer, is returned to Home Office to

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

be issued along with their immigration status decision.

DWP aim to process and return to Home Office all NINo allocation referrals within 48 hours of receipt.

DWP does not collect statistical information in relation to individual national insurance numbers allocated through this service; however the following table shows the actual average clearance times (shown in days) for all NINo applications, by month, processed through the fast track service.

<i>National</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun</i>	<i>Jul</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>Sep</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Average</i>
2012-13	2.9	2.6	2.3	1.9	1.9	1.8	2.1	2.1	1.7	1.8	2.2	1.7	2.1
2013-14	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.9	2.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.8

Source: DWP Business Information Service (BIS)

BIS is a departmental performance management, data capture and reporting tool. The data have not been fully quality-assured. This type of internal management information does not form part of the regular official statistics outputs that are released by the Department in accordance with the UK Statistics Authority's code of practice.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131008/text/131008w0006.htm#13100918000017>

Immigration: Commonwealth

Nicholas Soames: To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office how many Commonwealth citizens resident in the UK have not become British citizens. [170041]

Reply from Nick Hurd: The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the authority to reply.

Letter from Glen Watson, dated October 2013:

... The Office for National Statistics collects data on residents of the UK from the Annual Population Survey (APS), which is the Labour Force Survey (LFS) plus various sample boosts. It is a household survey and so does not include people living in most types of communal establishment.

The latest estimates that are available are derived from the APS for the 12 month period of January to December 2012. The estimated number of Commonwealth citizens resident in the UK (and hence the number that have not become British citizens) is 1,336,000 with a corresponding margin of error of +/- 50,000.

The margin of error refers to the 95 per cent confidence interval and is a measure of the uncertainty associated with making inferences from a sample.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131010/text/131010w0003.htm#13101080000123>

Immigration

Lord Roberts of Llandudno: To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they intend to take to tackle the backlog of immigration cases.[HL1860]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach): Since 2010 the Government has been getting to grips with the immigration system including the legacy of volumes of casework and historical backlogs in the UK Border Agency (UKBA). On 28 March my Rt. hon. Friend the Home Secretary announced the splitting up of the UKBA and the creation of two new entities within the Home Office reporting to Ministers; an immigration and visa service and an immigration enforcement organisation. The immigration and visa service will provide a high volume service that makes high quality decisions about who comes here, with a culture of customer satisfaction for businessmen and visitors who want to come here legally. This new service has already started making encouraging progress in reducing substantially the stock of permanent

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

and temporary migration applications awaiting decision. The Government is determined that this progress should be maintained but given the deep seated problems which beset the former UKBA, as described in the Home Secretary's statement on 26 March 2013, Official Report, columns 1500-1510, it is likely to be some years before the system is functioning smoothly with all forms of backlog completely eliminated.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131008w0001.htm#1310016000044>

Immigration

Lord Roberts of Llandudno: To ask Her Majesty's Government in what languages the mobile "Go home or face arrest" billboards have been printed.[HL1988]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach) (Con): The mobile billboards have been printed in English. However, other campaign material such as leaflets, posters, advertisements in newspapers and in local newsagents and internet cafes have been produced in a range of languages.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno: To ask Her Majesty's Government with which communities they expect the "Go home or face arrest" billboard campaign to be most successful; and what assessment they have made of the languages spoken in those communities.[HL1989]

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: This is a pilot and part of the evaluation will be to determine which nationalities of immigration offenders this is likely to have an effect on.

Management information was used on the boroughs targeted to allow for different languages to be available for the leaflets, advertisements in newspapers and posters that support the billboard campaign.

