

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 and UK Parliament and Government websites been redesigned, so that links published in back issues of MEMO may no longer work. To find archive material on these websites, copy details from MEMO into the relevant search facility.

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Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Ministerial Statement and Questions

Romanian and Bulgarian Accession

Yvette Cooper (Normanton, Pontefract and Castleford): To ask the Home Secretary if she will make a statement on Romanian and Bulgarian accession.

Reply from the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Mrs Theresa May): In June 2005, the previous Government signed accession treaties with Romania and Bulgaria, and in doing so they granted all Romanians and Bulgarians the right to come to Britain. The treaties came into effect in 2007, and as a result the seven-year transitional controls relating to free movement will end on 1 January 2014. From that date, Romanians and Bulgarians will have the right to largely unrestricted free movement across Europe.

Unlike the previous Government, who chose not to apply the transitional controls for countries such as Poland and Hungary in 2004, this Government are doing everything we can to ensure that we are prepared for this latest extension in EU free movement rights. First, we are making use of the full seven years available to us to impose

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Ministerial Statement and Questions (continued)

transitional controls, something the Labour party failed to do in 2004, which meant that Britain was the only major economy in Europe to grant full access to its labour market to millions of Poles, Hungarians and others.

Secondly, we are tightening the European immigration regulations to ensure that we do not gold-plate EU free movement rules. We are therefore amending the regulations to create a statutory presumption that a European's right to reside here ends after six months unless they can prove that they are actively seeking work and stand a real chance of finding it.

Thirdly, we are taking action to limit the pull factors that attract people to come to Britain. My right hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions is introducing a three-month delay before a European jobseeker can claim benefits and a new minimum earnings threshold to ensure that EU nationals are genuinely working in the UK before they can access benefits. He is also developing a tougher six-month test to assess whether benefit claimants have a genuine chance of finding work. That will apply to all EU nationals who come here to look for work and those who have already worked here. Those changes will come into effect as soon as possible in the new year. My right hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Health is ensuring that, wherever possible, the NHS claims back the cost of treating Europeans from their home country. My right hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government will issue new statutory guidance to ensure that local authorities set a residency requirement, or a minimum period of residence in a community, before a person qualifies for social housing.

Fourthly, we are ensuring that there is a full and proper operational response to the challenges brought by that extension in free movement. We are working with the police, local authorities and other agencies to identify Europeans who are rough-sleeping and not exercising their treaty right to be in the UK. Where appropriate, those people will be removed. We are also changing the European immigration regulations to introduce a 12-month bar on their return to Britain, unless they can prove that they have a proper reason to be here.

Fifthly, I have lobbied other member states in the Council of Ministers about the abuse of free movement, and there is a growing coalition of support for change. In April this year, Germany, Austria and the Netherlands, along with Britain, wrote to the European presidency and the Commission to make the case for change. Although I am pleased that the European Commission has at long last admitted that there is a problem, it is still refusing to do anything meaningful about it.

Those are the measures we are taking to prepare us for the extension of free movement in January, but in the long term there is much more we need to do.

To continue reading the lengthy statement and following question and answer session, see

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131127/debtext/131127-0001.htm#13112751000006>

UK Parliament Questions

Immigration

Lord Roberts of Llandudno: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they have any further plans to roll out the pilot projects for (1) the "Go Home" advertisement vans piloted in London, and (2) the "Is life here hard? Going home is simple" advertisements piloted in UKBA public enquiry offices in Glasgow and Hounslow; and when the evaluations of those projects will be made public.[HL2913]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach): The Home Office will not be rolling out the ad vans further.

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

The evaluation for Operation Vaken, of which the ad vans were one element, was published on 31 October 2013 and copies were placed in the library of both Houses. The separate pilot activity in reporting centres in Hounslow and Glasgow will not be repeated in its current form.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131125w0001.htm#13112513000346>

Immigration: Registered Travellers

Viscount Colville of Culross: To ask Her Majesty's Government why non-European Union citizens who are resident in the United Kingdom are not allowed to register for the new registered traveller scheme; and how that compares with the conditions for registration (1) by such citizens for the old iris recognition immigration scheme and (2) by non-European Union citizens who are not resident in the United Kingdom. [HL3563]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach): Registered Traveller was launched in September 2013, as a pilot scheme with a small cohort of potential applicants so that Border Force can test the processes. The cohort for the Registered Traveller pilot consists of those non EEA nationals who were registered for IRIS. The pilot scheme does not currently include those non EEA nationals who are resident in the UK, but does include those non EEA nationals who are visitors and not resident in the UK.

