

## Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

### Contents

Immigration and Asylum	New Publications
Community Relations	Other News
Equality	Bills in Progress
Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination	Consultations
Other Scottish Parliament and Government	Job Opportunities
Other UK Parliament and Government	Events/Conferences/Training
	Useful Links

**Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month, and that the Scottish 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.**

**Please send information for inclusion in MEMO to [MEMO@scojec.org](mailto:MEMO@scojec.org) and requests to be added to circulation to [mail@bemis.org.uk](mailto:mail@bemis.org.uk)**

**The Scottish Parliament is in recess until 20 April 2014, and the UK Parliament until 28 April 2014. The next issue of MEMO will be on 5 May 2014.**

## Immigration and Asylum

### Scottish Parliament Questions

#### Crown Office

**John Finnie:** To ask the Scottish Government what liaison there is between the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service and Home Office immigration compliance and enforcement teams that operate in Scotland. (S4W-20355)

**Reply from Lesley Thomson:** The branch of Home Office immigration that deals with criminal matters is the Home Office Criminal and Financial Investigation team, which has responsibility for disrupting and dismantling organised criminal networks involved in organised immigration crime. Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service liaises with the Home Office Criminal and Financial Investigation team on criminal matters.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-20355&ResultsPerPage=10>

## Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

### Crown Office

**John Finnie:** To ask the Scottish Government whether the Lord Advocate has authority to instruct Home Office immigration compliance and enforcement teams that operate in Scotland. (S4W-20356)

**Reply from Lesley Thomson:** The Home Office immigration compliance and enforcement teams deal with civil matters of immigration law. The Lord Advocate is the head of the system of prosecution and investigation of sudden, suspicious, unexpected and unexplained deaths in Scotland. The Lord Advocate does not instruct Home Office immigration compliance and enforcement teams, which operate in Scotland.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-20356&ResultsPerPage=10>

## UK Parliament Questions

### Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

**Emma Lewell-Buck:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what guidance her Department makes available to applicants for Tier 4 student visas on maintenance funding requirements; and what types of accounts or financial instruments count towards meeting this requirement. [194831]

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Home Office provides guidance on the maintenance funding requirements for Tier 4 student visas to applicants in Appendix C of the Immigration Rules, in the Tier 4 Policy guidance for applicants, and on the Tier 4 application form. The Tier 4 application form also calculates the level of funds an applicant requires and advises them which documents they can submit as evidence.

The guidance does not specify an exhaustive list of accounts or financial instruments that can be used to satisfy the maintenance requirement. Instead, the Immigration Rules set out the attributes an acceptable account must satisfy. The rules specifically exclude financial instruments such as shares, bonds, credit cards and pension funds from use as acceptable evidence.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140407/text/140407w0004.htm#140408900023>

### Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

**Chi Onwurah:** To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills how many tier 4 visa applications were refused for applicants intending to study at each English university in the last year for which records are available; and what guidance his Department issues to universities on retaining fees paid by students whose applications for such visas are subsequently refused. [195655]

**Reply from David Willetts:** Statistics on Tier 4 refusals are published in the Home Office's quarterly Immigration Statistics, available in the Libraries of the House and at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>

Information relating to individual institutions is not published in line with the requirements of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Information on the number of refusals of tier 4 visa applications by education sector or by individual institution is not available and could be obtained only at disproportionate cost.

As autonomous bodies, individual UK HE institutions are able to decide their own tuition fee refund policy including what refunds will be made to overseas students

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

who are subsequently refused a visa to study in the UK. The Department does not issue guidance, however, the QAA has issued guidance in 2012 for institutions on sponsoring international students which included recommendations on refund procedures for international students.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140410/text/140410w002.htm#14041098000113>

### Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

**David Hanson:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what steps she is taking to investigate the English language test results of students who completed English language tests organised by ETS in each of the last three years. [187807]

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Home Office has suspended acceptance of all ETS tests taken and used in the UK while the scope of the issue is ascertained and to determine the number of people who have taken a test and been involved in fraud. We have specialist teams in place to undertake this analysis.

We are looking at all current and past applications. Anyone who is found to have used or is currently trying to use evidence that they obtained dishonestly can expect to have their leave curtailed and be removed from the UK or have any outstanding application refused and leave the UK. We will also seek criminal prosecution where appropriate and use all of the measures that we have available.

Our reforms have curbed abuse by closing bogus colleges, making the application process more rigorous and imposing more rules on colleges to improve course quality. However, as the recent BBC Panorama programme highlighted, much more needs to be done.

The Government will take all necessary steps, but our approach also requires the education sector, particularly private or further education colleges and those providing secure English language testing, to take on their responsibility to tackle abuse.

**Steve McCabe:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if she will place in the Library a record of those institutions which have made a conditional offer to overseas students whose application for a visa is subsequently refused. [193015]

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** When a sponsor issues a student with an unconditional offer of a place on a course, it will assign a confirmation of acceptance of studies (CAS) via using the sponsorship management system.

The only time a sponsor can offer a conditional place is when a student holds B1 English and wishes to study B2 English on a pre-sessional course before their main course of study.

Full details relating to issuing of conditional offers to overseas students are set out in the tier 4 sponsor guidance which can be found at:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/270492/sponsor-guidancet4.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/270492/sponsor-guidancet4.pdf)

As sponsors issue CAS on a daily basis, there are no plans to place any records in the Library.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140410/text/140410w003.htm#1404112000017>

### Illegal Immigrants: Employment

**Christopher Chope:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many illegal workers whose employment has been the subject of penalties pursuant to section 15 of the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 (a) have been deported and (b) are still in the UK. [192960]

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** We are better placed than ever to identify and charge those working illegally.

We are increasing our multi agency taskforces, improving our intelligence sharing between Departments and creating a strategic intelligence picture and structure. Through the Immigration Bill, we are simplifying the existing illegal working penalty regime making it easier to enforce payment in the civil courts.