Lord Beecham: To ask Her Majesty's Government when and by what criteria they plan to evaluate the piloting of the billboard scheme aimed at illegal immigrants.[HL2008]

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: The pilot, part of which included billboards on vans is being fully evaluated. There are a number of criteria, the primary one being whether or not it has increased the ability for immigration offenders to approach the Home Office for assistance in voluntarily departing from the United Kingdom.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno: To ask Her Majesty's Government who prepared the written brief used by the advertising agency instigating the "Go home or face arrest" billboard campaign.[HL2013]

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: The Home Office commissioned the use of the advertising vans and billboards, and prepared all the written material.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno: To ask Her Majesty's Government what is the total cost of the "Go home or face arrest" billboard campaign.[HL2014]

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: The total cost of the entire pilot was just under £10,000. This amount includes the cost of the advertising vans, communication materials, including translation fees, the text message service, adverts in newspapers and shop windows, posters and leaflets. The total cost for the billboard element of the pilot was £4734. Even one immigration offender voluntarily departing from the United Kingdom as a result of this pilot would pay for the cost of the pilot in comparison to the same individual being subject to an enforced removal—which can cost the taxpayer up to approximately £15,000.

Lord Lipsey: To ask Her Majesty's Government what was the source for the claim in their "Go home or face arrest" advertising campaign that 106 people were arrested in the previous seven days in the London boroughs in which the campaign was piloted. [HL2044]

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

To ask Her Majesty's Government how "your area" was defined in the "Go home or face arrest" advertising campaign piloted in several London boroughs in July 2013.[HL2045]

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: The data used were the most reliable and most recent management information. The 106 arrests referred to on the AdVans include arrests for immigration offences made in the Metropolitan Police custody suites of the six pilot boroughs and the work of the West, North and East London Immigration Compliance and Enforcement (ICE) teams. The relevant police custody suites are Acton, Chiswick, Colindale, Fresh Wharf, Hounslow, Ilford and Wembley. These arrests are usually conducted by immigration officers already present in those police stations or called to them for the purpose of serving immigration papers. The ICE teams are responsible for tackling immigration offences in the relevant geographical boundaries of London.

It should be noted that this figure of 106 arrests reflected a typical week and was not significantly higher than usual. The number of arrests on the AdVans does not include those refused entry at port or those arrested at Heathrow airport.

"Your area" was defined as the six boroughs referred to and identified on the bottom left hand corner of the advertisement.

Lord Boateng: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many working hours were expended in the development and implementation of the "Go home or face arrest" advertising campaign pilot.[HL2055]

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: The pilot is part of wider work by the Home Office to encourage voluntary departures from the United Kingdom. It is not possible to calculate the exact number of working hours spent developing this specific pilot.

Lord Boateng: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will publish their assessment of the "Go home or face arrest" advertising campaign before rolling out the scheme nationally.[HL2056]

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: The Home Office will evaluate fully the results of this pilot and the Government will make a decision on whether it is to be extended in any form.

Such evaluation documents are not usually published.

Lord Boateng: To ask Her Majesty's Government what were the criteria used for the selection of London boroughs to be targeted by the "Go home or face arrest" advertising campaign pilot; and what assessment they made prior to its implementation of its projected impact on (1) public order, (2) community relations, and (3) the number of illegal immigrants likely to seek voluntary repatriation as a result of the pilot.[HL2058]

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: The vans were targeted to six London boroughs which had either significantly above average, or very low, uptake of the voluntary departure route for illegal immigrants; the pilot was designed to test the media used and to identify which areas produced the highest response rate. Operational intelligence was used to target specific areas within those boroughs, such as locations where illegal immigrants or people seeking work illegally were known to congregate, and high streets.

