

## Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

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

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## Immigration and Asylum

### Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

#### Asylum Seekers

**Bob Doris:** 1. To ask the Scottish Government how it meets the health needs of asylum seekers. (S4O-02532)

**Reply from the Minister for Public Health (Michael Matheson):** We have always been clear that asylum seekers should be welcomed, supported and integrated into Scotland's communities from day 1 and have access to health services. National health service boards are required to ensure access to health services to meet individuals' needs.

Over the past year we have been working in partnership with the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities and the Scottish Refugee Council to develop a strategy for asylum seekers and refugee integration. The strategy, which will be launched next month, recognises the importance of good health and access to quality health care to the successful integration of refugees and asylum seekers. The

## Immigration and Asylum Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

strategy will increase understanding of their rights and how to access them.

**Bob Doris:** I will raise the specific case of one my constituents who is an asylum seeker. I know that Mr Neil, the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing, is aware of the case. My constituent was taken off the kidney transplant list when he was unsuccessful in his asylum case—that automatically triggered removal from the list, based on English NHS guidelines not Scottish ones—although legal moves are pending. My constituent has still not been put back on the NHS transplant list and the case is being peer reviewed by Lothian NHS Board. Is the minister open-minded to reviewing the treatment of asylum seekers in the Scottish NHS to ensure that Scottish NHS boards are properly following the requirement to treat asylum seekers the same as any other Scot resident in our nation?

**Reply from Michael Matheson:** There is already guidance available for NHS boards that sets out very clearly that those who are in Scotland as asylum seekers should receive the same healthcare provision as any other resident of Scotland. Clearly, on the issue that the member raises, which he has previously raised with the cabinet secretary, clinical decisions have to be made about whether someone should be put on the transplant list. That is about not only the clinical benefit that they would get from a transplant but whether they are able to meet the treatment requirements following the transplant.

If the member has specific information that he thinks would help in addressing his constituent's concerns, I or, I have no doubt, the cabinet secretary will be more than happy to explore the matter with him, to ensure that NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde properly addresses those concerns.

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8604&mode=html#job\\_77824](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8604&mode=html#job_77824)

## Holyrood Parliamentary Motions

**S4M-08201 Roderick Campbell: Immigrants in the UK, Net Contributors to the Economy and Society**—That the Parliament welcomes the publication of research by University College London (UCL) that concludes that immigrants to the UK since 1999 have been net contributors to the economy and are 45% less likely to claim benefits than other UK citizens; understands that the research found that immigrants from European Economic Area (EEA) countries were particularly significant contributors to the UK economy, paying 34% more in tax than they received in benefits in the decade up to 2011, while those from outside the EEA paid roughly 2% more in tax than they received in benefits; believes that this research completely discredits what it considers the prejudiced remarks of the right wing media and certain politicians in recent years, including the Prime Minister, who has referred to immigrants as a “constant drain” on public services and used what it sees as this misinformed view to justify plans for “a much tougher approach to immigration”; considers that the UCL research reinforces statistics published by in an OECD report in June 2013 that found that immigrants make a net contribution of 1.02% of GDP, or £16.3 billion, to the UK due to their relatively young demographic profile and higher level of economic activity than the UK population at large, and welcomes what it considers the valuable contribution that immigrants demonstrably make economically, socially and culturally in Scotland and the UK at the present time.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-08201&ResultsPerPage=10>

## Immigration and Asylum Holyrood Parliamentary Motions (continued)

**S4M-08135.1 Jenny Marra: Hidden in Plain Sight**—As an amendment to motion S4M-08135 in the name of Christina McKelvie (Hidden in Plain Sight) leave out from "in combatting trafficking" to end and insert "and devolved administrations in combatting trafficking in human beings since the publication of the Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group's first report, *Wrong Kind of Victim?*; notes the report's eight recommendations for Scotland, covering the Scottish Parliament's responsibility to tackle human trafficking through devolved powers for criminal law, the police, the judicial system, healthcare and the services that are provided to victims; notes in particular the recommendation for a Scottish national referral mechanism; welcomes what it considers the report's recognition that the proposed Human Trafficking (Scotland) Bill represents progress toward realising this important recommendation, and hopes that both the UK and Scottish governments will take note of all of the recommendations in the report."

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-08135.1&ResultsPerPage=10>

The motion to which this is an amendment was included in last week's MEMO and can be read at

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-08135&ResultsPerPage=10>

## Westminster Parliamentary Questions

### Entry Clearances

**Nigel Evans:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many visa applications have been processed in (a) under three months, (b) under six months, (c) under a year, (d) under 18 months and (e) over 18 months in each of the last five years. [170560]

**Reply from Mark Harper:** We currently split our customer service standards into two categories, 'settlement' and 'non-settlement'.