It would not be possible to provide the information requested without linking immigration case outcomes to our data on civil penalties issued on employers. This would incur disproportionate costs.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140407/text/140407w0004.htm#1404089000027>

### Immigrants: Pregnant Women

**Steve McCabe:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many pregnant women are held in immigration detention. [194441]

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** If a pregnant woman chooses to inform the Home Office of her pregnancy, the detail would be held on her medical file which is a confidential record between patient and doctor. The Home Office does not collate this information centrally.

Care provided to pregnant women in detention is appropriate to their individual circumstances and all detainees have access to health care facilities and medical advice at all times.

Pregnant women are only detained in exceptional circumstances where their removal is imminent and medical advice does not suggest that the baby is due before the woman's expected removal date. Women who are less than 24 weeks pregnant may also be detained as part of the asylum fast-track process.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140407/text/140407w0004.htm#1404089000029>

### Children: Refugee Children

**Lord Judd:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what priority they give to education and psychological care support in their bilateral and multilateral work with refugee children. [HL6364]

**Reply from Baroness Northover:** DfID is placing increasing emphasis on the educational and psychological needs of refugee children. DfID provides funding to a number of humanitarian agencies to meet these needs, including the UN High Commissioner for Refugees United Nations, Children's Fund, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Organisation for Migration, and through the UN's Central Emergency Relief Fund. For the Syria crisis, DfID has put in place a £30 million No Lost Generation Initiative to provide protection, psycho-social support and education for affected children.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140409w0001.htm#14040945000313>

### Immigrants: Detainees

**David Hanson:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many people held in immigration removal centres on 13 March 2014 had been held for (a) between 28 and 60 days, (b) between 60 and 365 days, (c) more than 12 months and (d) more than 18 months. [192038]

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** Figures on people held in detention are collated as at the last day of each quarter, on 31 March, 30 June, 30 September and 31 December of each year and published in Immigration Statistics quarterly releases:



## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Immigration Statistics: October to December 2013, table dt\_11\_q from the GOV.UK website:

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

Figures as at the 31 March 2014 will be published in Immigration Statistics January to March 2014 on 22 May 2014.

Published figures on people detained in the United Kingdom solely under Immigration Act powers include those held in short term holding facilities, pre departure accommodation and immigration removal centres. Figures exclude those held in police cells, Prison Service establishments, short term holding rooms at ports and airports (for less than 24 hours), and those recorded as detained under both criminal and immigration powers and their dependants.

**Sarah Teather:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department which prisons are holding individuals solely under immigration powers. [194691]

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The prisons detailed as follows are currently holding individuals in England and Wales solely under immigration powers.

Ashfield, Bedford, Belmarsh, Birmingham, Brinsford, Bristol, Brixton, Bronzefield, Bullingdon, Bullwood Hall, Bure, Cardiff, Chelmsford, Dartmoor, Doncaster, Durham, Elmley, Erlestoke, Exeter, Featherstone, Feltham, , Forest Bank, Garth, Glen Parva, Guys Marsh, Haverigg, HewellHigh Down, Highpoint, Holloway, Holme House, Huntercombe, Isis, Leeds, Lewes, Lincoln, Littlehey, Liverpool, Maidstone, Manchester, Moorland, Mount, New Hall, Norwich, Nottingham, Oakwood, Parc, Pentonville, Peterborough, Ranby, Risley, Rye Hall, Stafford, Stoke Heath, Styal, Swansea, Swinfen Hall, Thameside, Usk, Wakefield, Wandsworth, Wayland, Whatton, Woodhill, Wormwood Scrubs, Wymott, Verne.

The prisons detailed as follows are currently holding individuals in Scotland under immigration powers: Barlinnie, Edinburgh , Cornton Vale, Dumfries.

*Notes:*

1. All details quoted have been derived from management information and are therefore provisional and subject to change.
2. The details have been extracted from NOMS and Home Office reports which are taken from administrative IT systems which, as with any large scale recording system, are subject to possible errors with data entry and processing.
3. Data generated on 31 March 2014.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140407/text/140407w0004.htm#1404089000028>

### Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre

**Steve McCabe:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many women detained at Yarl's Wood Detention Centre have been held for (a) four years or more, (b) three years or more and (c) two years or more. [194442]

**Replyt from James Brokenshire:** As at 31 December 2013, the latest date for which figures are available, no women were detained at Yarl's Wood immigration removal centre for longer than two years.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140407/text/140407w0004.htm#1404089000036>

### Immigration: Unaccompanied Children

**Lord Storey:** To ask Her Majesty's Government how many individuals who came to the United Kingdom as unaccompanied children between 2005 and 2010 (1) eventually settled in the United Kingdom, (2) left voluntarily, and (3) were removed.[HL6348]

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

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

**Taylor of Holbeach:** The number of unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) granted indefinite leave to remain between 1st October 2006 and 31st December 2010 is 661. Numbers of voluntary removals of UASC by year from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2006 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010:

Year of application	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Total	7	28	23	14	14	86

Numbers of enforced removals of UASC by year from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2006 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010:

Year of application	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Total	9	29	28	21	9	96

Please note: 'Unaccompanied children' have been interpreted as unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) in answering this question. All figures quoted above are management information which has been subject to internal quality checks. Data on UASC was not formally recorded on the Home Office's Case Information Database until 1st Oct 2006.

The above data does not necessarily relate to individuals who arrived in the UK in the period specified. The action referred to in the response may relate to a person who arrived in the UK in a previous year.

**Lord Storey:** To ask Her Majesty's Government how many former unaccompanied children who have exhausted their appeal rights have been served with removal directions in each of the last five years, and to date in 2014. [HL6349]

**Reply from Lord Taylor of Holbeach:** For the purpose of answering this question, 'unaccompanied children' has been interpreted as unaccompanied asylum seeking children.