The Home Office considered all aspects of the pilot before its launch, including public order and community relations, and we have kept this situation under review. An evaluation of the impacts from the pilot will be published in due course however the Metropolitan Police Service have confirmed that there was no increase in community tension during the period of the pilot.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno: To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the comments of a spokesman from the Prime Minister's office, on what basis they claim that the pilot Home Office advertising campaign encouraging migrants to "go home or face arrest" is already working.[HL2081]

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: The Home Office has received a great deal of interest in response to this pilot. Individual cases will be vetted and considered in due course and a full evaluation is being undertaken.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno: To ask Her Majesty's Government what was their justification for the recent spot check searches for illegal immigrants; which powers were used by which officers in the searches; whether similar searches had taken place previously; and, if so, where they were undertaken, who undertook them, and what was the justification.[HL2135]

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: All Immigration operations are intelligence based. Home Office Immigration Enforcement street operations have been conducted by Immigration officials since 2008, including under the last Labour Government, using their powers under Paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Immigration Act 1971 which allows Immigration Officers to examine people in order to determine their immigration status in certain circumstances. Similar street operations have been conducted by Immigration officials nationally.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they plan to use the "Go home or face arrest" billboard campaign more widely; if so, where such campaigns will take place; and how, in advance of any future campaign, local people and any interested parties will be consulted.[HL2138]

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: The AdVans referred to were used in six London Boroughs from 22 to 28 July. The AdVans are part of a wider pilot to improve awareness and take up of voluntary departures and the effectiveness of this pilot will be evaluated before any decisions on future deployment are taken.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131008w0001.htm#13100829000473>

Immigration

Lord Boateng: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many arrests were made for illegal immigration in the week referred to in their "Go home or face arrest" advertising campaign in (1) Hounslow, (2) Barking and Dagenham, (3) Ealing, (4) Barnet, (5) Brent, and (6) Redbridge.[HL2059]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach) (Con): The data used in support of the claim was the most reliable and recent information. 106 arrests was the total number of arrests made by the West, North and East London Immigration Compliance and Enforcement (ICE) teams and arrests made from seven police custody suites in the six pilot boroughs, during the week 30 June to 6 July 2013. The number does not include those who had been refused entry or arrested at Heathrow airport.

Lord Greaves: To ask Her Majesty's Government, in relation to the posters displayed in the UK Border Agency (UKBA) offices in Glasgow with the text "Is life here hard? Going home is simple" and the stickers on the seats with the text "Ask about going home", who published them; at what level their display was authorised; whether and, if so, which, Ministers approved them; and whether it is intended to extend their use to other UKBA offices and other places.[HL2207]

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: Voluntary departures are the most cost-effective way of removing illegal immigrants and we are committed to ensuring those with no right to remain in the UK should leave voluntarily. There were more than 28,000 voluntary departures last year.

Most of those reporting to our UK reporting centres have no legal right to remain in the UK, having exhausted their statutory rights of appeal.

In order to encourage increased take-up of voluntary departures the Home Office has implemented a pilot in the Glasgow and Hounslow reporting centres. The pilot

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

commenced on 29 July 2013 and ended on 4 October 2013. As part of the pilot we have replaced and updated the material on display in both centres. The material is designed to assure people that we can provide sensitive advice and assistance to help them return home easily and with dignity.

The material was designed in-house and produced by Williams-Lea, the company responsible for the Government print contract. Their display was authorised by the Director General of Immigration Enforcement with my knowledge. The results of the pilot will be evaluated following its conclusion.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131009w0001.htm#13100962000215>

Press Releases

Immigration Bill laid in Parliament

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/immigration-bill-laid-in-parliament>

Combating human trafficking: business and human rights

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/combating-human-trafficking-business-and-human-rights>

EU action in the fields of migration and asylum

[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release MEMO-13-862_en.htm?locale=en](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-13-862_en.htm?locale=en)

New Publications

Immigration Bill Factsheet: Immigration Advisers and Immigration Service Providers

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/249394/Factsheet_13_-_OISC.pdf

Immigration Bill Factsheet: appeals

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/249102/Factsheet_05_Appeals.pdf

Immigration Bill Factsheet: Work

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/249107/Factsheet_10_Work.pdf

Immigration Bill Factsheet: National Health Service

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/249315/Factsheet_08_-_Health.pdf

Immigration Bill Factsheet: Bank accounts

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/249249/Factsheet_09_Bank_accounts.pdf