This initial approach allows for comprehensive testing and evaluation of the processes and systems, including the IT. The evaluation of the pilot will inform the criteria for the next cohort to be included on the scheme.

The eligibility and Terms & Conditions for the pilot scheme are available at <https://www.gov.uk/registered-traveller-scheme>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131128w0001.htm#13112866000352>

Health Services: Overseas Students

Roger Godsiff: To ask the Secretary of State for Health what assessment she has made of the potential administrative cost to the NHS of charging international students for their treatment. [176228]

Reply from Jane Ellison: The Immigration Bill, currently before Parliament, proposes to introduce a requirement for non-European economic area (EEA) temporary migrants, coming to the United Kingdom for more than six months, to pay an annual health surcharge with their visa application fee. This includes international students.

The estimated administration cost to the national health service in England for the total number of estimated non-EEA migrants who will be covered by the health surcharge is £0.3 million per year. International students represent approximately 300,000 out of a total of around 500,000 visas granted to non-EEA temporary migrants. This was published in the Home Office impact assessment, a copy of which has been placed in the Library.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131125/text/131125w0005.htm#13112540000112>

Asylum Seekers

Lord Roberts of Llandudno: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many former unaccompanied asylum-seeking children were removed from the United Kingdom upon reaching the age of 18 in the years (1) 2010, (2) 2011, (3) 2013, and (4) thus far in 2013. [HL3433]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Taylor of Holbeach): Details of removals of former unaccompanied asylum seeking children once they have reached the age of 18 are shown in the following table:

Removals of UASCs for the period Jan 2010 to Jun 2013					
Final Removals Type	2010	2011	2012	2013	Total no. of Removals
Assisted Voluntary Return	37	41	51	24	153
Enforced	99	179	94	67	439
Facilitated Returns Scheme	5	-	5	5	6
Voluntary Departure	19	34	26	15	94
Grand Total	159	254	172	107	692

*Data derived using UASC PiDs provided by Liverpool PU Team for ALL UASC cases

**Removals data used from historical removals report 2010-2013

***'Voluntary Departure' includes 'Voluntary - Data matching' and 'Voluntary - Eurodac'

****All numbers below 5 are rounded to nearest 5. Total is sum of actual figures.

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

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131128w0001.htm#13112866000346>

Deportation

Caroline Lucas: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many people were removed from the UK between January 2004 and May 2013 by detainee custody officers working as overseas escorts who were not properly certified and accredited by her Department in accordance with the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; and if she will make a statement. [175447]

Reply from Mark Harper: The information requested cannot be provided without collation and examination of individual records at disproportionate cost.

Detainee Custody Officers who are employed as overseas escorts are accredited by Home Office Immigration Enforcement in accordance with Detention Services Order 4/2011 which is available at:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/policyandlaw/detention-services-orders/> —detainee custody officer certification

In order to receive their accreditation, officers receive compulsory training on issues including welfare, first aid and control and restraint.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131126/text/131126w0001.htm#13112670000018>

Human Trafficking: Young People

Fiona Mactaggart: To ask the Attorney-General whether the Crown Prosecution Services flags cases where the victim is under 18 years when prosecuting cases of human trafficking as it does in domestic violence and child abuse cases. [177627]

Reply from the Solicitor-General: The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) uses a "double flag" when prosecuting cases of human trafficking involving victims under 18. The double flag involves using both the Human Trafficking Monitoring Flag to identify the number of defendants prosecuted for these offences, and the Child

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Abuse Flag to distinguish cases where the victim was under 18 at the time of the commission of the offence.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131128/text/131128w0002.htm#1311291000007>

Human Trafficking

Louise Ellman: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if she will (a) create the position of anti-slavery commissioner and (b) take other steps to increase the number of convictions for human trafficking. [177029]

Reply from James Brokenshire: The proposed draft Modern Slavery Bill will include provisions on the appointment of an Anti-Slavery Commissioner. The planned Commissioner will play a key role in strengthening the efforts of law enforcement agencies in the UK to secure more modern slavery and human trafficking investigations, prosecutions and convictions. The exact nature of this role is still being developed and will be further reviewed following pre-legislative scrutiny of the Bill.

The proposed Modern Slavery Bill will also: increase the maximum sentence available on human trafficking and modern slavery offences from 14 years to life imprisonment; include the offences in the extended determinate sentences regime; and introduce civil orders to restrict the movement of perpetrators.