The following table gives data on the number of removal directions (RD) set for former unaccompanied asylum seeking children who have exhausted their appeal rights from 2009 to 2013.

Year Removal Direction was set	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Total
Individuals with Removal Direction set	29	82	188	146	158	603

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140408w0001.htm#14040853000601>

### Asylum Seekers (Support)

**Sarah Teather:** To ask the Secretary of State if she will make a statement on support provided to meet the essential living needs of asylum seekers under sections 95 and 98 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

**Reply from the Minister for Security and Immigration (James Brokenshire):** Asylum seekers are supported by the Home Office if they are destitute. The support package usually consists of accommodation, with gas, electricity, water and other utilities provided free, plus a weekly cash allowance to cover essential living needs. The cash allowance is currently £36.62 a week for a single adult, but it is higher in cases where there are children in the household. A family of two adults and two children would receive approximately £180 a week.

The Government completed a full review of payment levels in June 2013. The review concluded that the levels were sufficient to meet essential living needs. That decision was challenged in the courts by Refugee Action, a group that campaigns for asylum seekers, and the court issued its judgment yesterday. It decided that there were some errors in the way in which the 2013 review had been conducted. It found, for example, that items such as household cleaning products and non-prescription medicines should have been considered as essential and therefore factored into the overall assessment of the adequacy of

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

the payment levels. The court did not decide that the current payment levels were too low. That question will be considered by the Government in a fresh review of the payment levels. We are of course considering the full implications of the judgment, and whether or not to appeal.

**Sarah Teather:** The Minister is correct to say that yesterday's judgment did not comment on the generosity of the levels, but it was absolutely damning about the process that the Home Secretary had used in order to come to her decision. It found that she had misunderstood or misapplied information, that she did not know, or ignored, basic aspects of her Government's education policy, and that she had failed to gather sufficient information. She has been told to go away and do the whole thing again.

Is not the problem that this decision is a personal fiefdom of the Home Secretary, driven entirely by base political motives? She can and does ignore detailed representations by other Ministers across the Government. She can and does ignore parliamentarians, including the findings of a cross-party inquiry that I chaired last year. She can and does ignore the pleas of those who work with victims of torture, who say that she is exacerbating their trauma and forcing them into severe poverty. It is an indictment of the current process that Refugee Action and the Migrants Law Project had to take the Home Secretary to court to get any kind of oversight of the process.

Is it not simply time for Ministers to accept that the Home Office cannot be trusted to make a rational or humane decision alone on this matter, and to submit to a transparent process with cross-government oversight, which might improve its data and force the Home Secretary to come to Parliament to announce them? Finally, does the Minister accept that half this agony would be avoided if the Government allowed asylum seekers to work and pay their own way, as many of the highly skilled individuals who come here seeking sanctuary are desperate to do?

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The UK has a proud history of granting asylum to those who need it, and the Government are committed to providing support to those who would otherwise be destitute while their claims are being considered. The payment levels to asylum seekers need to be considered as part of the overall support package. Accommodation—plus utilities such as gas and electricity—is provided free.

I do not accept my hon. Friend's characterisation of the assessment process. A detailed assessment was concluded last June and, indeed, we will carry out a further assessment of levels this year to take into account relevant factors and to assess whether there should be any change. I can certainly assure her that we will consider these matters very carefully.

My hon. Friend makes various comments on the judgment itself. It is a very detailed judgment—it runs to about 90 pages and the Home Office is analysing the detail carefully and, indeed, whether we will be appealing it.

The Home Office takes its responsibilities in respect of asylum support extremely seriously in setting the rates and considering what is appropriate. We believe that it does provide support to enable those who seek asylum and who are destitute to see that their claims are decided, and that support is given to them during that process.

**To continue reading the lengthy question and answer session see**

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140410/debtext/140410-0001.htm#14041073000005>

### Asylum: Children

**Mary Creagh:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) how many unaccompanied asylum-seeking children were placed in local authority care in each of the last 10 years; [193336]

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

(2) how many unaccompanied asylum-seeking children there were in the UK in each of the last 10 years. [193337]

**reply from James Brokenshire:** Figures for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASCs) placed in local authority care are not available from published statistics.

In 2012 and 2013 there were 1,125 and 1,174 applications received from UASCs, excluding dependants.

Figures on a comparable basis are not available for previous years.

The Home Office publishes statistics on asylum applications from UASCs in tables as\_08 and as\_08\_q (Asylum data tables Volume 2) of the release Immigration Statistics available from:

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

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140410/text/140410w0003.htm#1404112000009>

### Asylum: Children

**Steve McCabe:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what support her Department offers to local authorities who are caring for asylum seekers who entered care as a child to ensure adequate support is in place when they become care leavers. [194870]

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Home Office does not have a direct role in this policy area. The Department for Education provides statutory guidance to local authorities about how to support care leavers, including care leavers who are asylum seekers. The guidance makes clear that asylum seekers should receive the same level of support as any other care leaver. The Home Office does, however, provide funding to local authorities to help cover the costs of supporting the young people.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140407/text/140407w0004.htm#1404089000018>

### Children in Care: Asylum

**Steve McCabe:** To ask the Secretary of State for Education what guidance his Department provides to local authorities on care leaving arrangements for asylum seekers who came to the UK alone as children. [194871]

**Reply from Edward Timpson:** Guidance to local authorities on care leaving arrangements for asylum seekers who came to the UK alone as children is included in Volume 3 of 'The Children Act Guidance and Regulations: Planning Transition to Adulthood for Care Leavers'.

[http://resources.leavingcare.org/uploads/c4f7aeaf941cdef\\_b8f4a18f478aa1f19.pdf](http://resources.leavingcare.org/uploads/c4f7aeaf941cdef_b8f4a18f478aa1f19.pdf)

The Department for Education published for consultation in January of this year draft statutory guidance to local authorities on the care of unaccompanied asylum seeking and trafficked children.