Immigration Bill Factsheet: Migrants' access to UK driving licences

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/249250/Factsheet_11_-_Driving_Licences.pdf

Immigration and Asylum New Publications (continued)

Immigration Bill Factsheet: sham marriages and civil partnerships

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/249253/Factsheet_12_-_Sham_marriage.pdf

Immigration Bill Factsheet: Tackling illegal immigration in privately rented accommodation

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/249246/Factsheet_07_-_Landlords.pdf

Immigration Bill Factsheet: Fees

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/249264/Factsheet_16_-_Fees.pdf

Immigration Bill Factsheet: Embarkation Checks

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/249388/Factsheet_15_-_Embarkation_checks.pdf

Immigration Bill Factsheet: Article 8

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/249313/Factsheet_06_-_Article_8.pdf

Home Affairs Committee Report on Asylum

vol 1 <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmselect/cmhaff/71/71.pdf>

vol 2 <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmselect/cmhaff/71/71vw.pdf>

Immigration statistics, April to June 2013

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-april-to-june-2013/immigration-statistics-april-to-june-2013>

Guaranteeing Access to Health Care for Undocumented Migrants in Europe: What Role Can Local and Regional Authorities Play?

http://picum.org/picum.org/uploads/publication/CoR%20Report%20Access%20to%20Healthcare%20EN_FR_IT_ES%202013.pdf

News

Scotland's human trafficking bill could make it a 'beacon to the world'

<http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2013/oct/08/scotland-human-trafficking-bill-beacon>

May: Living in UK to get tougher for illegal immigrants

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-24469584>

Public sceptical of need for tougher immigration rules as Theresa May is set to publish new bill

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/public-sceptical-of-need-for-tougher-immigration-rules-as-theresa-may-is-set-to-publish-new-bill-8869833.html>

Immigration bill: Theresa May defends plans to create 'hostile environment'

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2013/oct/10/immigration-bill-theresa-may-hostile-environment>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Immigration bill will require identity checks for all, home secretary is warned

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/oct/10/immigration-bill-would-mean-identity-checks-for-all>

If only Theresa May could distinguish the desirable from the important

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2013/oct/11/theresa-may-health-tourism-asylum-seekers>

This immigration bill is absurd authoritarianism

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2013/oct/10/immigration-bill-absurd-authoritarianism-swing-voter>

New Bill will make UK 'hostile' for migrants

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article3888410.ece>

New immigration rules condemned as 'nasty gimmick'

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article3891402.ece>

UK immigration acts through the ages

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-24463873>

Home Office 'Go home' adverts banned by industry watchdog

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-24452551>

Watchdog bans Go Home van campaign over arrests claims

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/watchdog-bans-go-home-van-campaign-over-arrests-claims.22367191>

'Go Home' vans banned, but not 'offensive'

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/go-home-vans-banned-but-not-offensive-1-3132767>

Home Office anti-immigration 'go home' vans banned by advertising watchdog

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-antiimmigration-go-home-vans-banned-by-advertising-watchdog-8868081.html?origin=internalSearch>

Home Office 'go home' vans banned over misleading figures

<http://www.theguardian.com/media/2013/oct/09/home-office-go-home-vans-banned>

Van posters cleared of racial hatred

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article3890252.ece>

Go Home Vans Made One Person Leave The Country, Home Office Reveals

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2013/10/10/go-home-vans_n_4076665.html?utm_hp_ref=uk-politics&ir=UK%20Politics

UK wins allies to curb benefits for migrants

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/Society/article1326908.ece

E-borders information data gathering: Report lists failings

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-24453677>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

UK asylum seekers 'told to prove they are gay'

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-24479812>

Gay or lesbian UK asylum seekers told to 'prove' their sexuality

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/gay-or-lesbian-uk-asylum-seekers-told-to-prove-their-sexuality-8873852.html>

