

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 Debate

UK Visas and Immigration

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140326-gc0001.htm#14032679000396>

UK Parliament Ministerial Statement

Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme (Syria)

The Minister for Security and Immigration (James Brokenshire): Our country has a proud history of granting protection to those who need it. We are still all too conscious of the appalling scenes of violence and suffering which are occurring every day in Syria. The greatest contribution we can make is to work to end the conflict altogether and we continue to seek a peaceful settlement that enables a political transition and an end to

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Ministerial Statement (continued)

violence. We are the second largest bilateral donor to the Syrian relief effort and have provided £600 million so far.

As the Home Secretary outlined to the House of Commons on 29 January 2014, *Official Report*, column 863, while the greatest need is in the region and the United Kingdom can make the largest impact there, we have launched the Syrian vulnerable persons relocation (VPR) scheme to provide protection in this country to particularly vulnerable refugees who are at grave risk. Since that point, we have been working closely with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to identify those who are most vulnerable.

I am pleased to report that we expect the first group of Syrians to arrive as part of the VPR scheme today, just eight weeks after the Home Secretary's announcement. During this time, we have been working in close collaboration with the UNHCR, the International Organisation for Migration and local authority services to ensure that the particular needs of the beneficiaries, with their extreme vulnerabilities, will be met. Given the absolute primacy of safeguarding the UK's security, appropriate checks have also been conducted before bringing Syrians displaced by the conflict to the UK. We expect the next arrivals in April. Those admitted under the VPR scheme will be granted five years' humanitarian protection with all the rights and benefits that go with that status, including access to public funds, access to the labour market and the possibility of family reunion. We believe that the VPR scheme will make a real difference to the lives of some of the most vulnerable Syrians displaced by the conflict by giving them protection and support in the UK.

I have agreed a ministerial authorisation (Equality (Syria—Entry clearance outside the immigration rules) Authorisation 2014) to allow differentiation in favour of Syrian nationals whom we want to bring to the UK under the VPR scheme.

This authorisation will remain in force until revoked.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140325/wmstext/140325m0001.htm#14032566000001>

UK Parliament Questions

Immigration Bill

Baroness Lister of Burtersett: To ask Her Majesty's Government what research has been undertaken on the potential health impacts of the proposed changes in the Immigration Bill on vulnerable migrants, including pregnant women and children.[HL5957]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach): The Government's assessment of the potential impact of the health provisions in the Immigration Bill on vulnerable groups is set out in the Home Office response to its public consultation Controlling Immigration — Regulating Migrant Access to Health Services in the UK and the Policy Equality Statement contained therein. The consultation response is available online at:

www.gov.uk/government/consultations/migrant-access-to-health-services-in-the-uk
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140324w0001.htm#1403248000533>

Immigration Bill

Baroness Lister of Burtersett: To ask Her Majesty's Government how they plan to monitor who is chargeable for NHS care under clause 33 of the Immigration Bill; and what is the expected cost of administering such a system in the National Health Service.[HL5958]

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Health (Earl Howe): Clause 33 of the Immigration Bill gives provision for the introduction of the health surcharge on individuals subject to immigration control. We anticipate that this surcharge will be introduced for individuals seeking leave to enter or remain on visas of between six months and five years' duration.

The Department is working closely with the Home Office to ensure that information on the individuals who have paid the health surcharge is easily available to providers of National Health Service healthcare. An individual having paid the health surcharge will then generally be entitled to access all NHS services free at the point of delivery as per any United Kingdom or European Economic Area national resident here. Eligibility will be demonstrated by the possession of a biometric residence permit and an automatically-created NHS record, which will identify that the individual has paid the surcharge and therefore is not to be subject to further charges, except where a resident pays charges.

The additional administrative burden on the NHS of identifying those who have paid the surcharge, and thus of verifying their entitlement to healthcare which is free at the point of delivery, should be minimal. The Department is working with the Health and Social Care Information Centre to include new data fields on the NHS Spine that will be populated with an individual's immigration status and surcharge validity automatically.