<https://www.education.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=conResults&consultationid=1945&external=no&menu=3>

This new guidance brings together guidance on transition planning with wider guidance on providing care for unaccompanied asylum seeking children. That consultation has now closed and final guidance will be published in due course.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140407/text/140407w0003.htm#1404085000099>



## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

### Human Trafficking: Victim Support Schemes

**John Randall:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what the nationality and gender was of each suspected victim of trafficking referred to the Trafficking Victim Support Scheme operated by the Salvation Army in March 2014; which agency referred each person to that scheme; in which town the shelter to which those people were placed for the relevant period was; and what contact is had with each such victim to ensure their safety after they exit the scheme. [194896]

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** In March 2014, there were 126 referrals to the Government-funded support service for adult victims of human trafficking in England and Wales administered by the Salvation Army. In the interests of victim safety only the region in which the victim was encountered is provided, and not which town they were placed in. Once an individual receives a Conclusive Grounds decision they will be given tailored move-on support to safely return home or integrate in the UK. Once they exit the service, no formal mechanisms exist to maintain contact.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140409/text/140409w0002.htm#1404103000096>

## New Publication

“What’s going to happen tomorrow?”: Unaccompanied children refused asylum

[http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/force\\_download.php?fp=%2Fclient\\_assets%2Fcp%2Fpublication%2F794%2FARE\\_FINAL\\_for\\_Web.pdf](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/force_download.php?fp=%2Fclient_assets%2Fcp%2Fpublication%2F794%2FARE_FINAL_for_Web.pdf)

## News

**Scottish refugee sector stakeholders met with Migrant Help**

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/latest\\_news/2319\\_scottish\\_refugee\\_sector\\_stakeholders\\_met\\_with\\_migrant\\_help](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/2319_scottish_refugee_sector_stakeholders_met_with_migrant_help)

**3,000 jobless European migrants on benefits**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/eu/10762942/3000-jobless-European-migrants-on-benefits.html>

**Migrant welfare curbs extended to child benefits**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-26949172>

**EU migrants barred from claiming child benefit for 3 months**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/10753335/EU-migrants-barred-from-claiming-child-benefit-for-3-months.html>

**Migrants face child benefit curbs**

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/migrants-face-child-benefit-curbs-1.309715>

**EU migrants face new curbs on claiming benefits in an attempt to reduce Britain’s ‘pull factor’**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/eu-migrants-face-new-restrictions-on-claiming-benefits-in-an-attempt-to-reduce-britains-pull-factor-9247157.html>

## Immigration and Asylum News (continued)

**High court overturns home secretary's freeze on payments for asylum seekers**  
<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2014/apr/09/high-court-home-secretary-asylum-seekers-theresa-may>

**Asylum seeker support move quashed**  
<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/asylum-seeker-support-move-quashed-1.310276>

**Report calls for 'fundamental change' in treatment of child asylum seekers who arrive in Britain alone**  
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/report-calls-for-fundamental-change-in-treatment-of-child-asylum-seekers-who-arrive-in-britain-alone-9249577.html>

**Asylum-seeker subsistence payments defeat for government in high court**  
<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2014/apr/09/asylum-seeker-subsistence-payments-defeat-government-theresa-may>

**Ministers defeated in Lords over citizenship terror powers**  
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-26930341>

**Peers reject plans to take away citizenship**  
<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/wider-political-news/peers-reject-plans-to-take-away-citizenship.23906992>

**Net migration to UK 'underestimated' by nearly 350,000**  
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-26972597>

**ONS: Immigration into Britain in the 00s was nearly 350,000 higher than previously thought**  
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/ons-immigration-into-britain-in-the-00s-was-nearly-350000-higher-than-previously-thought-9252332.html>

**Officials admit they underestimated migrants from eastern Europe by 350,000**  
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4059818.ece>

**Missed migrants group 'substantial'**  
<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/missed-migrants-group-substantial-1.312228>

**Immigration from eastern Europe underestimated by 350,000**  
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/10757336/Immigration-from-eastern-Europe-was-massively-underestimated-says-official-report.html>

**Migrants arriving at regional airports not counted in figures**  
<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/migrants-arriving-at-regional-airports-not-counted-in-figures.23937241>

**Office for National Statistics says net immigration was underestimated**  
<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/apr/10/ons-net-immigration-underestimated>

**Inspectors went to the wrong airports and underestimated net migration by 350,000 - more than the entire population of Cardiff**  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2601599/Inspectors-went-wrong-airports-underestimated-net-migration-350-000-entire-population-Cardiff.html>

## Immigration and Asylum

### News (continued)

**Rhetoric on immigration 'is scaring off scientists'**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/science/article4056110.ece>

**Immigration rhetoric putting off overseas students - peers**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-26980384>

**130,000 shortfall in primary school places as migration and birth rates soar**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2602958/130-000-shortfall-primary-school-places-migration-birth-rates-soar.html>

**The perfect transplant match – but not for the Home Office: Would you give up a kidney just to get into Britain?**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/the-perfect-transplant-match--but-not-for-the-home-office-would-you-give-up-a-kidney-just-to-get-into-britain-9255123.html>

**Woman refused entry to Britain to give her brother a kidney**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/health/healthnews/10762485/Woman-refused-entry-to-Britain-to-give-her-brother-a-kidney.html>

**UN inspection of Yarl's Wood was blocked, claim campaigners**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/apr/13/un-inspection-yarls-wood-detention-centre-blocked-claim>

[TOP](#)