The 'settlement' category includes applications:

to enter the UK to join or accompany a spouse or civil partner

from children to enter the UK to join or accompany a parent that is settled in the UK

The 'non-settlement' category includes applications to enter the UK:

as a visitor (including as a tourist, to visit family, to conduct business, as a short-term student)

as a highly skilled migrant under PBS Tier 1

a skilled worker under PBS Tier 2

a student under PBS Tier 4

a temporary worker under PBS Tier 5 (including Youth Mobility)

in all other non-settlement categories (including EEA Family Permits, UK Ancestry, Returning Residents, Transit)

The number of visa applications that have been processed in under three months, under six months, under a year and under 18 months and over 18 months in each of the last five years are detailed as follows:

<i>Non-settlement applications</i>									
	<i>Applications</i>	<i>Within 3 months</i>	<i>Within 6 months</i>	<i>Within 12 months</i>	<i>Within 18 months</i>	<i>% within 3 months</i>	<i>% within 6 months</i>	<i>% within 12 months</i>	<i>% within 18 months</i>
2008	2,305,878	2,295,677	2,302,170	2,305,875	2,305,878	99.56	99.84	99.99	100
2009	2,366,077	2,343,926	2,362,210	2,365,575	2,366,047	99.06	99.84	99.98	99.98
2010	2,461,558	2,425,917	2,450,156	2,460,364	2,460,991	98.55	99.54	99.95	99.98

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

2011	2,542,204	2,526,240	2,538,685	2,541,684	2,541,917	99.37	99.86	99.98	99.99
2012	2,494,788	2,490,957	2,493,718	2,494,434	2,494,544	99.85	99.96	99.99	99.99
<i>Settlement Applications</i>									
	<i>Applications</i>	<i>Within 3 months</i>	<i>Within 6 months</i>	<i>Within 12 months</i>	<i>Within 18 months</i>	<i>% within 3 months</i>	<i>% within 6 months</i>	<i>% within 12 months</i>	<i>% within 18 months</i>
2008	73,283	69,590	72,925	73,283	73,283	94.96	99.51	100	100
2009	74,188	66,323	73,169	74,064	74,183	89.40	98.63	99.83	99.99
2010	77,480	67,127	74,461	77,053	77,354	86.64	96.10	99.45	99.84
2011	63,455	57,736	61,972	63,286	63,392	90.99	97.66	99.73	99.90
2012	64,726	48,663	63,607	64,615	64,666	75.18	98.27	99.83	99.91

The stats above relate to main applicants and dependents and are for UK destination only. Within three months is calculated as 60 working days, six months as 120 working days, 12 months as 240 working days and 18 months as 360 working days.

We have service standards for processing UK visa applications. Our current standards were introduced in April 2010. They are to process:

90% of non-settlement applications within three weeks, 98% within six weeks and 100% within 12 weeks of the application date

95% of settlement applications within 12 weeks of the application date and 100% within 24 weeks of the application date.

**Virendra Sharma:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what family visit visa applications to the UK there were in (a) 2008, (b) 2009, (c) 2010, (d) 2011 and (e) 2012 by (i) overall number of decisions made, (ii) number of family visit visa grants, (iii) number of family visit visa refusals, (iv) number of family visit visa applications withdrawn and (v) number of family visit visa applications which lapsed. [173515]

**Reply from Mark Harper:** The following table shows the statistics for family visit visa applications from 2008 to 2012. The numbers relate to main applicants and dependants. The figures are not cohort based.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Applications received	414,486	426,490	422,709	444,088	367,531
Applications decided	407,935	425,823	428,042	445,700	374,782
Applications issued	313,203	332,487	349,988	370,536	302,343
Applications refused	92,561	91,083	76,697.	73,642	70,862
Applications withdrawn	1,430	1,517	914	1,132	1,158
Applications lapsed	741	736	443	390	419

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131105/text/131105w001.htm#13110584000033>

### Immigration

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno:** To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will take action to facilitate an improvement in the quality of first-instance decision-making in immigration cases, in the light of the success rate of immigration appeals in 2011–12, and the proposed changes to the appeal system.[HL2694]

**Reply from The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach)** The Home Office success rate in immigration appeals for

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

decisions where appeal system changes are proposed has improved by 2% from 2011-12. Furthermore the data on allowed appeals should be seen in the context of all decisions made; in 2012-13 there were 10,618 allowed “managed migration” appeals but this is from a total of 228,353 decisions made by the Home Office. Less than 5% of those decisions were overturned.

The improvement in 2012-13 reflects UK Visas and Immigration’s system of continuous improvement for decision making. This improvement is driven by learning lessons from allowed appeals. The UK Visas and Immigration Appeals and Litigation team provides decision makers with bi-monthly analytical reports that analyse why appeals have been allowed and make recommendations on key trends and themes. This forms part of our action on reporting all cases where the right decision was not made first time. The report will allow us to understand better where any weaknesses are in our processes and drive improvements in our decision quality. It will involve further analysis of the information we already hold on allowed appeals, as well as data from other areas of work such as judicial reviews and official complaints. It will supplement the 2% mandatory case sampling undertaken by all casework areas to ensure that decisions are good quality.

The proposed changes to the appeals system will not remove the opportunity for applicants to seek redress on incorrect decision. Administrative reviews will be introduced in order to overturn caseworker errors. In comparison with the current appeals system, administrative reviews will be undertaken more quickly and in a more cost effective way for the applicant.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131107w0001.htm#13110770000310>

### **NHS: Migrant Access**

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno:** To ask Her Majesty’s Government what analysis they have made, or will make, of the extent to which general tax contributions from visitors and migrants cover the costs of health and social care in relation to the provisions contained within the Immigration Bill, in the light of section 2.8 of the report by Prederi, Quantitative Assessment of Visitor and Migrant use of the NHS In England: Exploring the data.[HL2912]

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach) (Con):** The Immigration Bill includes the introduction of a Health Surcharge, which would be applicable to non-EEA temporary migrants in non-visitor immigration categories who come to the UK for more than six months. The Impact Assessment (IA) for this policy estimates the net exchequer cost which arises from the change in migrants as a result of the surcharge. Tables 8 and 9 show the annual average tax contributions and public service consumption (which includes health, education and welfare) per migrant affected by this policy.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/251972/Health\\_impact\\_assessment.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/251972/Health_impact_assessment.pdf)