Revised guidance on effective investigation and prosecution of offences will be issued shortly by the Director of Public Prosecutions.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131127/text/131127w0001.htm#13112771000047>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Jeremy Corbyn (788) Roma migrant communities – That this House notes the significance of the University of Salford's pioneering research into the demographics of the UK's new Roma migrant communities; recommends that the Government carries out an urgent review to address the major shortcomings of its National Roma Integration Strategy; and calls on the Government to send out an urgent instruction to all statutory agencies reminding them of their duty to promote community cohesion particularly by refraining from anti-Roma rhetoric.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2013-14/788>

New Publications

User Guide to Home Office Immigration Statistics

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/260910/user-guide-immig-statistics.pdf

Immigration statistics, July to September 2013

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

Children entering detention under Immigration Act powers (October 2013)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/260905/children-detention-oct2013.ods

Immigration and Asylum

New Publications (continued)

Monthly asylum application tables (September 2013)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/260902/asylum-sep2013.ods

Britain wants you! Why the UK should commit to increasing international student numbers

http://www.ippr.org/images/media/files/publication/2013/11/Britain-wants-you_Nov2013_11534.pdf

News

Net migration into UK increases - Office for National Statistics

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-25135418>

Net migration on rise despite David Cameron's pledge to cut numbers by election

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/net-migration-on-rise-despite-david-camersons-pledge-to-cut-numbers-by-election-8969215.html>

Net migration on the rise as EU arrivals grow

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article3934392.ece>

Now net migration is on the rise again: It's up to 182,000 after 2 years of falls as workers flee eurozone

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2514866/Now-net-migration-rise-lts-182-000-2-years-falls-workers-flee-eurozone.html>

Net migration to UK jumps by 15,000 in a year to 182,000

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/nov/28/net-migration-uk-25000-to-182000>

UK emigration at its lowest level since 2001

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/nov/28/uk-emigration-at-its-lowest-level-since-2001-britain>

Migrant benefit rules to be tightened says Cameron

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-25114890>

Cameron in new bid to tackle migration

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/wider-political-news/cameron-in-new-bid-to-tackle-migration.22804723>

David Cameron announces tough measures for new Eastern European migrants seeking benefits

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/david-cameron-pledges-tough-measures-for-new-eastern-european-migrants-seeking-benefits-8965434.html>

UK looks to restrict migrant benefits

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/wider-political-news/uk-looks-to-restrict-migrant-benefits.22774366>

EU migrants face tough new curbs on benefits

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article3933096.ece>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

EU migrants: David Cameron sets out more benefit restrictions

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2013/nov/27/david-cameron-benefit-restrictions-eu-migrants>

Benefit restrictions on EU migrants: will they work?

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/nov/27/benefit-restrictions-on-eu-migrants-will-they-work>

Thousands of Bulgarians set for UK move, Bulgarian ambassador says

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-25096293>

'Nasty' Britain told to toe line over migration

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article3934126.ece>

'We are not second-rate citizens!': Romanian Prime Minister tells Britain not to discriminate against 'migrant wave'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2515988/We-second-rate-citizens--Romanian-Prime-Minister-tells-Britain-discriminate-migrant-wave.html>

Migration plan risks UK being seen as nasty country, says EU commissioner

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/nov/27/migration-uk-nasty-country-eu-commissioner>

Half of Brits want to stop new migrants moving here as Romanian foreign minister warns Cameron against 'racist attitudes'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2513281/Half-Brits-want-stop-new-migrants-moving-here.html>

Just 8,000 Bulgarians a year will move to UK, ambassador claims: But is it a dire underestimate, like Polish prediction?

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2513547/Just-8-000-Bulgarians-year-UK-ambassador-claims.html>

Tutu warns Britain of return to anti-immigration rhetoric

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/faith/article3931726.ece>

Row over opening borders to Romania and Bulgaria risks return to Powell's 'rivers of blood' rhetoric, Desmond Tutu warns

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2513669/Desmond-Tutu-Do-NOT-return-Powell-rhetoric-Romania-Bulgaria-immigration-row.html>

Migrant controls will not be ready

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/wider-political-news/migrant-controls-will-not-be-ready.22802035>

Participation of migrants in the democratic process – Towards inclusive citizenship

<http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.press-releases.30177>

We should be encouraging students to enter Britain, not tightening our visa requirements

<http://www.independent.co.uk/student/istudents/we-should-be-encouraging-students-to-enter-britain-not-tightening-our-visa-requirements-8970405.html?origin=internalSearch>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

UK Border Agency wasted £100million on empty buildings, scrapped projects and flights for asylum seekers who did not leave