## Community Relations

### Scottish Parliament Motion

**S4M-09657 Anne McTaggart: International Romani Day 2014**—That the Parliament recognises that 6 April 2014 is International Romani Day; understands that the event provides an opportunity to celebrate Roma culture and community in Scotland and across the world; believes that celebrations took place in Glasgow to mark this occasion, with over 300 supporters attending a march from Govanhill Park to Albert Road and an evening function, which featured traditional Roma food and music; notes that the day of celebration in Glasgow was organised by Friends of Romano Lav and was supported by the West of Scotland Regional Equality Council and Oxfam; congratulates the organisers, participants and supporters of International Romani Day 2014 on what it sees as this successful event in Glasgow, and considers that this annual celebration is a significant part of the wider efforts to ensure the recognition and protection of Roma rights in Scotland and around the world.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-09657&ResultsPerPage=10>

### News

**Day of celebration for Glasgow's Roma community**

<http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/day-of-celebration-for-glasgows-roma-community-158656n.23891829>

## Community Relations

### News (continued)

#### **3000 join in city's Sikh procession**

<http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/3000-join-in-citys-sikh-procession-158662n.23891848>

#### **British Asians have transformed public life – and long may it continue**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/10760324/British-Asians-have-transformed-public-life-and-long-may-it-continue.html>

[TOP](#)

## Equality

### UK Parliament Questions

#### **Education: Black British Students**

**Baroness Benjamin:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to raise the academic attainment levels of black British students, and especially those of Caribbean descent.

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Schools (Lord Nash):** My Lords, the Government aim to improve education for all and our policies to achieve this are working. Attainment for black pupils is increasing strongly while performance gaps have closed and are narrowing substantially. In the past five years, we have seen a 17% increase in black Caribbean pupils attaining five GCSEs, including English and maths; it has gone up from 36% to 53%. For black African pupils the achievement rate now stands at 61.2%, which is above the national average of 60.6%.

**Baroness Benjamin:** My Lords, students of Caribbean heritage are at the very bottom of the attainment league table. Chinese and Indian students are at the top yet they are always lumped together as if they are one group, giving the impression that ethnic minority students are outperforming white students. Can my noble friend the Minister tell the House what is being done to ensure that Caribbean-heritage students are attaining the Government's GCSE benchmark and going on to further and higher education? How is the Education Endowment Foundation being encouraged to use its substantial government funds to address this problem?

**Reply from Lord Nash:** I assure my noble friend that we publish detailed attainment data by specific ethnic category and that schools and Ofsted study their internal data on this carefully to ensure that all pupils are making good progress. Sponsored academies have substantially higher intakes of black pupils than the rest of the state sector, and those pupils are significantly outperforming pupils from similar backgrounds in maintained schools. Sponsored secondary academies have 79% more black Caribbean pupils and are increasing their performance at double that of other state schools, while sponsored primary academies have 38% more black Caribbean pupils and are increasing their performance at three times that of other state schools. Disadvantaged black Caribbean pupils are also outperforming the disadvantaged group as a whole: 45% are achieving the GCSE measure compared to the national average of 41%, while it is 33% for white disadvantaged pupils. Through the pupil premium we are providing £2.5 billion this year, which will benefit more than half of black pupils, while the EEF is funding a number of projects including an increasing pupil motivation project to help black pupils.

**Baroness Massey of Darwen:** My Lords, does the Minister agree that teacher expectation is one of the things that has the greatest impact on pupil achievement? Apart

## Equality

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

from what is going on in schools, does he also agree that mentoring schemes such as those of the Amos Bursary or ASCL can have a huge impact on the achievement of pupils through their one-to-one programmes?

**Reply from Lord Nash:** I agree entirely with the noble Baroness on both points. I like to think that low teacher expectations, particularly for black pupils, are a thing of the past; that is certainly proven in sponsored academies. I agree entirely with her about mentoring schemes. My own school participates in the mayor's mentoring programme, which provides mentoring relationships for 1,000 black boys across the capital. Chance UK is an excellent charity providing mentoring while Think Forward, which was founded by the Private Equity Foundation and funded by the EEF, provides highly trained coaches to work with disadvantaged 14 year-olds in schools in east London.

**The Lord Bishop of St Albans:** My Lords, what assessment have Her Majesty's Government made of the impact on educational attainment of the absorption of the Ethnic Minority Achievement Awards into the dedicated schools grant, which was done some months ago?

**Reply from Lord Nash:** The impact was substantial. I will have to write to the right reverend Prelate to give him more details. ...

**Baroness Lawrence of Clarendon:** My Lords, what happens after school and university is equally important. The latest figures show that 45% of young black people in the UK are unemployed. What steps are the Government taking to stop the overrepresentation of young black African and Caribbean people among the unemployed?

**Reply from Lord Nash:** Our apprenticeships programme is very much aimed at this. We have also reformed vocational qualifications. In the past, too many of these qualifications had no real job value but were overpromoted in equivalence tables. Alison Wolf did a study on this, and we have dramatically reduced the number of equivalent vocational qualifications that count, which will be of much more value to all pupils and I think will particularly help black pupils.

**Baroness Hussein-Ece:** My Lords, is the Minister aware that a recent study by the Institute of Education found that one of the major concerns of black parents was that teachers generally predetermined the kind of pupils ... who were capable of academic success, that some teachers had lower expectations of black and minority ethnic students and that black pupils were more likely to be entered for lower-tier exams, meaning that these students were able to achieve only a C or D grade as a maximum?

**Reply from Lord Nash:** As I say, I would like to think that this was a thing of the past. However ... the Teach First programme, which we have quadrupled, the Teaching Leaders scheme and the Future Leaders scheme, along with the Talented Leaders programme that we are shortly to introduce, should all ensure that we raise the standard of teaching and that any prejudice in this regard is a thing of the past.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140408-0001.htm#14040852000491>

#### Further Education: Ethnic Groups

**Stephen Timms:** To ask the Secretary of State for Education what assessment he has made of the effect of the proposed 17.5 per cent reduction in funding for full-time education on 18-year-olds from ethnic minorities who (a) have poor prior attainment and (b) speak English as an additional language. [195478]

**Reply from Elizabeth Truss:** The Department for Education has published an impact assessment, which is available online:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-reduction-for-18-year-olds-impact-assessment>



## Equality

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

The impact assessment looked at the proportion of 18-year-old black and minority ethnic (BME) students in full-time education who attract a funding uplift for disadvantage based on the level of deprivation of their home postcode, compared with the proportion of all 16 to 18-year-old BME students. It shows that 18-year-old BME students in full-time education are not more likely to be from disadvantaged areas than 16 to 18-year-old BME students as a whole.