No estimates have been made on the extent to which general tax contributions from visitors, EEA nationals and migrants not affected by the surcharge cover the costs of health and social care.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131107w0001.htm#13110770000314>

### **“Go home or face arrest” Campaign**

**Pete Wishart:** What discussions he has had with the Secretary of State for the Home Department on the display of materials from the “Go home or face arrest” campaign in

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

the Glasgow UK Border Agency office. [900879]

**Reply from the Secretary of State for Scotland (Alistair Carmichael):** I recently met both my right hon. Friend the Home Secretary and my hon. Friend the Minister for Immigration to discuss a range of immigration matters, including the campaign to which the hon. Gentleman refers. In a written statement last week my hon. Friend the Minister for Immigration informed the House that the poster campaign has no future in Scotland.

**Pete Wishart:** I thank the Secretary of State for that answer, but was it not absolutely appalling that these disgusting and xenophobic materials graced a public office in Scotland, contrary to everything we have tried to achieve through good and positive community relations in Scotland? This is all about a race to the bottom with the UK Independence party on immigration. We do not even do UKIP in Scotland. We do not even do Conservative; we have got the one lone panda of a Minister, the right hon. Member for Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale (David Mundell), sitting there. Can the Secretary of State reassure me that we will never see the likes of these posters again in Scotland?

**Reply from Alistair Carmichael:** This is a serious issue, and I accept that these posters were not appropriate, but I think a slightly more measured approach than the hon. Gentleman's is appropriate to questions such as this. It was made clear in the Immigration Minister's statement last week that these posters will not be back. I am content with that position.

**Philip Hollobone:** What is the Secretary of State's estimate of the number of illegal immigrants in Scotland?

**Reply from Alistair Carmichael:** I do not have that figure to hand, but I will be more than happy to make the appropriate inquiry and write to my hon. Friend.

**Keith Vaz:** I understand that the Secretary of State personally intervened to oppose this campaign. Can he tell us about the fate of the vans that were central to this campaign? Are they going to be pulped—or maybe recycled and used as ministerial vehicles?

**Reply from Alistair Carmichael:** For me, the ministerial vehicle remains, while I am in London, the No. 159 or No. 3 bus, so I do not think I would derive any benefit from the right hon. Gentleman's proposal. The vans were not used in Scotland, of course. There was, however, substantial concern about the use of the posters on the UKBA office there, which I have to say was particularly inappropriate given the good efforts of Glasgow city council and the wider community in Glasgow to ensure that the tone of the treatment of people coming to the city is appropriate. ...

**Katy Clark (North Ayrshire and Arran) (Lab):** I welcome the Secretary of State to his post and pay tribute to the hard work that his predecessor put in. Positive Action in Housing, which he will be aware works with asylum seekers in Scotland, has called the posters "shameful and deeply offensive". Given what he said about the tone, does he agree with that comment?

**Reply from Alistair Carmichael:** I have made it clear that I consider the posters to be inappropriate. They were part of a trial, they have gone and they will not be back. I do not think anything else really matters.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131106/debtext/131106-0001.htm#13110656000017>

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### Immigrants: Detainees

**Sarah Teather:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many individuals are currently held in prisons solely for immigration purposes. [169599]

**Reply from Mark Harper:** For the week commencing 9 September 2013, there were 979 immigration detainees held in prisons.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131105/text/131105w0001.htm#13110584000036>

### Immigration Removal Centres: Transfers

**Baroness Stern:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what action they have taken in response to the comment of HM Chief Inspector of Prisons in a report on Brook House Immigration Removal Centre (published on 1 October) that he was "particularly concerned to observe heavy-handed and disproportionate behaviour by escort contractors charged with removing individuals on charter flights".[HL2843]

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach) (Con):** The Home Office considers all HM Inspectorate of Prisons recommendations carefully and responds to them formally with a service improvement plan, copies of which are placed in the House Library.

The current escorting service provider, Tascor, and the Home Office expect the highest standards from their staff and will take appropriate robust action against those who fail to adhere to them.

Tascor is reviewing their standard operating procedures for managing charter flight operations. This review will cover all aspects of the operation whilst detainees are in their care and will provide enhanced guidelines for staff on expected standards of verbal and physical interaction with individuals detained.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131105w0001.htm#13110569000248>

### Immigration Removal Centres: Transfers

**Baroness Stern:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what action they have taken in response to the comment of HM Chief Inspector of Prisons in a report on Brook House Immigration Removal Centre (published on 1 October) that "many exhausting and unnecessary inter-centre transfers took place at night, with detainees arriving in the early hours".[HL2844]

**Reply from The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach):** Officials are considering the recommendations arising from HM Chief Inspector of Prisons' report of Brook House Immigration Removal Centre and will respond in due course.

The Home Office requires its escorting service provider, Tascor, to carry out moves 24 hours a day. Whilst Tascor aims to keep the number of night time moves to a minimum, some are essential to meet flight times, for welfare reasons such as collections from port holding rooms and to meet time critical elements such as collections from police stations, hospital appointment and court hearings. All proposed moves consider the impact on the care and welfare of individual detainees so that unreasonable moves at night are avoided. Where moves do take place during the night individuals are given as much advance notice as possible

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131107w0001.htm#13110770000311>

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### Human Trafficking: Children

**Rehman Chishti:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what estimate she has made of the number of children trafficked (a) into and (b) out of the UK annually. [173033]

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Inter Departmental Ministerial Group on Human Trafficking Annual Report provides data on the number of potential victims of trafficking, including a breakdown of child referrals. In 2012 there were 371 children referred to national referral mechanism. The report can be found at: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/251487/9794-TSO-HMG\\_Human\\_Trafficking.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/251487/9794-TSO-HMG_Human_Trafficking.pdf)

This figure includes victims who are trafficked within the UK. There is limited knowledge on the number of children trafficked out of the UK. The Government is committed to safeguarding victims of child trafficking and views the trafficking of children as a very serious offence. We are taking action on a number of fronts including working with front line professionals to help them better identify and support potential victims, particularly children.