The Department will be publishing a costed implementation plan for the NHS Cost Recovery Programme soon.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140326w0001.htm#14032676000384>

Visas

Lord Willis of Knaresborough: To ask Her Majesty's Government what visa arrangements are made to allow academics from non-European Union countries who are invited to lecture or take part in research on a short-term basis to enter the United Kingdom; and whether those arrangements apply to their immediate family members.[HL6117]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach): Academics can use the academic visitor route to carry out unpaid research for up to 12 months provided they are on sabbatical leave from their overseas academic institution. Academics can also speak at conferences provided it is a not for profit venture.

Academics can use the permitted paid engagement visitor route to give paid lectures for up to 1 month. They must be invited by a UK Higher Education Institution or a UK research or arts based organisation.

Family members can apply as general visitors, or child visitors in the case of children under 18 years, to accompany the main visitor to the UK. They would be allowed to stay in the UK for up to 6 months, or 12 months where they are accompanying an academic visitor.

Academics who are employed to carry out paid research in the UK can do so under the Tier 5 Government Authorised Exchange route for up to 24 months.

They must be sponsored by a UK Higher Education Institution. Their dependents can stay with them and have the right to work.

Lord Avebury: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many applications have been received by United Kingdom entry clearance posts for adult dependant settlement visas from 31 July 2012, to the latest convenient date; and how many such visas were granted over the same period.[HL6119]

Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach: The information requested on entry

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

clearance applications for adult dependent relative settlement visas is not available and could only be obtained at disproportionate cost by the examination of a significant number of individual case records.

The Home Office publishes quarterly statistics on entry clearance visa applications and resolutions (issued, refused, withdrawn and lapsed) by category in table be_01_q (Before Entry tables volume 2) within the 'Immigration Statistics' release. A copy of the latest release, 'Immigration Statistics September – December 2013' is available from the Library of the House and from:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office/series/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>

Within the table be_01_q, data relating to adult dependent relatives of a British Citizen in the UK or a settled person in the UK are included in the category 'Family: Other (for immediate settlement)' but cannot be identified separately.

The Home Office is reviewing the collection of data relating to adult dependent relative settlement visas. Data are being developed and, subject to resolving any data quality/recording issues, it is planned to begin publishing data specifically relating to adult dependent relative settlement visas later this year.

A manual review of the available management information to identify adult dependent relative applications granted in the period from 1 November 2012 to 30 September 2013 indicates that 34 settlement visas were issued in that period to an adult dependent relative under Appendix FM to the Immigration Rules. This information is provisional and subject to change. Corresponding information on applications is not available.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140326w0001.htm#14032676000393>

Immigrants

Frank Field: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department with reference to the Assistance for the Voluntary Return and Reintegration of Returnees project, what the countries of origin of the 1,470 irregular migrants were; what assistance will be provided to the 30 victims of human trafficking from EU countries; how it will provide reintegration assistance to the 75 returning vulnerable migrants; and if she will make a statement. [190276]

Reply from James Brokenshire: For many illegal migrants, the UK remains a primary destination country and some of those this programme will assist might otherwise arrive in the UK.

This project will make a positive and significant contribution to Greece's comprehensive management of migration by facilitating the safe returns and reintegration of migrants in their countries of origin. The project will also raise awareness of the real dangers associated with illegal migration and of the advantages of returning home voluntarily, with support.

We will keep the effectiveness of this project under review.

Frank Field: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what the nature and purpose is of the Government-funded Assistance for the Voluntary Return and Reintegration of Returnees project being implemented by the International Organisation for Migration in co-operation with the Greek Government; how that project will assist irregular migrants to return to their countries of origin; and how the project will help identified victims of human trafficking from EU countries. [190398]

Reply from James Brokenshire: For many illegal migrants the UK remains a primary destination country and some of those this programme will assist might otherwise arrive in the UK. This project will make a positive and significant contribution to Greece's comprehensive management of migration by facilitating

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

the safe returns and reintegration of migrants in their countries of origin. The project will also raise awareness of the real dangers associated with illegal migration and of the advantages of returning home voluntarily, with support.