Landlord immigration checks restricted after Lib Dem concerns

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/oct/11/landlord-immigration-checks-restricted-lib-dems>

Scottish Refugee Council calls for regional asylum screening centres

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-24491985>

True scale of European immigration

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/10375358/True-scale-of-European-immigration.html>

UK has 'more than 600,000 jobless EU migrants' - Brussels survey

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article3893386.ece>

[TOP](#)

Race Relations

News

Converting to Islam: British women on prayer, peace and prejudice

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/oct/11/islam-converts-british-women-prejudice>

[TOP](#)

Equality

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

Black and Ethnic Minorities (Underemployment)

Hanzala Malik (Glasgow) (Lab): To ask the Scottish Government what programmes it has to reduce underemployment among black and ethnic minority people and support them into employment. (S4O-02474)

Reply from the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Employment and Sustainable Growth (John Swinney): The Scottish Government is taking a range of steps to address underemployment for all those affected in Scotland, through both our work to promote stronger economic growth and the reform of post-16 education and training, to ensure that our skills provision meets the demands of current and future labour markets.

In addition, specific equality programme funding between 2008 and 2015 will provide £5.756 million across 24 organisations that work to improve employment and employability of black and minority ethnic communities across Scotland.

Equality

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Hanzala Malik: Although the ethnicity and employment information from the 2011 census has not come out, analysis based on the 2001 census showed that unemployment rates were higher for all visible minority groups. The figures for some particular groups were double those for the indigenous community. If the 2011 census analysis shows that the pattern persists, will the cabinet secretary commit to positive action on employment for Scotland's growing ethnic minority population?

John Swinney: The objective of ensuring that there are opportunities for all citizens in Scotland to fulfil their economic potential lies at the very heart of the Government's agenda. Therefore, it is fundamentally important to the Government that we provide the necessary support to minority ethnic communities.

In my original answer I highlighted the specific equality programme funding that is available. I say to Mr Malik that the Government will continue to monitor any new information that emerges, particularly information that emerges out of the analysis of the 2011 census. As part of our commitment to ensure that there are opportunities for all our citizens to flourish, we will take whatever steps we can to support the journey into employability of people from ethnic minorities and to support them in those efforts.

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8555&mode=html#iob_77474

[TOP](#)

Racism and Religious Hatred

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Caste Discrimination

Lord Avebury: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the Government Equalities Office document Caste legislation introduction-programme and timetable allows time for the draft affirmative order outlawing caste discrimination referred to therein to be debated before the General Election of 2015.[HL2166]

Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The timetable for the introduction of caste legislation published by the Government on 29 July (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/caste-discrimination-legislation-timetable>) makes clear that the Affirmative Order referred to in my noble Friend's Question is expected to be introduced for debate in Parliament during summer 2015. Following the Fixed-term Parliaments Act 2011 the date of the next general election has been set at 7 May 2015, which means that the current Parliament will be dissolved during the spring of 2015.

Prior to the debates on the Order, Parliamentarians will of course, if they wish, have the opportunity to respond to either or both of the public consultations on the prospective legislation (expected to issue in February or March 2014) and on the draft of the Order (expected to issue in autumn 2014).

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131008w0001.htm#1310016000040>

Roma

Baroness Whitaker: To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the 25 July Statement on Roma, issued by the United States Mission to the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE); whether they intend to issue any similar statement; and whether they intend to send a senior representative to

Racism and Religious Hatred Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

the November Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting to propose or support any action through the OSCE to address the causes and manifestations of anti-Roma sentiment.[HL2115]

Reply from the Senior Minister of State, Department for Communities and Local Government & Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Baroness Warsi)

(Con): We are concerned about the reports of incidents of anti-Roma sentiment highlighted by the United States Mission to the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). We do not intend to issue a similar statement. Through our Embassies in Central and Eastern Europe and through international organisations such as the OSCE we seek to address both the causes and manifestations of anti-Roma sentiment. For example, our Embassy in Prague has been engaging with the government, non-governmental organisations and civil society in developing projects, visits, meetings, seminars and conferences to tackle discrimination in education. These highlight role models from Roma communities and seek to overcome other barriers to integration.