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2515605/UK-Border-Agency-wasted-100-million.html>

Failed asylum seeker deported from UK after 100-day hunger strike

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/nov/29/failed-asylum-seeker-deported-hunger-strike-ifa-muaza>

Theresa May under fire for bid to fly out hunger striker Ifa Muaza

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2013/nov/30/theresa-may-hunger-striker-ifa-muaza-asylum-uk>

Scottish Refugee Council welcomes White Paper proposals on asylum

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/2217_scottish_refugee_council_welcomes_white_paper_proposals_on_asylum

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Community Relations

UK Parliament Question

Roma Communities

Baroness Scotland of Asthal: To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their estimate of the size of the Roma community in the United Kingdom; and what is being done to access European Union funds to facilitate Roma integration. [HL3495]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Communities and Local Government (Baroness Stowell of Beeston)

(Con): There are no reliable estimates of the size of the Roma community in the United Kingdom. Statistics on the ethnic origin of the UK's population are derived from the 2011 census, which did not separately identify Roma. The regulations governing the EU structural funds for 2014-2020 are currently being negotiated in Brussels. We expect them to be finalised and adopted this autumn. Member States will then be able to submit proposals for Partnership Agreements and Operational Programmes to the European Commission setting out their spending plans. Our investment priorities in the UK will relate to the priorities of our Growth Programme, including employment and social inclusion. Each Local Enterprise Partnership is leading on the development of an EU structural funds investment strategy, and in doing so will work with a broad range of economic, social and environmental partners, including businesses and civil society.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131127w0001.htm#13112750000106>

News

Muslim project aims to break down barriers and educate youngsters on the human side of Islam

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/real-life/muslim-project-aims-break-down-2856192>

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Equality

Scottish Parliament Parliamentary Motion

S4M-08419 Stewart Maxwell: Universities UK Guidance on Gender Segregation at Scottish Institutes of Higher Education—That the Parliament is dismayed that Universities UK has issued guidance to higher education institutions in Scotland indicating that it is acceptable to separate attendees at meetings by gender; believes that this breaks the spirit of equalities legislation and is reminiscent of the separate but equal doctrine in United States law, which justified segregation; is disturbed that the religious beliefs of some speakers are thought to trump the rights of women; does not believe that allowing audiences to mix at university events curtails freedom of speech in any way, and considers that if segregation is enforced by gender then the case against segregation by race, religion, sexual orientation and disability has been profoundly weakened.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-08419&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Questions

Education: Black and Ethnic Minorities

Lord Storey: To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to target provision for pupils from black and minority ethnic backgrounds who may be underperforming at school or college.[HL3528]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Schools (Lord Nash) (Con): The Government supports an education system which enables all pupils, regardless of their background or ethnicity, to fulfil their potential, attain high quality and rigorous education qualifications and have choices for their future lives.

Schools lead the way in driving up the attainment of all pupils, including underperforming groups. The Government is supporting schools by, for example, introducing a pupil premium to raise attainment amongst deprived pupils and narrow the attainment gap between these pupils and their peers. The premium will represent £2.5 billion of additional funding in financial year 2014-15. We have also introduced a new secondary school accountability system, replacing the current arrangements which create a perverse incentive for schools to focus overly on pupils near the GCSE grades C and D borderline, at the expense of other pupils. Once our reforms are in place, schools will rightly be accountable for the academic progress of all their pupils equally. Similarly, Ofsted will also consider how well schools are meeting the needs of all their pupils, by looking at the data on all groups and individuals (including for attainment, progression, behaviour and attendance), with a particular emphasis on the most disadvantaged.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131126w0001.htm#13112662000357>

Roma Communities

Baroness Scotland of Asthal: To ask Her Majesty's Government how they are complying with international human rights standards and European Union anti-discrimination law in their treatment of the Roma.[HL3492]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Communities and Local Government (Baroness Stowell of Beeston) (Con): Our human rights and equality legislation protects the rights of all individuals, including Roma. In particular, the Equality Act 2010 provides protection against racial and other forms of discrimination in areas such as

Equality

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

employment, the provision of goods and services, education and public functions.