We will keep the effectiveness of this project under review.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140324/text/140324w0001.htm#1403254000009>

Migrant Domestic Workers

Baroness Cox: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they plan to permit migrant domestic workers to change employers without breaching the immigration rules.[HL5840]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach): The overseas domestic worker route was reformed in April 2012 to restore it to the original purpose, which is to enable domestic workers to accompany their overseas employer on a visit to the UK.

The Government is carefully considering all of the recommendations made in the report of the Modern Slavery Bill Evidence Review which included reference to considering reinstating the right to change employer.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140324w0001.htm#1403248000540>

Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

Nicholas Soames: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what estimate she has made of the change in the number of non-EU students issued visas to study at UK universities in the last five years. [191829]

Reply from James Brokenshire: Since 2010 we have made common sense reforms to our student visa system, cutting out abuse whilst ensuring that we continue to attract talented international students to our world class universities.

Available figures of applications for visas for study using sponsor acceptances at UK universities during the last four years (2010 to 2013) show that there has been an increase in each year, rising by 7% from 156,629 in 2012 to 167,995 in 2013 and for students sponsored by the Russell Group of universities this rose by 11%. These figures are published as part of the latest quarterly Immigration Statistics October to December 2013 in table cs 09 available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/283682/before-entry1-q4-2013-tabs.ods

Data published by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) indicates that first year non-EU students enrolling at UK higher education institutions (HEIs) increased by 36% between 2007-08 and 2012-13. These figures are available from the HESA website at: <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140324/text/140324w0001.htm#1403254000008>

Asylum: Syria

Keith Vaz: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many (a) children and (b) adults have been granted asylum in the UK under the Vulnerable Person Relocation Scheme from Syria. [192532]

Reply from James Brokenshire: The first Syrians relocated under the Vulnerable Persons Relocation (VPR) scheme arrived into the UK on 25 March 2014. The scheme prioritises women and children at risk or in need of medical care, and survivors of torture and violence; given the particular vulnerability of these individuals, it has been essential to work with partners including UNHCR and local authorities to ensure that the support, services and accommodation they need are

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

in place before they arrive in the UK. We expect the scheme to support several hundred people over the next three years.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140325/text/140325w0003.htm#14032591000130>

United Nations Gateway Protection Programme

Baroness Berridge: To ask Her Majesty's Government what were the countries of origin of the refugees accepted by the United Kingdom through the United Nations Gateway Protection Programme in (1) 2012, and (2) 2013. [HL6113]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach): The countries of origin of refugees resettled through the Gateway Protection Programme are as follows:

2012 – Bhutan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, Somalia, Sudan.

2013 – Bhutan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, Somalia, Sudan.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140326w0001.htm#14032676000392>

Detention Centres

Keith Vaz: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many people are allocated to each room in immigration detention centres. [192293]

Reply from James Brokenshire: Rooms in Immigration Removal Centres are generally shared by two or three occupants, although there are also single occupancy and some larger rooms, which can accommodate up to eight detainees. The largest room capacity is a 12-bed first-night unit in Dungavel, Scotland. In order to be used as sleeping accommodation, rooms must be certified in accordance with Detention Services Order 4/2003 by the Secretary of State, that the lighting, heating and ventilation are adequate for health. This is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/accommodation-lighting-heating-and-ventilation>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140324/text/140324w0001.htm#1403254000005>

Asylum: Deportation

Sarah Teather: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many people who were previously classified as unaccompanied asylum seeking children have been forcibly returned to another country as adults in each of the last five years for which records are available. [191300]

Reply from James Brokenshire: The number of enforced removals of adults previously classified as unaccompanied asylum-seeking children for the period January 2009 to December 2013 is set out in the following table.