I am pleased that we have been able to afford to mitigate the impact of the funding reduction on 18-year-olds in the academic year 2014/15. We will cap any losses in relation to this at 2% of the funding that an institution receives for the education of 16 to 19-year-olds.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140410/text/140410w0004.htm#14041098000097>

## New Publication

**State of the Nation – Race & Racism in Scotland: Employment**

<http://www.crer.org.uk/Publications/SOTN2Employment.pdf>

## News

**Role-play exam for GP trainees fails equality and race bias test, court told**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/apr/08/gp-trainee-racial-discrimination-court-indian-royal-college-gmc>

[TOP](#)

## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### Scottish Parliament Question

#### Show Racism the Red Card

**Jackie Baillie:** To ask the Scottish Government for what reason it has reduced Show Racism the Red Card's grant from £120,000 to £40,000. (S4W-20199)

**Reply from Shona Robison:** The table below shows the Scottish Government funding provided to Show Racism the Red Card and Show Bigotry the Red Card for the financial years 2012-15:

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Show Racism the Red Card	£70,000	£40,000	£20,000
Show Bigotry the Red Card	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000
Total Scottish Government Funding	£90,000	£60,000	£40,000

Previously in 2011-12 Show Racism the Red Card and Show Bigotry the Red Card received combined funding of £120,000.

The funding for the 2012-15 period was agreed with Show Racism the Red Card. It is essential that the Scottish Government ensures best value for money from the project funding it administers. The staggered reduction of funding was in line

## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination Scottish Parliament Question (continued)

with Scottish Government policy on future sustainability of projects, encouraging partnerships, collaborative working and mainstreaming of such work to reduce dependency on Scottish Government funding and ensure the maximum impact of resources to deliver the best outcomes for our communities. Full feedback on the reasons for the level of funding awarded, were provided to Show Racism the Red Card at the time the decision was made in 2012.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-20199&ResultsPerPage=10>

### News

**Anti-racism chief 'disgusted' by footage of Celtic star Leigh Griffiths' racist chant**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/sport/football/football-news/anti-racism-chief-disgusted-footage-celtic-3387143>

**Griffiths hit with more serious charge by SFA as Celtic and police probe 'racist chant'**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-2600899/Leigh-Griffiths-hit-charge-SFA-Celtic-police-probe-racist-chant.html>

**Survey shows Catholics feel bigotry remains serious problem**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/survey-shows-catholics-feel-bigotry-remains-serious-problem.23946010>

**North London Collegiate School Teacher Tells Jewish Pupil She'll Send Her To Gas Chambers**

[http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2014/04/13/north-london-collegiate-school-jewish-gas-chamber\\_n\\_5141453.html?utm\\_hp\\_ref=uk-news](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2014/04/13/north-london-collegiate-school-jewish-gas-chamber_n_5141453.html?utm_hp_ref=uk-news)

**'Go to the back of the queue... or I'll send you to one of your gas chambers': What teacher at top school told distraught Jewish girl**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2603286/Go-queue-ll-send-one-gas-chambers-What-teacher-school-told-distraught-Jewish-girl.html>

[TOP](#)

## Other Scottish Parliament and Government

### Press Releases

**Statistical News Release Census 2011: Release 2D – Key results on long-term health conditions, central heating and deprivation. Release 3C - Detailed characteristics on Ethnicity, Identity, Language and Religion in Scotland includes:**

*Ethnic group by age*

*National identity by sex by age*

*Country of birth by age*

*Language other than English used at home by age*

*Ethnic group by religion*

*National identity by religion*

*Country of birth by ethnic group*

## Other Scottish Parliament and Government Press Releases (continued)

*Country of birth by religion*

*Country of birth by national identity*

<http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/news/statistical-news-release-census-2011-release-2d-%E2%80%93-key-results-long-term-health-conditions>

For details of the above data see <http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/ods-web/standard-outputs.html>

[TOP](#)

## Other UK Parliament and Government

### Parliamentary Questions

#### Slaughterhouses

**Mike Freer:** To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs if he will review the reporting of the mis-stunning of animals before slaughter by the Food Standards Agency to ensure that the way in which the data is collected provides as accurate a picture as possible of the real situation. [194828]

**Reply from George Eustice:** Official veterinarians of the Food Standards Agency report centrally all cases of non-compliances with the welfare at slaughter regulations. This data provides an accurate picture of welfare breaches at slaughterhouses.

The welfare at time of killing regulations will come into force next month and we will keep the effectiveness of monitoring and enforcement at slaughterhouses under review.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140408/text/140408w003.htm#14040865000137>

#### Food: Halal or Kosher Meat

**Lord Rana:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to reassure consumers, who for religious or other reasons do not wish to consume halal or kosher meats, about the provenance of the meat they buy, in the absence of any informative labelling as to the method of slaughter used.[HL6221]

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Lord De Mauley):** The Government is of the view that consumers should have the necessary information available to them to make an informed choice about their food. Any method of slaughter labelling system needs to cover more than just the UK. We are awaiting the results of an European Commission study on method-of-slaughter labelling, which is due this summer. We will look at possible options in light of that report.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140408w0001.htm#14040853000588>

#### Forced Marriage

**Helen Jones:** To ask the Secretary of State for Education what steps he is taking to ensure that teachers are aware of how to support students at risk of forced marriage; and what material his Department make available in schools on sources of help for those threatened with forced marriage. [194819]