The Act fully complies with the relevant European Union Directives.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131126w0001.htm#13112662000379>

News

Segregating men and women at university events won't lead to equality

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comment/segregating-men-and-women-at-university-events-wont-lead-to-equality-8962984.html?origin=internalSearch>

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Racism, Religious Hatred and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Question

Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act 2012

Siobhan McMahon: To ask the Scottish Government what songs are prohibited under the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act 2012. (S4W-18122)

Reply from Roseanna Cunningham: I refer the member to my response of 28 May 2013 to her letter asking about a list of unacceptable songs, which confirmed that there is no prescribed list of prohibited songs contained within the Act.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-18122&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Questions

Discrimination

Sharon Hodgson: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many complaints of racial discrimination or harassment have been lodged against employees of her Department or its executive agencies by (a) employees and (b) other individuals in each of the last five years; and how many such complaints resulted in disciplinary action; [176624]

Reply from James Brokenshire: The information is not held centrally and could be obtained only at disproportionate cost.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131126/text/131126w0001.htm#13112670000019>

Discrimination

Sharon Hodgson: To ask the Secretary of State for Education how many complaints of racial discrimination or harassment have been lodged against employees of his Department or its Executive agencies by (a) employees and (b) other individuals in each of the last five years; and how many such complaints resulted in disciplinary action. [176621]

Reply from Elizabeth Truss: The number of complaints of racial discrimination or harassment for each of the last five years is as follows:

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

	<i>Number of complaints</i>
2009	0
2010	0
2011	0
2012	Less than 5
2013	Less than 5

The Department does not hold information on disciplinary action resulting from complaints.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131125/text/131125w0002.htm#13112534000044>

Discrimination

Sharon Hodgson: To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office how many complaints of racial discrimination or harassment have been lodged against employees of his Department or its executive agencies by (a) employees and (b) other individuals in each of the last five years; and how many such complaints resulted in disciplinary action; [176616]

how many complaints of racial discrimination or harassment have been lodged against employees of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister by (a) employees and (b) other individuals in each of the last five years; and how many such complaints resulted in disciplinary action; [176620]

how many complaints of racial discrimination or harassment have been lodged against employees of No. 10 Downing Street by (a) employees and (b) other individuals in each of the last five years; and how many such complaints resulted in disciplinary action; [176627]

Reply from Francis Maude: The Prime Minister's Office and the Deputy Prime Minister's Office are integral parts of the Cabinet Office.

In the last five years fewer than five formal complaints have been lodged in the Cabinet Office on any of the grounds questioned.

None resulted in disciplinary action. In line with the practice of successive Administrations, when numbers are five or fewer, exact numbers are not usually disclosed to protect individual privacy.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131126/text/131126w0004.htm#13112677000157>

Discrimination

Sharon Hodgson: To ask the Secretary of State for International Development how many complaints of racial discrimination or harassment have been lodged against employees of her Department by (a) employees and (b) other individuals in each of the last five years; and how many such complaints resulted in disciplinary action. [176625]

Reply from Alan Duncan: Fewer than five formal grievances alleging racial discrimination have been lodged against employees of DFID in the last five years to 31 October 2013. No complaint resulted in disciplinary action.

We are withholding the precise number of allegations raised each year under section 40 (2) (Personal information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Releasing these details would breach the legitimate expectation of an individual's right to the protection of their personal information.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131126/text/131126w0004.htm#13112677000151>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Discrimination

Sharon Hodgson: To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs how many complaints of racial discrimination or harassment have been lodged against employees of his Department or its Executive agencies by (a) employees and (b) other individuals in each of the last five years; and how many such complaints resulted in disciplinary action; [176623]

Reply from Hugh Robertson: Over the five years in question (2008-13) there have been no formal complaints from Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) UK based staff or the staff of its Executive agencies in relation to age, race, homophobic or transphobic discrimination or harassment. There have also been no formal complaints of discrimination in relation to pregnancy or maternity made by FCO UK-based staff, the staff of its Executive agencies or prospective employees, and only one employment tribunal case lodged that was subsequently withdrawn. ...

In addition to this, records for complaints made by employees against locally employed members of staff or by other individuals are not held centrally, and to obtain these figures would incur disproportionate costs.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131126/text/131126w0003.htm#13112677000093>

Discrimination

Sharon Hodgson: To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions how many complaints of racial discrimination or harassment have been lodged against employees of his Department or its executive agencies by (a) employees and (b) other individuals in each of the last five years; and how many such complaints resulted in disciplinary action; [176632]

Reply from Mike Penning: The Department personnel computer system does not hold the information you have requested. While information may be held at local management level, accessing it would require a manual trawl of clerically held records. To provide this information would therefore incur disproportionate costs.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131125/text/131125w0004.htm#13112540000074>

Discrimination

Sharon Hodgson: To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport how many complaints of racial discrimination or harassment have been lodged against employees of her Department or its Executive agencies by (a) employees and (b) other individuals in each of the last five years; and how many such complaints resulted in disciplinary action. [176618]

Reply from Helen Grant: Our records show there have been no complaints of racial discrimination or harassment lodged against employees of DCMS.