	<i>Number</i>
2009	38
2010	91
2011	183
2012	87
2013	110
Total	509

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140324/text/140324w0001.htm#1403254000003>

Immigration and Asylum (continued) **Press Releases**

Large increase to almost 435 000 asylum applicants registered in the EU28 in 2013
http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STAT-14-46_en.pdf

Common European Asylum System: challenges and perspectives
http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_SPEECH-14-244_en.htm?locale=en

New Publications

How to ensure fair, humane and effective return procedures?
http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-340_en.htm

Criminalisation of migrants in an irregular situation and of persons engaging with them
http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-criminalisation-of-migrants_en.pdf

Annex: EU Member States' legislation on irregular entry and stay, as well as facilitation of irregular entry and stay
http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-criminalisation-of-migrants-annex_en.pdf

Monthly asylum application tables
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/294592/asylum-jan2014.ods

Children entering detention under Immigration Act powers
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/296238/children-detention-feb2014.ods

News

I will tighten migrant rules, says Cameron
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4047032.ece>

Tory MP's group wants net migration target dropped
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-26728774>

Why we Conservatives must lose our perceived hostility to immigration - and get rid of the cap on immigrant numbers
<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comment/why-we-conservatives-must-lose-our-perceived-hostility-to-immigration--and-get-rid-of-the-cap-on-immigrant-numbers-9215223.html?origin=internalSearch>

Scrap immigration cap, Tory MP tells Cameron
<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/mar/25/scrap-immigration-cap-tory-mp-mark-field-tells-cameron>

Yashika Bageerathi's deportation to Mauritius delayed
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-london-26808636>

Mauritius teenager to be deported with family
<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/mar/25/yashika-bageerathi-family-deported-mauritius>

Immigration and Asylum News (continued)

Fight for Yashika campaign dealt 'cruel' blow: Home Office plans to remove 'right to family life' – by deporting whole Bageerathi family

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/fight-for-yashika-campaign-dealt-cruel-blow-home-office-plan-to-remove-right-to-family-life--by-deporting-whole-bageerathi-family-9216728.html>

Fight for Yashika: Student set to be deported alone to Mauritius on Mother's Day

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/fight-for-yashika-student-set-to-be-deported-alone-to-mauritius-on-mothers-day-9223219.html>

Yashika Bageerathi's case is important, but let's not forget what asylum means

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/mar/26/yashika-bageerathi-case-asylum-persecution>

David Cameron welcomes German proposals on EU migration rules

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/mar/27/david-cameron-welcomes-german-proposals-eu-migrant-rules>

David Cameron facing calls to expel jobless EU migrants

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/david-cameron/10725947/David-Cameron-facing-calls-to-expel-jobless-EU-migrants.html>

Illegal immigrants and foreign offenders 'left in detention for years'

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/mar/27/immigration-illegal-home-office-failures-abuses-inspector-watchdog>

Thousands caught up in deportation delays

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4047413.ece>

Watchdog raises concerns over thousands of foreign criminals and illegal immigrants still in UK

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/law-and-order/10727134/Watchdog-raises-concerns-over-thousands-of-foreign-criminals-and-illegal-immigrants-still-in-UK.html>

Visa rules creating nasty feeling about UK, warns peer

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-26783518>

'Nasty' UK - by George Osborne's father-in-law: Visa rules make Britain look bad, he says

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/nasty-uk--by-george-osbornes-fatherinlaw-visa-rules-make-britain-look-bad-he-says-9222139.html>

Syrian refugees arrive in the UK as part of scheme to relocate conflict victims

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/mar/25/syrian-refugees-arrive-uk-scheme-relocate-victims>

UK immigration policy damages creative economy, says Lords committee

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/mar/28/lords-committee-uk-immigration-visa-policy-damaging-creative-economy>

Immigration figures to drop 20,000 as Home Office 'massages' numbers

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/10726132/Theresa-May-tweaks-visa-system-in-move-that-will-reduce-net-migration.html>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Tweak to visa length will reduce total

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4046223.ece>

Theresa May orders review of gay asylum claim handling

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-26793130>

Theresa May orders review of gay asylum claim handling

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2014/mar/29/theresa-may-gay-asylum-claim-handling>