**Rehman Chishti:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what steps she has put in place to identify victims of child trafficking at UK borders. [173098]

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** Border Force works together with other agencies such as the police, National Crime Agency and local authorities to prevent and detect trafficking at the border. All Border Force staff are trained to identify safeguarding concerns and guidance, alerts and intelligence are used to give officers the information they need to intervene.

When safeguarding concerns are identified officers refer to the statutory agencies that have a child protection or child welfare role and in the case of child trafficking to the National Referral Mechanism, the UK's multi agency trafficking victim identification and support framework.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131104/text/131104w0002.htm#1311052000010>

## Press Releases

### New visa application customer satisfaction survey

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2013/november/06-new-survey>

### Homosexual applicants for asylum can constitute a particular social group who may be persecuted on account of their sexual orientation

<http://curia.europa.eu/jcms/upload/docs/application/pdf/2013-11/cp130145en.pdf>

### Permanent Representatives Committee reaches agreement on provisions for Asylum and Migration Fund

<http://www.eu2013.lt/en/news/pressreleases/permanent-representatives-committee-reaches-agreement-on-provisions-for-asylum-and-migration-fund->

## New Publications

### The Fiscal Effects of Immigration to the UK

[http://www.cream-migration.org/publ\\_uploads/CDP\\_22\\_13.pdf](http://www.cream-migration.org/publ_uploads/CDP_22_13.pdf)

### The Work of the UK Border Agency

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmselect/cmhaff/616/616.pdf>



## **Immigration and Asylum** (continued) **News**

**Recent immigrants to UK 'make net contribution'**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-24813467>

**Immigrants give UK £25bn net contribution - report**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/immigrants-give-uk-25bn-net-contribution-report-1-3174007>

**Migrants contribute £25bn to UK economy, study finds**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/nov/05/migration-target-useless-experts>

**Migrants contributed £25 billion to UK over decade - study**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article3913714.ece>

**Immigrants boost the economy says NIESR**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/news/immigrants-boost-theeconomy-says-niesr-8921634.html?origin=internalSearch>

**Illegal immigrant removal rate attacked by MPs**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-24858574>

**Follow-up rate over migrants criticised**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/wider-political-news/follow-up-rate-over-migrants-criticised.22626752>

**The immigration debate is not just about numbers**

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2013/nov/06/immigration-debate-numbers-study-migration>

**For every 66 tip-offs only one illegal immigrant is deported**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article3916052.ece>

**Foreign executives to get "personalised" visa service**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-24827404>

**Theresa May launches fast-track visa service for business leaders**

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2013/nov/06/theresa-may-great-club-uk-visa-service-launch>

**Are you Great enough for Britain? Home Office launches exclusive invitation-only visa service for world's most successful business executives**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/are-you-great-enough-for-britain-home-office-launches-exclusive-invitationonly-visa-service-for-worlds-most-successful-business-executives-8923857.html>

**MPs attack proposal to make landlords check immigration status of tenants**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/nov/08/mps-attack-landlords-immigration-status-tenants>

**Refugee women 'speak up' at Glasgow conference**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-24873474>

**Roma will come West and have to beg or be exploited, says leader**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article3915216.ece>

## **Immigration and Asylum News** (continued)

**Alex Salmond makes 'sabotage' claims after Chinese teachers denied visas**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-24801070>

**Teachers to stay after U-turn by the Home Office**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/wider-political-news/teachers-to-stay-after-u-turn-by-the-home-office.22620222>

**Salmond appeal as Mandarin scheme staff refused visas**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/salmond-appeal-as-mandarin-scheme-staff-refused-visas.22583966>

**Top EU court ruling backs gay African asylum bids**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-24848887>

**European Court of Justice: gays may have case for EU asylum**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/european-court-of-justice-gays-may-have-case-for-eu-asylum.1383822355>

**EU rules that gay Africans are entitled to asylum**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/eu/10432984/EU-rules-that-gay-Africans-are-entitled-to-asylum.html>

**Refugees who claim they are fleeing persecution because they are gay should be granted asylum, rules European Court of Justice**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2490311/Gay-refugees-fleeing-persecution-granted-asylum-EU.html>

**UK population will soar by nearly '10 million by 2037 with immigration attributed to projected increase**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/uk-population-will-soar-by-nearly-10-million-by-2037-with-immigration-attributed-to-projected-increase-8924418.html>

**Immigration will fuel population rise equivalent to another London**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article3915234.ece>

**Too much 'stick' and not enough 'carrots': Government's policy on illegal immigrants criticised**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/too-much-stick-and-not-enough-carrots-governments-policy-on-illegal-immigrants-criticised-8927860.html?origin=internalSearch>

**Illegal migrants' children denied access to education and housing - report**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/nov/09/illegal-migrant-children-denied-access-education-housing>