The Department does not hold records of complaints against its Executive agencies.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131125/text/131125w0006.htm#13112540000138>

Discrimination

Sharon Hodgson: To ask the Secretary of State for Wales how many complaints of racial discrimination or harassment have been lodged against employees of his Department by (a) employees and (b) other individuals in each of the last five years; and how many such complaints resulted in disciplinary action; [176631]

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Reply from Stephen Crabb: The Wales Office has had no complaints of discrimination lodged against employees of the Department in the last five years.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131125/text/131125w0001.htm#13112526000024>

Discrimination

Sharon Hodgson: To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland how many complaints of racial discrimination or harassment have been lodged against employees of his Department by (a) employees and (b) other individuals in each of the last five years; and how many such complaints resulted in disciplinary action. [176628]

Reply from David Mundell: The Scotland Office has had no complaints of racial discrimination or harassment lodged against its employees by (a) employees or (b) other individuals, in each of the last five years.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131126/text/131126w0002.htm#13112677000019>

Discrimination

Sharon Hodgson: To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland how many complaints of racial discrimination or harassment have been lodged against employees of her Department by (a) employees and (b) other individuals in each of the last five years; and how many such complaints resulted in disciplinary action. [176626]

Reply from Theresa Villiers: Because of the devolution of policing and justice functions on 12 April 2010 and subsequent reconfigurations of the Northern Ireland Office, my Department does not hold figures for the periods prior to 2010; attempting to obtain this information would incur disproportionate cost. Since 12 April 2010, no complaints of racial discrimination or harassment have been lodged against employees of my Department.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131126/text/131126w0001.htm#13112670000039>

New Publication

Place for Hope – Responding to Sectarianism

[http://www.placeforhope.org.uk/assets/documents/Responding_to_Sectarianism_-_Place_for_Hope_Report_June_2013_\(1\).pdf](http://www.placeforhope.org.uk/assets/documents/Responding_to_Sectarianism_-_Place_for_Hope_Report_June_2013_(1).pdf)

News

Theresa May warns against rise of anti-Semitism

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article3934323.ece>

Racist abuse teacher struck off

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/education/racist-abuse-teacher-struck-off.22795139>

Christian guest house owners lose court fight over turning away gay couple

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/christian-guest-house-owners-lose-court-fight-over-turning-away-gay-couple-8966573.html>

Christian hotel owners lose last legal battle over refusing to let gays share room

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article3933367.ece>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

News (continued)

Christian B&B owners ordered to pay damages after gay discrimination court battle

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/10477636/Christian-BandB-owners-lose-Supreme-Court-battle-over-gay-discrimination.html>

B&B owners' right to bar gay couple crushed by 'need to fight discrimination'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2514353/B-B-owners-right-bar-gay-couple-crushed-need-fight-discrimination.html>

Met pays £666,000 to settle claims of racist behaviour

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article3934110.ece>

Reducing ingrained racism with virtual reality

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-24929089>

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Scottish Independence Referendum

Scottish Government Publications

Scotland's Future : Your Guide to an Independent Scotland

White Paper <http://82.113.138.107/00439021.pdf>

Summary <http://82.113.138.107/00439013.pdf>

Scotland in the European Union

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0043/00439166.pdf>

Scottish Parliament Statement and Questions

Independence White Paper

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8660&mode=html#iob_78368

Scottish Parliament Debate

Independence White Paper

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8664&mode=html#iob_78404

Scottish Government Press Release

Scotland's Future – blueprint for a fairer country

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Scotland-s-Future-blueprint-for-a-fairer-country-6aa.aspx>

Scottish Independence Referendum (continued) UK Government Press Release

Scottish Secretary comments on independence white paper

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/scottish-secretary-comments-on-independence-white-paper>

News

Scottish independence: Referendum White Paper unveiled

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-25088251>

Scottish independence: White Paper at-a-glance

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-25102073>

SNP throws down gauntlet to Better Together

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/leader-snp-throws-down-gauntlet-to-better-together-1-3209705>

'We do not seek independence as an end in itself, but as a means to change Scotland for the better'

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/referendum-news/we-do-not-seek-independence-as-an-end-in-itself-but-as-a-means-to-change-sc.22804690>