Review ordered into questioning over-intrusive questioning of gay asylum seekers

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/10730856/Review-ordered-into-questioning-over-intrusive-questioning-of-gay-asylum-seekers.html>

Why pregnant women should be exempt from NHS charging

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/mar/28/pregnant-women-exempt-nhs-charging>

Strict UK Visa System 'Putting Migrant Entrepreneurs Off UK'

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2014/03/25/migrant-enterepreneurs-uk-visa_n_5027909.html?utm_hp_ref=uk

Refugees fear destitution as vital services move south

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/refugees-fear-destitution-as-vital-services-move-south.23823152>

The penniless, pregnant mum and the cancer patient with no doctor ...

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/the-penniless-pregnant-mum-and-the-cancer-patient-with-no-doctor.23823156>

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Community Relations

Press Release

Roma integration: EU Roma Summit to evaluate progress

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-317_en.htm

New Publication

How have people's ethnic identities changed in England and Wales?

<http://www.ethnicity.ac.uk/census/CoDE-Changing-Identities-Census-Briefing.pdf>

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Equality

New Publications

Equality and Human Rights Commission guidance on marriage of same sex couples in England and Wales

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/news/2014/march/commission-publishes-new-guidance-on-marriage-of-same-sex-couples-in-england-and-wales/>

GCSE and equivalent attainment by pupil characteristics in England, 2012/13

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/280689/SFR05_2014_Text_FINAL.pdf

News

Civil Service record on promoting staff from minorities ‘disgraceful’, warns Whitehall official

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/civil-service-record-on-promoting-staff-from-minorities-disgraceful-warns-whitehall-official-9215347.html>

White students get better degrees than minority peers with same entry grades

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/2014/mar/28/white-students-better-degrees-minorities-same-grades-universities>

Why are Britain's universities still failing black and Asian students?

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/mar/28/britains-universities-still-failing-black-asian-students>

Racial diversity neglected by top British firms, warns Vince Cable

<http://www.theguardian.com/business/2014/mar/26/racial-diversity-neglected-top-british-firms-vince-cable>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Questions

Sectarianism (Education)

John Mason: To ask the Scottish Government how schools are teaching about sectarianism. (S4O-03055)

Reply from the Minister for Learning, Science and Scotland’s Languages (Alasdair Allan): Education Scotland, the national body for supporting quality improvement in Scottish education, promotes diversity and equality in its work and has a specific workstream on combating sectarianism. The work focuses on identifying and sharing good practice, reviewing and improving resources, and engaging in professional dialogue across education in Scotland. All approved resources are available directly from the Education Scotland website.

John Mason: Does the minister agree with me that sectarianism is a very long-running problem in this country and that it will not be solved overnight, but that we need to change attitudes and that can start with children? Many children are open to dealing with the problem and they want to see it sorted.

Reply from Alasdair Allan: The member is, of course, right. I am sure that there

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

will be wide agreement across the chamber that there is no single solution to the issue, but we have to ensure that we continue to work on tackling sectarianism in Scotland.

Roseanna Cunningham, the Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs, has been taking the lead on the issue and, as she made clear recently, we are building a long-term agenda. I hope that that agenda can deliver a fundamental shift in our culture and our assumptions on the issue and ensure that we build a Scotland in which everybody feels that they have a part to play and that they are given the respect that they are due.

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9071&mode=html#iob_81938

Scottish Parliament Motion

S4M-09485 Bob Doris: Bridges and Barriers—That the Parliament congratulates North Glasgow Football Development Group on holding the Bridges and Barriers community awareness event on 27 March 2014; recognises that this initiative aims to raise awareness of issues relating to sectarianism; commends the work of Bridges and Barriers thus far in establishing a networking opportunity for potential partners, local service providers and community members working with children and young adults, and commends the fact that such events provide a venue in which ways of combating sectarianism can be openly discussed.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-09485&ResultsPerPage=10>

Press Releases

Tackling Prejudice

<http://www.copfs.gov.uk/media-site/latest-news-from-copfs/708-tackling-prejudice>

