

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	Other News
Community Relations	Bills in Progress
Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination	Consultations
Scottish Independence Referendum	Job Opportunities
Other Scottish Parliament and Government	Funding 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 and requests to be added to circulation to mail@bemis.org.uk

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Questions

Immigration

John Finnie: To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the potential impact on communities in Scotland, what discussions it has had with the UK Government about Home Office immigration compliance and enforcement teams that operate in Scotland. (S4W-20349)

Reply from Humza Yousaf: The Scottish Government has not had specific discussions with the Home Office about the immigration and compliance teams that operate in Scotland. However, Scottish Ministers and Scottish Government officials regularly communicate with the Home Office, and raise issues of concern to communities in Scotland through these communications, including discussions on the issue of immigration.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-20349&ResultsPerPage=10>

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

Immigration

John Finnie: To ask the Scottish Government whether it provides facilities to Home Office immigration compliance and enforcement teams that operate in Scotland and, if so, where these are located. (S4W-20354)

Reply from Humza Yousaf: The Scottish Government does not provide facilities to Home Office immigration compliance and enforcement teams. Home Office immigration enforcement can request from Police Scotland, with 72 hours' notice, use of custody facilities where these may be required for an operation.

The location of these custody facilities is dependent upon where the operation is to take place. Home Office Immigration Enforcement utilise custody suites as directed by Police Scotland.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-20354&ResultsPerPage=10>

Immigration

John Finnie: To ask the Scottish Government whether Home Office immigration compliance and enforcement teams that operate in Scotland can access the (a) staffing and (b) other resources of Police Scotland. (S4W-20357)

Reply from Humza Yousaf: There is joint working between Home Office immigration enforcement and the Border Policing Command within Police Scotland's Specialist Crime Division, the focus of which has been to protect vulnerable people and identify those foreign national offenders who are causing harm to communities. At present Police Scotland have one officer seconded to Home Office immigration enforcement. There is one Home Office immigration enforcement officer embedded within Specialist Crime Division and two officers embedded within key custody suites to ensure the appropriate checks on detainees are being carried out.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-20357&ResultsPerPage=10>

Immigration

John Finnie: To ask the Scottish Government whether it provides funding to (a) local authorities and (b) third sector organisations in relation to the work of Home Office immigration compliance and enforcement teams that operate in Scotland. (S4W-20359)

Reply from Humza Yousaf: The Scottish Government does not provide specific funding to local authorities or third sector organisations in relation to the work of Home Office immigration compliance and enforcement teams.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-20359&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Questions

Community Relations

Robert Neill: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government pursuant to the answer of 3 March 2014, *Official Report*, column 694W, on polling stations, what assessment he has made of the effect of foreign language translation by local authorities on integration of non-English speakers into their communities. [190554]

Reply from Brandon Lewis: In March 2013, my Department published new guidance for local authorities outlining how councils should stop translating into foreign languages. As outlined in the written ministerial statement of 12 March 2013, *Official Report*, column 5WS, such translation weakens integration;

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

discourages communities from learning English; undermines rather than strengthens equality goals; harms community relations; and is an expensive waste of taxpayers' money at a time when councils need to be making sensible savings. It is disappointing that councils like Tower Hamlets have disregarded that guidance, and reflects broader issues with the dysfunctional governance and divisive practices of the council.

I would add that in light of previous instances of electoral fraud, including impersonation in polling stations, postal voting irregularities and allegations of improper influence, Ministers in this Department have concerns about the practice of allowing foreign language translators/interpreters inside polling stations. The privacy of the ballot must be protected and voters inside a polling station should not be subject to any pressure or influence to vote in a particular way. In that context, the integrity of the ballot box and of the local democratic process requires independent and transparent scrutiny in polling stations by polling agents, council staff, the police and, indeed, passing members of the public who are also voting. This is undermined by polling room administration being conducted in foreign languages.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140428/text/140428w0003.htm#1404297000101>

Immigration

George Galloway: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what estimate she has made of the number of workers made unemployed, or displaced, as a result of immigration from countries outside the EU in the last year. [191003]

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Government commissioned the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to “research the labour market, social and public service impacts of non-EEA migration; and to advise on the use of such evidence in cost-benefit analyses of migration policy decisions”.

The MAC's report published in 2012 called “Analysis of the Impact of Migration”, available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/257235/analysis-of-the-impacts.pdf suggested that “between 1995 and 2010 an additional 100 non-EU migrants were associated with a reduction in employment of 23 native workers”.

Recently, the Government published a report on the “Impacts of migration on UK native employment: An analytical review of the evidence”, available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/287086/occ109.pdf

This report is a comprehensive review of the evidence around the displacement effect of migrants on UK native employment and builds on the MAC 2012 report.