Darling attacks paper as 'a work of fiction' that ducks the big questions

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/referendum-news/darling-attacks-paper-as-a-work-of-fiction-that-ducks-the-big-questions.22804658>

Scottish independence: Bank of England governor 'welcomes' currency talks

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-25154758>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Parliamentary Questions

Dietary needs

Jim Hume: To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on raising awareness among the population of the dietary needs of some people because of their religious beliefs. (S4W-18447)

Shona Robison: The Scottish Government is committed to promoting a multi-faith and multi-cultural society based on mutual trust, respect and understanding. The Scottish Government funded the Scottish Working Group on Religion and Belief Relations to write and publish Belief in Dialogue: Religion and Belief Relations in Scotland Good Practice Guide (2011), which provides guidance (including examples of successful activities) in bringing together people of different faiths and beliefs to develop and engage in dialogue and relationship building.

We have also allocated over £1 million (2012-2015) to support faith-based projects to create, among other things, opportunities for the development of interfaith and cross-cultural awareness and understanding, including raising awareness of the dietary needs of some people because of their religious beliefs.

Other Scottish Parliament and Government Parliamentary Questions *(continued)*

In school education, religious and moral education enables children and young people to explore the world's major religions and to develop their own beliefs and values. Through Curriculum for Excellence, from the early years to level four, the experience and outcomes for religious and moral education include strands that enable children and young people to develop their knowledge and understanding of a variety of practices and traditions associated with world religions, including dietary requirements.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advantage&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-18447&ResultsPerPage=10>

Justice Committee

Justice Committee Review: Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act 2012

(col 3843)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8662&mode=pdf>

Press Releases

St Andrew's Day message

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/St-Andrew-s-Day-message-6c1.aspx>

Government proposes more savings for charities

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Government-proposes-more-savings-for-charities-69a.aspx>

Search Begins for Future Commonwealth Leaders

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Search-Begins-for-Future-Commonwealth-Leaders-6b7.aspx>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

Parliamentary Questions

Female Genital Mutilation

Lord Berkeley of Knighton: To ask Her Majesty's Government why there have been no prosecutions for female genital mutilation.

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach): My Lords, there are many barriers to prosecuting cases of female genital mutilation. Evidence suggests that the young age of the victims, and pressure from family and the wider community, lead to many cases going unreported. However, I am greatly encouraged by the commitment of the police and the Crown Prosecution Service to overcome these barriers, and by the Director of Public Prosecution's assessment that it is only a matter of time before a perpetrator is brought to justice.

Lord Berkeley of Knighton: My Lords, it is welcome news that there is very likely to be a prosecution, but we have to put this in the context that this practice has been illegal for more than a decade, an estimated 60,000 women in this country have suffered this

Other UK Parliament and Government Parliamentary Questions (continued)

barbaric practice and 30,000 young children may be at risk of it. I fear that we may be dealing with a cultural tradition. I know that this is a very difficult and sensitive subject, but there is no supporting medical or religious evidence for this practice. Therefore, we have to assume that we have perhaps been afraid of offending at the temple of cultural diversity. If at this very moment, for that reason, a woman is descending on some young girl with a razor blade to slice off her external genitalia, we have to ask ourselves: is this a price worth paying for cultural diversity?

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: Although this is a highly sensitive issue, I do not see that as the source of conflict. This is essentially a hearts and minds issue. The noble Lord identified that correctly. However, there is no lack of determination as far as the Government are concerned. My colleague in the Home Office, Norman Baker, is having a meeting on 5 December with the Crown Prosecution Service. The Health Minister, Jane Ellison, is having a meeting on Monday to see how her department can deal with this. I have to tell the noble Lord that he has grossly underestimated the legislative background to this. FGM has been illegal since 1985.

To continue reading the lengthy question and answer session see
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/131128-0001.htm#13112849000245>

Poultry: Animal Welfare

David Ward: To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs what assessment his Department has made of compliance with Halal strictures of electric stunning of chickens. [176518]

Reply from George Eustice: It is for halal organisations to decide whether the stunning parameters in the European Union (EU) Regulation 1099/2009, on the protection of animals at the time of killing, comply with their strictures.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131126/text/131126w0002.htm#13112677000037>

Press Releases

St. Andrew's Day: message from David Cameron

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/st-andrews-day-message-from-david-cameron>

Foreign Secretary's Chanukah message

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretarys-chanukah-message>

Baroness Warsi's message for Chanukah 2013

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/baroness-warsis-message-for-chanukah-2013>

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New Publication

External speakers in higher education institutions

<http://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/highereducation/Documents/2013/ExternalSpeakersInHigherEducationInstitutions.pdf>