**Reply from Edward Timpson:** On 3 April the Government published 'Keeping Children Safe in Education', updated statutory guidance for schools and colleges

## Other UK Parliament and Government Parliamentary Questions (continued)

on their safeguarding responsibilities. The Secretary of State for Education wrote to all headteachers to draw their attention to the updated guidance, which can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education>

The guidance contains links to sources of more detailed information and guidance on specific risks, including forced marriage. The information on forced marriage includes multi-agency practice guidelines, which contain a chapter targeted at schools, colleges and universities and details of national support agencies that may assist girls and young women.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140407/text/140407w0003.htm#1404085000102>

### Female Genital Mutilation

**Diana Johnson:** To ask the Secretary of State for Justice how many people have been convicted of an offence under sections 1, 2 or 3 of the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 where the offence was committed against a child in each of the last four years. [194022]

**Reply from Damian Green:** No one has been convicted of an offence under the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 in England and Wales since the Act came into force. However, the Director of Public Prosecutions announced the first prosecutions for female genital mutilation on 21 March.

The Government is committed to tackling and preventing the harmful and unacceptable practice of female genital mutilation. As part of this cross-government work, the Ministry of Justice is already considering suggestions made by the Director for strengthening the criminal law on female genital mutilation to make successful prosecutions more likely.

We welcome the Home Affairs Select Committee inquiry into this area and will give careful consideration to any additional recommendations for legislative change that may be made by the Committee when it reports in due course.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140407/text/140407w0005.htm#1404089000039>

### Female Genital Mutilation

**Lord Blencathra:** To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they plan to make it a criminal offence for medical staff to fail to report all instances of female genital mutilation. [HL6239]

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Health (Earl Howe):** The Government has no current plans to make it a criminal offence for medical staff to fail to report all instances of female genital mutilation (FGM) but will keep this under review.

If National Health Service staff identify a child they consider to be at risk of FGM, or who has already undergone FGM, they must respond appropriately by involving social services and/or police, as per section 47 of the Children Act 1989, and as explained in HMG publication 'Multi-Agency Practice Guidelines: Female Genital Mutilation' (2011)

Guidance is also available from various professional bodies, for example, the General Medical Council, the Royal College of Midwives and the Intercollegiate Recommendations for Identifying, Recording and Reporting FGM (2012). In addition, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children female genital mutilation helpline, co-funded by the Home Office, is a resource for health professionals and young people with concerns about safeguarding issues.

Guidance issued by the General Medical Council on confidentiality advises

## Other UK Parliament and Government Parliamentary Questions (continued)

doctors to consider disclosure in the public interest, and to document reasons where they do not report. Failure to follow guidance can lead to fitness to practise proceedings which in turn can lead to a professional being struck off in more serious cases.

It is important to note that there are still presentations of FGM in the NHS where it is the case that the girl or woman was not a British citizen at the time that she underwent FGM. Because of this, such cases may not always constitute a criminal offence. An adult also has the right to medical confidentiality when they disclose information in a healthcare setting.

However, NHS foundation and non-foundation acute trusts are now required to record the presence of FGM and note the family history through the new Information Standard introduced on 1 April 2014.

**Baroness Gould of Potternewton:** To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they consider that the current legislation against female genital mutilation provides sufficient protection against the practice, whether carried out in the United Kingdom or abroad.[HL6350]

**Reply from the Minister of State, Ministry of Justice (Lord Faulks):** The Government is committed to tackling and preventing the harmful and unacceptable practice of female genital mutilation.

The Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 extended significantly the protection that the law affords to victims of this unacceptable practice. However, to deal with perpetrators of these offences, cases must be reported to the police and the evidential and public interest tests for prosecution must be met. At the time of mutilation, victims may be too young and vulnerable, or too afraid, to report offences. They may also be reluctant to implicate family members. These barriers to prosecution cannot easily be overcome. Therefore it is important to find ways of building a case that do not necessarily rely on the testimony of child victims.

As part of cross-government work, the Ministry of Justice is already considering suggestions made by the Director of Public Prosecutions for strengthening the criminal law on female genital mutilation to make successful prosecutions more likely.

We welcome the Home Affairs Select Committee inquiry into this area and will give careful consideration to any additional recommendations for legislative change that may be made by the Committee when it reports in due course.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140408w0001.htm#14040853000585>

### Refuges

**Helen Jones:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what information her Department holds on the number of specialist refuge places for women from black and minority ethnic communities. [193806]

**Reply from Kris Hopkins:** I have been asked to reply on behalf of the Department for Communities and Local Government.

This Department does not hold the information requested. Decisions on the provision of accommodation for victims of domestic abuse are for local authorities: we expect local authorities to build services based on the needs of their communities, taking account of locally available data sources.

The dynamics of domestic abuse mean that accommodation can play an important role in the resolution of interpersonal abuse and conflict. This is why the homelessness legislation in England provides one of the strongest safety nets in the world for families with children and for vulnerable people who become homeless through no fault of their own.



## Other UK Parliament and Government Parliamentary Questions (continued)

There is a range of support for victims of domestic abuse. Some victims will be accommodated in refuges, but Sanctuary Schemes and mainstream local authority accommodation may be an option for others, while some victims will pursue independent solutions with help and advice from support schemes as necessary.

This Department funds UKRefugesOnline, a UK-wide database of domestic violence services which supports the national 24-hour free phone domestic violence helpline. This service enables those working with victims of domestic violence to identify appropriate services and potential refuge vacancies around the country so that victims can get the help they need as quickly as possible.