We will attend the November Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting. We also work through the EU, Council of Europe and the UN, for example using the Universal Periodic Review process, to address the ongoing social exclusion of Roma communities.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131008w0001.htm#13100829000481>

European Parliament Resolution

Caste-based discrimination

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P7-TA-2013-0420+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN>

News

EDL leader Tommy Robinson quits group

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-24442953>

Robinson exit is watershed for English Defence League

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-24441879>

Departing Tommy Robinson says EDL 'too extreme'

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/departing-tommy-robinson-says-edl-too-extreme-1-3131139>

Former EDL leader Tommy Robinson vows to help police track down 'racists' within the organisation and says he's sorry for scaring British Muslims

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2455642/Former-EDL-leader-Tommy-Robinson-help-police-track-racists.html?ico=news^headlines>

I Want to Believe Tommy Robinson Has Seen the Error in His Ways, But I'm Finding It Difficult to Do

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/salma-yaqoob/tommy-robinson-salma-yaqoob_b_4084739.html?utm_hp_ref=uk

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

Who Needs Tommy Robinson and the EDL, When Islamophobia Has Gone Mainstream?

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/mehdi-hasan/who-needs-tommy-robinson-b_4081067.html?utm_hp_ref=uk

Stuart Lawrence race complaint against Met upheld

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-24508066>

Tottenham supporter arrested for using the word 'Yid' is released on bail

<http://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/news-and-comment/tottenham-supporter-arrested-for-using-the-word-yid-is-released-on-bail-8864329.html>

Trainee doctors held back by racism, warns expert

<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/health-news/trainee-doctors-held-back-by-racism-warns-expert-8876498.html>

The bride? She's not very attractive at all! Newlywed's horror as cameraman's anti-semitic and insulting rant is captured in their wedding video

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2451754/Camerans-anti-Semitic-rant-caught-Jewish-wedding-video.html>

[TOP](#)

Other Westminster

Press Releases

Eid al-Adha 2013: message from David Cameron

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/eid-al-adha-2013-message-from-david-cameron>

Hajj pilgrims reminded if unwell not to make the trip this year

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hajj-pilgrims-reminded-if-unwell-not-to-make-the-trip-this-year>

New Publication

UK Excellence in Islamic Finance

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/248791/UK_Excellence_in_Islamic_Finance_2013.pdf

News

Cabinet reshuffle: David Cameron's new line-up

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-19475248>

Michael Moore axed as Scottish secretary in coalition reshuffle

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-24427138>

Profile: Alistair Carmichael

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-24429485>

[TOP](#)

New Publications

Evangelism in state schools – the role of external visitors in publicly funded education
<http://www.secularism.org.uk/uploads/evangelism-in-state-schools.pdf>

[TOP](#)

Other News

New report highlights growing incursion of evangelical Christians into state schools
<http://www.secularism.org.uk/news/2013/10/new-report-highlights-growing-incursion-of-evangelical-christians-into-state-schools>

New Project: Connecting Communities
<http://faith-matters.org/connectingcommunities/about-us/>

Day of the Girl: A survivor's journey after female genital mutilation
<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comment/day-of-the-girl-a-survivors-journey-after-female-genital-mutilation-8874232.html>

[TOP](#)

Bills in Progress ** new or updated this week

Holyrood

Children and Young People Bill
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/62233.aspx>

Criminal Justice Bill
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/65155.aspx>

**** Marriage and Civil Partnership Bill**
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/64983.aspx>

Equal Opportunities Committee: Stage 1 evidence session
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8542&mode=pdf>

**** Scottish Independence Referendum Bill**
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/61076.aspx>

Proposed amendments
http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Scottish%20Independence%20Referendum%20Bill/b25s4-stage2-m12.pdf