Strong leadership needed to combat racial discrimination

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

New Publication

Time to Change: comparison of the areas of life where respondents have been treated unfairly

http://www.time-to-change.org.uk/sites/default/files/Ethnos_lifeariasbygroup.pdf

News

Scotland 'failing disabled hate-crime victims'

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/top-stories/scotland-failing-disabled-hate-crime-victims-1-3354981>

Hate crimes on disabled prioritised

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/hate-crimes-on-disabled-prioritised.23794484>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

News (continued)

Lord Advocate Frank Mulholland vows 'zero-tolerance' on hate crimes against disabled

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/lord-advocate-frank-mulholland-vows-3287077>

Zero-tolerance to hate crime vowed

<http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/u/zero-tolerance-to-hate-crime-vowed.1395832191>

Scots charity worker racially abused on Glasgow street as she sleeps rough to raise money

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/scots-charity-worker-racially-abused-3285354>

Yes, Daily Mail – black and Asian women can be qualified to talk

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/mar/24/daily-mail-black-asian-women-credentials-challenged>

Mental health and race – the blight of dual discrimination

<http://www.theguardian.com/society/2014/mar/26/black-minority-ethnic-mental-health-dual-discrimination>

Tories make ethnic minority voters feel like they are a mistake, MP says

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/conservative/10721797/Tories-make-ethnic-minority-voters-feel-like-they-are-a-mistake-MP-says.html>

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Scottish Independence Referendum

UK Government Publications

The Referendum on Separation for Scotland

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmselect/cm Scotaf/140/140ii.pdf>

Scottish independence referendum: money and the economy

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/297521/Final_money_and_economy_pack.pdf

Other Publication

Referendum on Scottish Independence – a briefing paper for members of Scottish Financial Enterprise (SFE) on the implications for the Scottish financial services industry

<http://www.sfe.org.uk/uploads/independencebrief.pdf>

Scottish Government Press Release

Enshrining Scotland's values

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Enshrining-Scotland-s-values-aa7.aspx>

Scottish Independence Referendum (continued) UK Government Press Release

Costs and dangers of independence highlighted in new report

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/costs-and-dangers-of-independence-highlighted-in-new-report>

News

Scottish independence: Draft written constitution to be published

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-26707495>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Parliamentary Question

Census

Clare Adamson: To ask the Scottish Government what arrangements are being made for future censuses in Scotland. (S4W-20348)

Reply from Fiona Hyslop: National Records of Scotland (NRS) has today announced that it intends to focus on planning for a census in 2021 which will be primarily online, while offering alternative modes of completion where necessary. It also aims to make best use of technology and administrative data in its design, building on the online approach used successfully in the 2011 census.

This follows on from the Beyond 2011 programme of work in Scotland to review the options for providing population statistics. The review focused on two options:

- an online census option carried out every 10 years supplemented by the use of administrative data to produce annual population estimates in intervening years.
- an administrative data option using administrative data already held by government and annual surveys.

The decision to focus plans on a census in 2021 in Scotland was based on a variety of evidence, including results from research, stakeholder engagement, a user consultation and international experience. A final decision will be taken in 2016 on the basis of the business case. A programme of consultation and engagement will continue by NRS to understand user requirements and shape the design of the 2021 census. The findings from Beyond 2011 to date will be incorporated into the programme of work. Further research will be carried out to enable greater use of administrative data and surveys in the future.

For further information please go to the new [Census 2021](#) section on the NRS website.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-20348&ResultsPerPage=10>

Press Release

Plans for a Census in Scotland in 2021

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Plans-for-a-Census-in-Scotland-in-2021-ad4.aspx>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

Parliamentary Questions

Female Genital Mutilation

Mr Simon Burns: To ask the Attorney-General what steps the Crown Prosecution Service is taking to better prosecute cases involving female genital mutilation. [192572]

Reply from the Solicitor-General: The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) is taking a leading role in tackling female genital mutilation (FGM). The Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) announced the first ever prosecution under the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 on 21 March 2014. The first defendant is charged with carrying out FGM and the second defendant is charged with intentionally encouraging an offence of FGM and aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring an offence of FGM.