**Migrant Help to take over provision of asylum advice services**

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/latest\\_news/2206\\_migrant\\_help\\_to\\_take\\_over\\_provision\\_of\\_asylum\\_advice\\_services](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/2206_migrant_help_to_take_over_provision_of_asylum_advice_services)

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## Race Relations

### News

**Britain's Asian past is longer than you might think**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/nov/06/britains-asian-past-longer-than-think>

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## Equality

### Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

#### Race Equality

**Jackie Baillie:** To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S4W-17158 by Shona Robison on 26 September 2013, how much it has provided for each year from 2007-08 to 2014-15 for work on race equality, also broken down by organisation. (S4W-17578)

**Reply from Shona Robison:** The Scottish Government has provided significant funding over the period 2007–15 to promote equality and help tackle inequality and discrimination. The Equality budget supports funding to address issues of race equality through its Equality Fund, through strategic interventions and through its support for intermediary organisations. Figures relating to the support for organisations are broken down by organisation and detailed in the table placed in the Parliament's reference centre (Bib. number 55361).

In addition, resources from the Equality budget also contribute to race and religious equality work elsewhere in the Scottish Government such as sectarianism and gypsy/traveller educational projects.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-17578&ResultsPerPage=10>

**Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S4W-17158 by Shona Robison on 26 September 2013, to what projects and initiatives the £5.3 million is allocated. (S4W-17579)

**Reply from Shona Robison:** The Scottish Government is providing significant funding (nearly £21 million per annum) over the period 2012–15 to help tackle inequality and discrimination. The £5.3 million is the amount of money provided by the Scottish Government's Equality Fund for specific work to tackle issues around race and religious equality. A detailed breakdown of this is shown in table A of the information placed in the Parliament's reference centre (Bib. number 55362). In addition the Equality budget also supports strategic interventions and provides support to intermediary bodies which also contribute to tackling race inequality and religious intolerance and discrimination. These are detailed in table B and table C of the information placed in the Parliament's reference centre (Bib. number 55362).

In addition resources from the Equality budget also contribute to race and religious equality work elsewhere in the Scottish Government such as sectarianism and gypsy/traveller educational projects.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-17579&ResultsPerPage=10>

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# Racism and Religious Hatred

## Holyrood Parliamentary Question

### **Gypsy/Traveller Community**

**Mary Fee:** To ask the Scottish Government how it will tackle discrimination toward the gypsy/traveller community. (S4W-17986)

**Reply from Shona Robison:** The Scottish Government recognises the extent of discrimination against the gypsy/traveller community and the need to have a co-ordinated approach to improving outcomes and life-chances. We are developing a strategic overview and action plan building on existing work and drawing on the recommendations of the recent enquiries undertaken by the Equal Opportunities Committee. This we expect to be finalised by spring 2015.

In the meantime we are at the early stages of taking forward an awareness raising campaign as recommended in the report of the Equal Opportunities Committee. We intend to work with gypsies/travellers and other relevant stakeholders in its development. We will also be exploring how gypsies/travellers can have a voice in the matters that affect them and how best they can participate in a way which suits their living experience.

We are establishing a gypsy/traveller site working group to consider further issues in relation to sites raised in the Equal Opportunities Committee Report Where Gypsy/Travellers Live. There is now a Scottish social housing charter outcome relating to gypsy/traveller sites, that "Sites are well maintained and managed". Site satisfaction data will be collected for the first time by the Scottish Housing Regulator in 2014 along with data on average weekly rent per pitch and total number of pitches.

We will continue with a range of projects of support such as a three year programme run by MECOPP to increase understanding around informal caring in the gypsy/traveller community and support for the Article 12 project about building bridges in young gypsies/travellers' lives. We have commissioned Carers Scotland and MECOPP to produce a carers' rights charter which clarifies that gypsies/travellers should have advice, information and support. We are also mapping the adult literacy work with the gypsy/traveller community and will be publishing the review of the patient record of personal health, now commonly referred to as the "hand-held record", by the end of 2013.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-17986&ResultsPerPage=10>

## Press Release

**Two-year football banning order for 'Nazi' salute at under-17s football tournament**

<http://www.crownoffice.gov.uk/media-site/media-releases/569-two-year-football-banning-order-for-nazi-salute-at-under-17s-football-tournament>

## New Publications

**Report: Discrimination and hate crime against Jews in EU Member States: experiences and perceptions of antisemitism**

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2013-discrimination-hate-crime-against-jews-eu-member-states\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2013-discrimination-hate-crime-against-jews-eu-member-states_en.pdf)

## Racism and Religious Hatred

### New Publications (continued)

**Factsheet: Jewish people's experience of discrimination and hate crime in European Union Member States**

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2013-factsheet-jewish-people-experiences-discrimination-and-hate-crime-eu\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2013-factsheet-jewish-people-experiences-discrimination-and-hate-crime-eu_en.pdf)

**Survey data explorer - Jewish people's experiences and perceptions of hate crime, discrimination and antisemitism**

<http://fra.europa.eu/DVS/DVT/as2013.php>

## News

**Anti-Semitism 'on the rise' say Europe's Jews**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-24857207>

**Antisemitism on the rise, says European survey**

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/nov/08/antisemitism-rise-european-survey>

**Antisemitism hasn't gone away. We must find a way to talk about it**

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2013/nov/08/antisemitism-eu-survey-jews>

**Anti-Semitism is on the rise, finds survey of European Jewish people**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/france/10436561/Anti-Semitism-is-on-the-rise-finds-survey-of-European-Jewish-people.html>

**Jewish symbols hidden to avoid anti-Semitism**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/faith/article3917568.ece>