Referendum Bill Committee: Stage 2 consideration of amendments
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8556&mode=pdf>

Bill as amended at Stage 2
http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Scottish%20Independence%20Referendum%20Bill/b25as4-amend.pdf

Victims and Witnesses Bill
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/59133.aspx>

Bills in Progress Westminster

Asylum Seekers (Return to Nearest Safe Country) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/asylumseekersreturntonearestsafecountry.html>

Charitable Status for Religious Institutions Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/charitablestatusforreligiousinstitutions.html>

Collection of Nationality Data Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/collectionofnationalitydata.html>

Face Coverings (Prohibition) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/facecoveringsprohibition.html>

Illegal Immigrants (Criminal Sanctions) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/illegalimmigrantscriminalsanctions.html>

**** Immigration Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/immigration.html>

Bill as published

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2013-2014/0110/14110.pdf>

Explanatory Notes

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2013-2014/0110/en/14110en.pdf>

First Reading, House of Commons

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131010/debtext/131010-0001.htm#13101061000014>

Immigration Act 1971 (Amendment) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/immigrationact1971amendment.html>

Lobbyists (Registration of Code of Conduct) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/lobbyistsregistrationofcodeofconduct.html>

Romanian and Bulgarian Accession (Labour Restriction) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2013-14/romanianandbulgarianaccessionlabourrestriction.html>

[TOP](#)

Consultations

** new or updated this week

Inquiry on Race and Higher Education (closing date 31 October 2013)

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/news/492/272/APPG-Inquiry-on-Race-and-Higher-Education.html>

Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) (closing date 4 November 2013)

Draft SORP

<http://www.charitySORP.org/media/513587/charity-sorp-exposure-draft.pdf>

Consultation document

<http://www.charitySORP.org/media/513666/charity-sorp-invitation-to-comment.pdf>

Consultations (continued)

Language Controls for Doctors - Proposed Changes to the Medical Act 1983

(closing date 2 December 2013)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/237302/language_controls_doctors_consultation.pdf

Proposed Human Trafficking Bill (closing date 6 December 2013)

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_MembersBills/20130909_Human_Trafficking_Consultation_final_version.pdf

Review of migrant employment in low-skilled work (closing date 13 December 2013)

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

The census and future provision of population statistics in England and Wales

(closing date 13 December 2013)

<http://ons.gov.uk/ons/about-ons/get-involved/consultations/consultations/beyond-2011-consultation/index.html>

Inquiry on Lobbying (closing date 10 January 2014)

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_StandardsProceduresandPublicAppointmentsCommittee/Inquiries/CfELobbying.pdf

Scottish Football Association Equality Survey (no closing date given)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VKJQQ95>

Experiences of Race and Religion-Related Hate Speech in the UK (no closing date given)

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HR7RBZ3>

[TOP](#)

Job Opportunities

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

[TOP](#)

Funding Opportunities

Volunteering Support Cluster

Closing date for applications: 31 January 2014

Grants of up to £30,000 are available for groups of third sector organisations working in partnership to create new or enhanced volunteering projects, increasing the diversity of volunteers, especially those from disadvantaged groups, and improving opportunities, skills and personal development through volunteering. For information see

<http://tinyurl.com/npkh672>

Volunteering Support Grant

Closing date for applications: 28 February 2014

Grants of up to £10,000 are available for third sector organisations to create new or enhanced volunteering projects, increasing the diversity of volunteers, especially those

Funding Opportunities (continued)

from disadvantaged groups, and improving opportunities, skills and personal development through volunteering. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/obge6vu>

[TOP](#)

Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Black History Month

1 to 31 October

Full programme available at <http://www.crer.org.uk/BlackHistory/2013Brochure.pdf>

**** this week!**

Photographic exhibition: 'Lost Life'