The CPS has worked closely with the police, other Government Departments and third sector organisations to put a robust framework in place to support reporting and the effective investigation and prosecution of FGM. The CPS has published action plans in 2012 and 2013 which have led to much closer joint working between the police and CPS. Lead prosecutors have been appointed for each CPS area and they have led on agreeing protocols with every local police force setting out the arrangements for investigating and prosecuting FGM locally. A joint CPS/police national training event has been held recently. The DPP and I have written to Ministers in the Home Office, Ministry of Justice and Department of Health with a paper identifying possible ways in which the criminal law could be strengthened. The DPP and I attended a Ministers' meeting recently to consider cross-government action against FGM.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140325/text/140325w0001.htm#14032590000012>

Female Genital Mutilation

Luciana Berger: To ask the Secretary of State for Health if he plans to provide services to support midwives reporting cases of female genital mutilation. [193253]

Reply from Jane Ellison: The Government published the guidance 'Multi-Agency Practice Guidelines: Female Genital Mutilation' on 24 February 2011, which provides advice to health professionals on when they should report cases under section 47 of the 1989 Children Act.

Guidance is also available from various, professional bodies, for example, the General Medical Council and the Royal College of Midwives. In addition, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children female genital mutilation (FGM) helpline, co-funded by the Home Office, is a resource for health professionals and young people with concerns about safeguarding issues.

The Department is also working with NHS England, Health Education England and the Royal Colleges to develop materials and training to support national health service staff including midwives to better identify and support girls at risk of female genital mutilation. Further announcements on this work will be made in due course.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140326/text/140326w0001.htm#14032691000010>

Female Genital Mutilation

Luciana Berger: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what assessment her Department has made of the proportion of calls made to the NSPCC reporting female genital mutilation cases that have been passed on to the police. [191987]

Norman Baker: The NSPCC's FGM helpline received 174 contacts between its

Other UK Parliament and Government Parliamentary Questions (continued)

launch in June 2013 and 28 February 2014. Of this number, 75 have been referred on to the relevant police force. There were 35 contacts from professionals seeking advice on the correct procedures to follow in regard to a child at risk of FGM. The other 64 contacts were more general enquiries relating to FGM.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140326/text/140326w0003.htm#14032694000023>

Female Genital Mutilation

Keith Vaz: To ask the Secretary of State for Health how many women and girls received NHS treatment in each foundation trust area after having undergone a female genital mutilation procedure in each of the last three years. [193323]

Reply from Jane Ellison: Information on female genital mutilation (FGM) is not currently collected centrally in the Department.

However, from April, all (foundation and non-foundation) national health service acute hospitals will report to the Department on the prevalence of female genital mutilation within their patient population, including the total number of patients who have undergone FGM or been treated for FGM (for example, de-infibulation). This information will be returned to the Department every month with compliance on this required by September.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140327/text/140327w0003.htm#14032796000069>

Press Releases

David Cameron on the first UK same-sex marriages

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/david-cameron-on-the-first-uk-same-sex-marriages>

Rainbow flag to be flown on Whitehall for first same sex weddings

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/rainbow-flag-to-be-flown-on-whitehall-for-first-same-sex-weddings>

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New Publication

Mental Health Survey of Ethnic Minorities

http://www.time-to-change.org.uk/sites/default/files/TTC_Final%20Report_ETHNOS_summary_1.pdf

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Other News

Britain's first ever prosecution for female genital mutilation 'announced for political reasons,' expert suggests

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/britains-first-ever-prosecution-for-female-genital-mutilation-announced-for-political-reasons-expert-suggests-9215293.html>

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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>

Criminal Justice Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/65155.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>

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>

Foreign Nationals (Access to Public Services) Bill

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

Proposed amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2013-2014/0096/amend/am096-c.htm>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2013-2014/0096/amend/am096-d.htm>