**Scottish tattoo parlours to offer free swastika inkings in bid to 'reclaim' symbol**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/scottish-tattoo-parlours-to-offer-free-swastika-inkings-in-bid-to-reclaim-symbol-8929641.html>

**Anti-sectarian football laws fear as fans complain**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/top-stories/anti-sectarian-football-laws-fear-as-fans-complain-1-3174637>

**Society at large should combat racism, say sports professionals**

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

**Rangers fan banned after youth final Nazi salute**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/scotland/top-stories/rangers-fan-banned-after-youth-final-nazi-salute-1-3176873>

**Rangers fan banned from football for two years for making Nazi salute at Old Firm youth cup final**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/rangers-fan-banned-football-two-2683075>

**Rangers fan gets two-year ban after Nazi salute at Firhill youth cup final**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/crime-courts/rangers-fan-gets-two-year-ban-after-nazi-salute-at-firhill-youth-cup-final.1383753204>

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## Other Holyrood

### Debate

#### **Local Police Services**

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8604&mode=html#job\\_77837](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8604&mode=html#job_77837)

### Parliamentary Motion

**S4M-08159 Hanzala Malik: Diabetes Scotland Secures Support for Glasgow's Ethnic Minority Communities**—That the Parliament congratulates Diabetes Scotland on securing funding for its work with black and ethnic minority communities in Glasgow for a further two years; understands that this will enable it to continue to support people from minority ethnic backgrounds to reduce their risk of developing diabetes and help people with the condition to self-manage and live well; further understands that funding is from two sources, Glasgow City Reshaping Care Partnership's Transformation Fund and Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland; is confident that this funding and the two new projects that it will help establish will greatly improve the quality of life for people in black and ethnic minority communities with diabetes and their families, and wishes Diabetes Scotland every success.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-08159&ResultsPerPage=10>

### Press Release

#### **Scottish Policing Performance**

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Scottish-Policing-Performance-5ce.aspx>

### New Publication

#### **Scottish Policing Performance Framework Annual Report, 2012-13**

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0043/00437520.pdf>

### News

#### **Labour MSP Helen Eadie dies, aged 66**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-24853276>

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## Other Westminster

### Parliamentary Questions

#### **Sukuk**

**Roger Williams:** What his policy is on the issuing of Government bonds in the form of sukuk; and if he will make a statement. [900895]

**Reply from the Financial Secretary to the Treasury (Sajid Javid):** The Government want the United Kingdom to become the first sovereign state outside

## Other Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

the Muslim world to issue an Islamic bond. The Treasury is therefore working on the practicalities of issuing about £200 million of sovereign sukuk as early as next year. The Government see sukuk issuance as an excellent opportunity to promote London as the leading centre for Islamic finance.

**Roger Williams:** As chairman of the all-party group on Islamic finance and diversity in financial markets, I welcome the Government's decision to issue a sukuk. It is something the group has campaigned on. I also congratulate the Government on their part in hosting the World Islamic Economic Forum in this country, the first time it has been held in a non-Muslim country. What else are the Government doing to promote Islamic investment in this country and sustain the Islamic banking sector?

**Reply from Sajid Javid:** I thank my hon. Friend for his continuing work in promoting Islamic finance and diversity in financial markets. London is already a global player in Islamic finance, which brings in significant investment and creates thousands of jobs. Last week I also announced that we are bringing together a global Islamic investment group. This group will have the expertise to help Islamic finance grow globally, as well as developing London as one of the leading centres for Islamic finance.

**Keith Vaz (Leicester East) (Lab):** May I also welcome what the Government have done? It will make this country the first anywhere in the western world to provide sharia-compliant bonds. We do not just want people to invest from outside, however. Although the last census showed that Brecon and Radnor had 116 Muslim people, I have 21,075 in my constituency. How does the Minister intend to sell those bonds to the people of Leicester East?

**Reply from Sajid Javid:** I thank the right hon. Gentleman for his warm words. Britain already has 20 banks offering Islamic financial products. We also have 49 sukuk listed on the London stock exchange, valued at over £25 billion, and 25 law firms that have significant Islamic practices. We will bring all this experience together to further develop Britain as an Islamic finance centre, and I am sure that will help his constituents with their investment decisions.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131105/debtext/131105-0001.htm#13110557000017>

### Female Genital Mutilation

**Baroness Manzoor:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the report *Tackling Female Genital Mutilation in the UK* by the Royal College of Nursing.

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Health (Earl Howe):** My Lords, the Government welcome the intercollegiate report *Tackling FGM in the UK*, which is published this week. Female genital mutilation is illegal. It is important that children and young women are protected from this abhorrent procedure. My honourable friend Jane Ellison has supported the development of this report. As Minister for Public Health, she has stated that one of her priorities is to continue to work towards eradicating female genital mutilation with the organisations that are promoting the report, among many others.

**Baroness Manzoor:** ... Does he welcome, as I do, the proposal that FGM should be treated by healthcare workers as a crime and reported to the police? Does he also welcome the work of the Liberal Democrat Minister, Lynne Featherstone, in prioritising the eradication of FGM in her work in the Department for International Development?

**Reply from Earl Howe:** My Lords, I agree with my noble friend. Female genital mutilation is child abuse and violence against girls and women. It is also a criminal offence, and cutters and perpetrators need to be brought to justice. I pay tribute to

## Other Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

the work currently in train in the Department for International Development, which has begun an ambitious programme to address FGM in Africa and beyond.

**Baroness Butler-Sloss:** My Lords, will the Minister ensure that the police and the Crown Prosecution Service put forward far more appropriate prosecutions?