This Government has ring-fenced nearly £40 million of stable funding for specialist local domestic and sexual violence support services until 2015. This funding is used to part-fund 54 multi-agency risk assessment conference co-ordinators and 144 independent domestic violence advisers. We have piloted and rolled out Clare's Law and domestic violence protection orders; extended the definition of domestic abuse to cover controlling behaviour and teenage relationships; run two successful campaigns to challenge perceptions of abuse; and placed Domestic Homicide Reviews on a statutory footing to make sure lessons are learned from individual tragedies.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140410/text/140410w0003.htm#1404112000027>

## New Publications

### Female Genital Mutilation Case Studies

#### **Specialist midwife finds lack of knowledge within services**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fgm-case-studies/specialist-midwife-finds-lack-of-knowledge-within-services>

#### **Confusion between social services and local FGM project results in court action**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fgm-case-studies/confusion-between-social-services-and-local-fgm-project-results-in-court-action>

#### **Midwives not understanding the delivery procedures for women with FGM**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fgm-case-studies/midwives-not-understanding-the-delivery-procedures-for-women-with-fgm>

#### **Girl who had FGM overseas before coming to the UK finds it difficult to get referrals**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fgm-case-studies/girl-who-had-fgm-overseas-before-coming-to-the-uk-finds-it-difficult-to-get-referrals>

#### **Disclosure from a student meant that standard procedures could not be followed**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fgm-case-studies/disclosure-from-a-student-meant-that-standard-procedures-could-not-be-followed>

#### **Project worker going the extra mile**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fgm-case-studies/project-worker-going-the-extra-mile>

#### **Positive working between midwife and GP**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fgm-case-studies/positive-working-between-midwife-and-gp>

## Other UK Parliament and Government New Publications (continued)

### Interpreting, awareness-raising and advice

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fgm-case-studies/interpreting-awareness-raising-and-advice>

### Taking a multi-level approach

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fgm-case-studies/taking-a-multi-level-approach>

### 'Cut - some wounds never heal': lesson plan

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cut-some-wounds-never-heal-lesson-plan>

### Female genital mutilation: information sheet

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/female-genital-mutilation-information-sheet>

[TOP](#)

## New Publication

### Scottish Institute for Policing Research Annual Report 2013

[http://www.sipr.ac.uk/downloads/SIPR\\_Annual\\_Report\\_13.pdf](http://www.sipr.ac.uk/downloads/SIPR_Annual_Report_13.pdf)

[TOP](#)

## Other News

### Female Genital Mutilation: As the 'cutting season' approaches, end the silence

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comment/female-genital-mutilation-as-the-cutting-season-approaches-end-the-silence-9251283.html>

### Portrait of Home – request for participants

As part of the Glasgow 2014 Cultural programme, visual artist Arpita Shah is producing a series of photographic portraits of families in Scotland who are culturally rooted to other Commonwealth countries. The work will celebrate Scotland's links to the Commonwealth through the portraits and stories of families that migrated to Scotland, and will be exhibited during the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. Families with connections to other Commonwealth countries to get involved in the project by being photographed in their own home. These family portraits will potentially be featured in indoor and outdoor exhibitions around Glasgow, and each family involved will also receive a professional photographic print from the session.

<http://www.arpitashah.com/CALL-FOR-PARTICIPANTS>

[TOP](#)

## Bills in Progress \*\* new or updated this week

### Scottish Parliament

#### Assisted Suicide Bill

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

## **Bills in Progress** **Scottish Parliament** (continued)

### **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>

Report Stage, House of Lords

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201314/ldhansrd/text/140407-0001.htm#14040716000863>

### **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>

### **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](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>

[TOP](#)

## Consultations

\*\* new or updated this week

**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>

**Student Finance: a Sharia-compliant alternative finance product** (closing date 12 June 2014)

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/299124/bis-13-1311-consultation-on-a-sharia-compliant-alternative-finance-product.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/299124/bis-13-1311-consultation-on-a-sharia-compliant-alternative-finance-product.pdf)

**\*\* Scotland's Electoral Future: delivering improvements in participation and administration** (closing date 11 July 2014)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0044/00448004.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>

**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>

[TOP](#)

## Job Opportunities

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

[TOP](#)

## Events/Conferences/Training

\*\* new or updated this week

**Homecoming Scotland 2014**

Wide range of events throughout the whole of 2014. For more information see the full programme <http://www.visitscotland.com/see-do/homecoming-scotland-2014/events/>

**\*\* this week!**

**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](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) or see <http://tinyurl.com/nzcptyx>

## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### **Discrimination and the Modern Family – playing catch up?**

30 April 2014 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 12.30, preceded by AGM at 9.00)

Scottish Discrimination Law Association seminar about the way recent developments in employment law reflect families today. For information contact [sgilzean@hbjgateley.com](mailto:sgilzean@hbjgateley.com)

### **\*\* Communities at the Centre: Community Led Health Approaches to Tackling Health**

1 May 2014 in Glasgow (10.30 – 3.30)

Community Health Exchange (CHEX) conference to share ideas and inspirations to shape the future of community-led health. For more information see <http://www.chex.org.uk/> or contact David Reilly 0141 248 1924 / [david.reilly@scdc.org.uk](mailto:david.reilly@scdc.org.uk)

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

### **An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees**

8 May 2014 in Glasgow (9.15 – 4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council training to identify fundamental issues facing asylum seekers and refugees today, and highlighting current legislation and entitlements. Reduced fees available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/ntvr3ay> or contact Martha Harding [martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) / 0141 248 9799.

### **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](http://www.gla.ac.uk/media/media_292556_en.pdf)

### **\*\* Sensory Mela 2014**

21 May 2014 in Edinburgh (11.30 – 4.30)

Edinburgh & Lothians Joint Sensory Partnership: Scotland's first ever Sensory Mela event dedicated to delivering information on sight and hearing loss support services to ethnic minority communities. For more information see <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sensory-mela-2014-tickets-11145274817>

### **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



## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Glasgow, Centre for Open Studies. For information see [http://pathscotland.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/DMLS\\_14-15\\_CourseOutline.pdf](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>

[TOP](#)

## 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](http://www.acas.org.uk)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[TOP](#)



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



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



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

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