Immigration Act 1971 (Amendment) Bill

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

**** Immigration and Nationality (Fees) Regulations 2014**

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2014/9780111109090/contents>

Grand Committee, House of Lords

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140324-gc0001.htm#14032417000270>

Bills in Progress

UK Parliament (continued)

Lobbyists (Registration of Code of Conduct) Bill

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

Modern Slavery Bill (draft)

Draft Bill as published

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/266165/Draft_Modern_Slavery_Bill.pdf

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

Charity Pulse 2014 (11 April 2014)

<http://bird-song.co.uk/charity-pulse-2014/>

Holocaust Commission call for evidence (closing date 30 May 2014)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/the-holocaust-commission-keeping-the-memory-alive>

Assisted Suicide Bill (closing date 6 June 2014)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/74417.aspx>

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>

Bullying and Prejudice in Schools: Pupil Views and Experiences (no closing date given)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BullyingAndPrejudicePupils?v=3>

Bullying, Harassment and Prejudice in Schools: Teacher Views and Experiences (no closing date given)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BullyingandPrejudiceStaff?v=3>

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Job Opportunities

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

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**** this week!**

Volunteering Open Evening

2 April 2014 in Glasgow (4.30 – 6.30)

Scottish Refugee Council event to explore opportunities for with volunteering asylum seekers and refugees in Glasgow. For information contact 0141 248 9799 / volunteering@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/pexp8xk>

**** this week!**

Working with refugee and asylum seeking women

3 April 2014 in Glasgow (10.00 – 4.00)

Scottish Refugee Council course to explore the differences between a migrant, a refugee and an asylum seeker, illustrate the differences between sex and gender, and examine the factors that might cause women to flee from their own countries and challenges they face when claiming asylum. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information contact Martha Harding martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7951 or see <http://tinyurl.com/pk4etc4>

**** this week!**

The immigration generation_gap

3 April 2014 in Glasgow (6.00 – 9.30)

Migrants Rights Network event to explore young people's attitudes, concerns and opinions on immigration and free movement and feature four short commissioned films by young filmmakers. For information see <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-immigration-generation-gap-tickets-9810037085?aff=es2&rank=0&sid=e43d05deb2c111e38a8112313b00d4e1> or contact 020 7336 9412 / info@migrantsrights.org.uk

Reporting asylum in the media: What you need to know

15 April 2014 in Glasgow (9.30 – 1.00)

Scottish Refugee Council course to find out how to find the facts you need, understand how the asylum system works and explore how to sensitively achieve the best outcome when interviewing asylum seekers and refugees. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information contact Martha Harding 0141 223 7951 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://tinyurl.com/nzcptyx>

Domestic Abuse and BME Women, Children and Young People:

1st (9.30am-4.30pm) & 2nd (9.30am-12.30pm) May 2014 in Edinburgh

9th (9.30am-4.30pm) & 10th (9.30am-12.30pm) June 2014 in Edinburgh

7th (9.30am-4.30pm) & 8th (9.30am-12.30pm) July 2014 in Edinburgh

Shakti course aimed at increasing awareness and understanding of issues facing Minority Ethnic women, children & young people affected by domestic abuse. For information see <http://www.shaktiedinburgh.co.uk/training&events.html> or contact 0131 475 2399 / info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk

GRAMNet Film Series

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

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Developing Management and Leadership Programme

May 2014 to January 2015 in Glasgow

PATH (Scotland) training course with funding from the Equality Unit of the Scottish Government to examine power inequalities and the impact of such inequalities on under-represented groups. It will also enable participants to recognise and develop their skills and abilities as managers and leaders. The course is validated by the University of Glasgow, Centre for Open Studies. For information see http://pathscotland.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/DMLS_14-15_CourseOutline.pdf and to apply complete the form at <http://pathscotland.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Leadership-Application-Form-14-15.doc>

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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/>

Scotland's Referendum: Qs&As <http://www.scotreferendum.com/questions-and-answers/>

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/>

Useful Links (continued)

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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