**Reply from Earl Howe:** My Lords, the Government are as frustrated as I am sure the noble and learned Baroness is by the lack of prosecutions. We welcome the Crown Prosecution Service action plan, published last year with a view to bringing successful prosecutions. The CPS guidance on FGM prosecutions provides a useful framework for prosecutors to understand how to build stronger cases with the police to bring to court. It explains how they need to be aware of the fact that where there is a victim of FGM, the local authority or social services may well have material or information to support that.

**Lord West of Spithead:** My Lords, we have failed thousands of young women. This issue first came above my radar horizon as a Minister in the Home Office when one of my sisters, who was training as a midwife, explained the full horror and scale of FGM. I was completely horrified. I failed in my time in the Home Office to ensure that people were being correctly prosecuted. Since then, we have not done any better. I am glad to hear what is being said, but does the Minister really believe that now we will ensure we have a series of prosecutions? If we do not, we will not stop this vile thing happening.

**Reply from Earl Howe:** I completely agree with the noble Lord. It is clear that we need to make a step change in the landscape here. We have continued to prioritise FGM, both at home and overseas. The intercollegiate report, however, published this week, adds a very welcome dimension to the work we are doing. It was written by health professionals and FGM experts for health professionals, and the Government will naturally study the report very carefully and consider the recommendations as part of the cross-government programme of work to tackle and eradicate this awful practice.

**Baroness Masham of Ilton:** My Lords, is the noble Earl aware that I took through your Lordships' House the Prohibition of Female Circumcision Act 1985? Is he aware that I, too, am most frustrated by the lack of prosecutions? Why has France convicted people with this horrific condition and not us?

**Reply from Earl Howe:** My Lords, I am aware of that. I was a new Member of the House when that Act went through, and I commend the noble Baroness for the work she did on that issue. She mentioned France. One of the features of the French system is the physical examination of all girls under the age of five. We will not be following that path. We do not think it would be right to do so. We think it raises ethical and human rights concerns. However, all children are routinely seen by healthcare staff in the universal healthy child programme that covers England, and prevention and safeguarding absolutely underpin that programme. It is an important channel for conversations to be held with parents and children, so that they can be provided with relevant support and advice.

**Lord McConnell of Glenscorrodale:** My Lords, the 1985 Act was updated in Scotland by the Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation (Scotland) Act 2005. It extended the maximum sentence from five years to 14 years. In Scotland, as in the rest of the UK, there have been no prosecutions. Will the Minister and the Government work closely with the Scottish Government to make sure that we have a unified approach across the UK to ensure that there are prosecutions in the future for this most extreme form of child abuse?

**Reply from Earl Howe:** Yes, my Lords, we work closely with our colleagues in the devolved Administrations. The noble Lord is absolutely right: FGM is a crime in the UK under the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003, and in Scotland under the Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation (Scotland) Act 2005. I am advised that it



## Other Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

is a feature of both Acts that if someone is taken overseas for the mutilation, it is still a crime in the UK if the mutilation is done by a UK national or permanent UK resident.

**Lord Chidgey:** My Lords, the UNICEF report released in July sets out that 129 countries practise FGM. Most of those countries—which have 125 million girls—have strong community links with the United Kingdom. Does my noble friend agree that if we are to eliminate FGM on girls in the UK we must work alongside organisations such as Tostan and AWEPA, which are successfully campaigning for the abandonment of FGM throughout rural communities in much of Africa and elsewhere? What liaison is there between government departments in this country to address FGM at home and overseas? There must be some working together here.

**Reply from Earl Howe:** I agree with my noble friend. I referred to the work being done by DfID. The approach of DfID's programme is to work with communities through civil society organisations in at least 15 of the most affected countries. Developments in FGM abroad tend to change attitudes towards communities here, which is why the Government are confident that the work of DfID will result in culture change and, hopefully, abandonment in both Africa and the UK. I would be happy to write to my noble friend with details of the co-operative work that we are doing.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131107-0001.htm#13110766000697>

## Early Day Motion

**Valerie Vaz (670) Female Genital Mutilation** – That this House expresses concern that there is a need for stronger action to prevent the crime of female genital mutilation (FGM); notes the report by a coalition of health professionals calling for FGM to be treated as child abuse; further notes the action plan on tackling FGM published by the Director of Public Prosecutions, Keir Starmer; calls for implementation of the recommendation in the report and action plan that evidence of FGM in the family should be collected and used to identify persons who may be at risk of FGM; further calls for examination of the reporting duties for medical professionals and teachers in referring possible FGM cases to the police; and further calls on the Government to formulate a strategy to raise awareness of this issue.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2013-14/670>

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## Other News

**IVF success affected by ethnicity, study suggests**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-24816894>

**Genital mutilation 'must be treated as child abuse'**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-24765956>

**One million Muslims will wear Remembrance poppies despite extremists' opposition, say researchers**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/one-million-muslims-will-wear-remembrance-poppies-despite-extremists-opposition-say-researchers-8924933.html>

## Other News (continued)

### Veils in court: judges to be given guidance, says lord chief justice

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/nov/05/veils-court-judges-skype-lord-chief-justice>

### Muslim family challenges 'do not resuscitate' ruling over gravely ill man

<http://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2013/nov/09/muslim-family-do-not-resuscitate-challenge-liverpool>

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## 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>

Stage 1 Report

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_EqualOpportunitiesCommittee/Reports/eoR-13-05w.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_EqualOpportunitiesCommittee/Reports/eoR-13-05w.pdf)