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Other News

International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women: European Commission takes action to combat Female Genital Mutilation

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-13-1153_en.htm

It's time to confront this taboo: First cousin marriages in Muslim communities are putting hundreds of children at risk

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1394119/Its-time-confront-taboo-First-cousin-marriages-Muslim-communities-putting-hundreds-children-risk.html>

Revenge fear 'will scupper ban on forced marriage'

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/crime/article3936019.ece>

Dementia in ethnic groups set for big rise

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/health/news/article3936396.ece>

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Bills in Progress ** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

Assisted Suicide Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/69604.aspx>

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>

Justice Committee: Stage 1 consideration of evidence

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=8662&mode=pdf>

Marriage and Civil Partnership Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/64983.aspx>

Victims and Witnesses Bill

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

Bills in Progress UK Parliament

Asylum Seekers (Return to Nearest Safe Country) Bill

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

**** Asylum (Time Limit) Bill**

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

Bill as introduced

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2013-2014/0061/14061.pdf>

Bills in Progress

UK Parliament (continued)

**** Charitable Status for Religious Institutions Bill**

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

Bill as introduced

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2013-2014/0052/14052.pdf>

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>

**** Foreign Nationals (Access to Public Services) Bill**

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

Bill as introduced

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2013-2014/0066/14066.pdf>

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>

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>

Bill as introduced

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2013-2014/0056/14056.pdf>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

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

**** closes this week!**

Proposed Human Trafficking Bill (closing date 6 December 2013)

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

Consultations (continued)

Commission for Local Democracy (closing date extended to 10 December 2013)
<http://www.localdemocracy.info/call-for-evidence/>

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

Call for evidence on local policing (closing date extended to 10 January 2014)
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/gettinginvolved/69420.aspx>

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

Draft Welfare Funds (Scotland) Bill (closing date 7 February 2014)
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0043/00438109.pdf>

Water and Sewerage Charges – Exemption Scheme for Small Third Sector Organisations
(closing date 14 February 2014)
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0043/00437855.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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Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Where Do You Really Come From?

7-8 December 2013 in Glasgow

Ankur Productions Festival for people of mixed race origins who grew up in Scotland. For information contact Nargis Lalee nargis.lalee@ankurproductions.org.uk / 0141 559 4935.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** Gathered Together Cruinn Cómra**

11 December 2013 in Glasgow (12 – 1.00)

BEMIS workshop to consult ethnic minority parents about any barriers they face when engaging with schools, and to provide information about parent councils, and their rights as parents. For information contact Aleksandra 0141 548 8047 / aleksandra.plotka@bemis.org.uk

GRAMNet Film Series

11 December 2013 in Glasgow (6.00)

15 January 2014 in Glasgow (6.00)

12 February 2014 in Glasgow (6.00)

12 March 2014 in Glasgow (6.00)

14 May 2014 in Glasgow (6.00)

18 June 2014 in Glasgow (6.00)

Film Series is organised in partnership between GRAMNet (Glasgow Refugee and Asylum Network), BEMIS, and The Iona Community, showcasing films and documentaries with a theme of Homecoming and Hospitality. Following each film, invited local organisations and community groups will suggest positive actions that can be undertaken locally to address one or more of the issues raised in each film. For information see http://www.gla.ac.uk/media/media_292556_en.pdf

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

**** Discrimination Law in 2014**

20 January 2014 in Edinburgh (9.55 – 4.15)

Equality and Human rights Commission conference to summarise the practical implications of new legislation and key judgments over the past year. For information see http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/Scotland/Legal/discrimination_law_2014_edinburgh_publicity.doc or contact Angela Barclay 0141 228 5951 / equalityactscotland@equalityhumanrights.com

Ethnic Minority 3rd Sector Network Consultation on Scottish Government White Paper on Independence

20 January 2014 in Glasgow (12.30 – 4.00)

4 February 2014 in Inverness (12.30 – 4.00)

6 February 2014 in Kirkcaldy (12.30 – 4.00)

BEMIS in partnership with CEMVO events to enable ethnic minority communities to engage with the Scottish Government White Paper on Independence. For information contact Tanveer Parnez tanveer.parniez@bemis.org.uk or Fiaz Khan fiaz.khan@cemvoscotland.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

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Useful Links

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

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

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

GovUK (links to UK Government Departments) <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations>

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

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

Scottish Refugee Council <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk>

Interfaith Scotland <http://www.interfaithscotland.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/>

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 News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/>

BBC Democracy Live 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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