14 October 2013 in Glasgow (11.00 – 5.00)

Exhibition of portraits of Iranian refugees now living in Glasgow by Iman Tajik. It explores the emotional journey of Iranian refugees as they attempt to rebuild their lives in Scotland and the memories, loss and hopes they carry with them. For information contact

arts@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/lwmjgoz>

**** this week!**

"Domestic Abuse and Minority Ethnic Women, Children & Young People"

17 (9.30-4.30pm) & 18 (9.30-12.30pm) October 2013 in Edinburgh

28 (9.30-4.30pm) & 29 (9.30-12.30pm) November 2013 in Edinburgh

Shakti training to raise awareness and understanding of issues facing Minority Ethnic women, children & young people affected by domestic abuse. For information see

<http://tinyurl.com/owhjag2> or contact Ola, Mridu, or Lisa 0131 475 2399 / info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk

Working with interpreters

22 October 2013 in Glasgow (9.15 – 1.00)

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 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk.

Get Connected

30 October 2013 in Glasgow (10.45 – 3.00)

Skills Development Scotland event in partnership with BEMIS to provide networking opportunities between community groups which are engaged with and support young people from minority communities. For information contact Hazel Mathieson conference@sds.co.uk

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 or see <http://tinyurl.com/bmvj354>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Discrimination Law in 2013 – Trick or Treat?

31 October 2013 in Edinburgh

Scottish Discrimination Law Association conference in partnership with the Equality and Human Rights Commission, covering the year's key developments in discrimination law. Reduced rates may be available for voluntary organisations. For information contact Angela Barclay angela.barclay@equalityhumanrights.com / 0141 228 5951.

Scottish Refugee Council Housing Conference

2 November 2013 in Glasgow

Conference in association with the Scottish Refugee Policy for asylum seekers and refugees to find out their rights and options, share experiences and raise issues about housing. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/ktevalr> or contact 07734 030760 / communities@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Scottish Parliament Day

4 November 2013 in Arbroath

Parliament Days aim to take the Scottish Parliament out of Edinburgh to enable people to see it at work, be it 'official' Parliamentary business, or on a less formal level. They also provide an opportunity for people to meet MSPs, the Presiding Officer and Parliament staff. For information see <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/gettinginvolved/67553.aspx>

**** Women, Power, and Politics**

6 November 2013 in Glasgow (10.30 – 12.30)

Amina Muslim Women's Resource Centre referendum event with speakers from both the Better Together and Yes campaign. For information contact Samina Ansari 0141 585 8026 / info@mwrc.org.uk

An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees

8 November 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 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

**** Women's Interfaith Dialogue**

11 November 2013 in Dundee (2.00 – 4.00)

Interfaith Scotland event for women of all faiths and none on the theme of 'Values and Visions for the future of Scotland'. For information contact Frances Hume frances@interfaithscotland.org / 0141 420 6982 or see <http://www.interfaithscotland.org/events/>

Scottish Refugee Council Employment Conference

14 December 2013 in Glasgow

Conference in association with the Scottish Refugee Policy for asylum seekers and refugees to find out their rights and options, share experiences and raise issues about employment. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/ktevalr> or contact 07734 030760 / communities@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Scottish Refugee Council Education Conference

25 January 2014 in Glasgow

Conference in association with the Scottish Refugee Policy for asylum seekers and refugees to find out their rights and options, share experiences and raise issues about education. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/ktevalr> or contact 07734 030760 / communities@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Scottish Refugee Council Health Conference

22 February 2014 in Glasgow

Conference in association with the Scottish Refugee Policy for asylum seekers and refugees to find out their rights and options, share experiences and raise issues about health. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/ktevalr> or contact 07734 030760 / communities@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

[TOP](#)

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/>

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

[TOP](#)



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/>

The copyright of each article belongs to the publisher on whose website it appears, and it may only be copied or reproduced in accordance with the relevant terms and conditions. Full details of these, and the publisher's contact information, are available on each website.