#### \*\* Scottish Independence Referendum Bill

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

Revised explanatory notes

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_Bills/Scottish%20Independence%20Referendum%20Bill/b25as4-stage2-en-rev.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Scottish%20Independence%20Referendum%20Bill/b25as4-stage2-en-rev.pdf)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee report: Bill as amended at stage 2

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_SubordinateLegislationCommittee/Reports/suR-13-57w.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_SubordinateLegislationCommittee/Reports/suR-13-57w.pdf)

Notice of amendments

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_Bills/Scottish%20Independence%20Referendum%20Bill/websiteamendments8Nov.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Scottish%20Independence%20Referendum%20Bill/websiteamendments8Nov.pdf)

#### \*\* Victims and Witnesses Bill

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

Notice of amendments

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_Bills/Victims%20and%20Witnesses%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/b23s4-stage2-ml2.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Victims%20and%20Witnesses%20(Scotland)%20Bill/b23s4-stage2-ml2.pdf)

### Bills in Progress Westminster

#### Asylum Seekers (Return to Nearest Safe Country) Bill

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

## Bills in Progress

### Westminster (continued)

#### **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>

Public Bill Committee

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmpublic/immigration/131105/am/131105s01.htm>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmpublic/immigration/131105/pm/131105s01.htm>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmpublic/immigration/131107/am/131107s01.htm>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmpublic/immigration/131107/pm/131107s01.htm>

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2013-2014/0110/amend/pbc1100511m.23-29.html>

and

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

#### **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>

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## Consultations

\*\* new or updated this week

**Immigration Bill** (closing date 19 November 2013)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/news/2013/october/have-your-say-on-the-immigration-bill/>

## Consultations (continued)

**Voluntary Sector Survey - Local government responses to migrant families who have no recourse to public funds** (closing date 22 November 2013)

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

**\*\* Call for evidence on local policing** (closing date 29 November 2013)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/gettinginvolved/69420.aspx>

**Commission for Local Democracy** (closing date 29 November 2013)

<http://www.localdemocracy.info/call-for-evidence/>

**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](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](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](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_StandardsProceduresandPublicAppointmentsCommittee/Inquiries/CfELobbying.pdf)

**\*\* Proposed Bill: Promoting greater accountability and transparency in local government** (closing date 20 January 2013)

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_MembersBills/John\\_Finnie\\_final\\_consultation.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_MembersBills/John_Finnie_final_consultation.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>

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## Job Opportunities

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

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**\*\* *this week!***

**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](mailto:frances@interfaithscotland.org) / 0141 420 6982 or see <http://www.interfaithscotland.org/events/>

**Third Sector Summit**

21 November 2013 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 7.30)

SCVO events and workshops relevant to the diverse organisations that make up the third sector in Scotland. For information see <http://www.scvo.org.uk/scvo-events/third-sector-summit-2013/> or contact [events@scvo.org.uk](mailto:events@scvo.org.uk) / 0131 474 6150

**\*\* The Religious Life of Scotland Today: Insights from the 2011 Census**

21 November 2013 in Edinburgh (12.30 to 2.00)

An analysis of data about religion from the 2011 census. For information contact Frances Hume [frances@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:frances@interfaithscotland.org) / 0141 420 6982

**Poverty and Ethnicity in Scotland**

22 November 2013 in Glasgow (9.30 – 1.00)

CRER event to bring people with an interest in poverty and ethnicity together with the researchers studying these issues, discussing the latest research findings and their implications for tackling economic disadvantage. For information contact Nadia Rafiq [nadia@crer.org.uk](mailto:nadia@crer.org.uk) / 0141 418 6530 or see <http://www.crer.org.uk/81-front-page-articles/415-poverty-and-ethnicity-in-scotland>

**\*\* Scottish Interfaith Week**

24 November to 1 December 2013

For information contact Frances Hume [frances@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:frances@interfaithscotland.org) / 0141 420 6982 or, for the full programme of events see <http://www.interfaithscotland.org/app/download/8678108/Scottish+Interfaith+Week+Events+FINAL+2013.docx>

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

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](mailto:info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk)

**\*\* Stepping into Diversity Heritage Walk: Jewish, Muslim, Christian**

28 November 2013 in Glasgow (10.45 to 1.45)

Guided heritage walk visiting Garnethill Synagogue, Al-Furqan Mosque, and St Mary's Cathedral. Meet at 29 Garnet Street at 10.45. The event is free but booking is essential, contact Ben Williams [bwilliams@wsrec.co.uk](mailto:bwilliams@wsrec.co.uk) / 0141 337 6626.

**\*\* Breaking Barriers – Christian / Muslim Youth Conference**

30 November 2013 in Edinburgh (10.00 to 4.00)

Edinburgh Interfaith Association and Alaweed Centre conference to bring together Christians and Muslims between 17 and 30. For information contact Iain Steward [iain@eifa.org.uk](mailto:iain@eifa.org.uk) or see <http://www.eifa.org.uk/breaking-barriers/>

## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### **\*\* Interfaith Family Fair**

1 December 2013 in Glasgow (2.00 to 4.00)

Fun day for families at St Mungo Museum of Religious Life and Art, with opportunities to discover nine different faith traditions in Glasgow. For information contact Frances Hume [frances@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:frances@interfaithscotland.org) / 0141 420 6982 or see <http://interfaithglasgow.org/interfaith-week/>

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:communities@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

### **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](mailto:communities@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

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## Useful Links

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Useful Links (continued)

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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