In addition, a report on the “Employment and Occupational skill levels among UK and foreign nationals” available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/282503/occ108.pdf finds that over most of the last decade, employment levels in the UK rose faster among foreign nationals than among UK nationals. However, this pattern has reversed, and over the last year around 90% of employment growth was accounted for by UK nationals.

Mark Hendrick: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many immigration reconsideration cases have been outsourced to Capita Business Services; what payment Capita Business Services receives to process these cases; which country these cases are processed in; and what targets she has set Capita Business Services for that work. [196177]

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Reply from James Brokenshire: Capita has been contracted to deliver contact management and casework services for the Home Office. The initial target is for 50,000 casework outcomes to be delivered, which includes responding to requests for reconsideration.

Disclosure of payment information would result in commercially sensitive information being placed in the public domain and could jeopardise the effective use of public money by undermining further contractual negotiations.

Capita process all of work under this contract in the United Kingdom.

Capita are currently delivering a phased mobilisation of casework services in a model office environment, to build up capacity and refine processes. The contract requires Capita to deliver the first 50,000 casework outcomes within nine months of completing model office and moving into full delivery under the contract.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140429/text/140429w0002.htm#1404307000126>

Student Visas

Jason McCartney: What progress [the Secretary of State for the Home Department] has made on reducing abuse of the student visa system. [903695]

Reply from the Minister for Security and Immigration (James Brokenshire):

The Government have overhauled the student visa route with a range of measures to combat abuse, while continuing to attract the brightest and best students to UK's world-class universities. Our reforms have resulted in 700 education providers being removed as sponsors to bring students into the UK. The total number of tier 4 student visas has fallen by a third since 2010, while visa applications from university students continue to increase.

Jason McCartney: I welcome the clampdown on abuses of the student visa system, but will the Minister assure the House that our world-class universities, including my local award-winning university, Huddersfield university, where overseas students come from more than 120 countries, will still be allowed to grow their courses with these students from around the globe? ...

Reply from James Brokenshire: ... there has been abuse of the student visa system and we are tackling this while placing no limit on the number of genuine international students, whom we welcome to our world-class universities.

Nick Raynsford: Although it is quite right that action should be taken against bogus colleges, does the Minister accept that both the tone and the nature of some of the Government's actions have created an impression, widely understood by very reputable higher education institutions, that it is now less easy for able students from many parts of the world, including the Indian sub-continent, to gain access to courses here for legitimate study?

Reply from James Brokenshire: I do not accept that. I note that the Higher Education Funding Council for England published a report on 10 April indicating that student entrants were up. We continue to work with colleagues across Government. It is notable that we have seen new entrants from key markets including China, Malaysia and Hong Kong. We very much welcome international students to study at our fantastic universities.

[903703] **Nicholas Soames:** Does my hon. Friend accept that although of course we warmly welcome students from all over the world to our excellent universities, they must leave when they are meant to do so? May I suggest that he encourages the universities themselves to play a greater part in seeing to it that that happens?

Reply from James Brokenshire: I agree with my right hon. Friend. There has been abuse of the system, with people coming to this country not to study, but to work. We have worked closely with the universities sector, and there has been a

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

successful pilot with one university to encourage universities to see that students do leave at the end of their studies. We will continue to roll that out, as well as working with immigration enforcement to see that those who are not entitled to be here do leave.

Pete Wishart: Has the Minister seen the comments from Anton Muscatelli, the principal of Glasgow university, who says that this Government are in effect saying to international students, “Don’t come here, we’re closed for business, closed for education”? I know that the Home Office—I hear the Home Secretary saying this—always thinks it knows better than the Scottish academic and university community, but will the Minister at least acknowledge that we have a bit of an issue with this?

Reply from James Brokenshire: There is no limit on the number of students who can legitimately come to this country to study. When the hon. Gentleman looks at the statistics and the information, he will see that the number of visa applications coming to universities has gone up by 7%. We continue to underline that this country welcomes students to our world-class universities in Scotland and in the rest of the United Kingdom.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140428/debtext/140428-0001.htm#1404282000017>

Entry Clearances

David Hanson: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what assessment she has made of the number of people who have overstayed their approved visa to be in the UK by (a) up to six months, (b) six months to one year, (c) more than one year and (d) more than three years as at 31 March 2014. [194952]

Reply from James Brokenshire: It is not possible to accurately quantify the number of immigration offenders in the UK as, by their very nature, those that deliberately evade immigration control to enter and stay in the country illegally are not officially recorded until they come to light and are arrested.

The Immigration Bill will provide new powers to implement exit checks, which the last Labour Government scrapped in 1998. This will allow the Home Office to screen those who leave the UK to identify threats and persons of interest to Border Force, immigration enforcement and other law enforcement bodies, and to enable an appropriate response.

The Home Office continues to prevent abuse, pursue offenders and increase compliance with immigration law—our immigration compliance and enforcement teams across the UK target illegal migrants who have no right to live and work in the community.

The Immigration Bill will stop migrants using public services to which they are not entitled, reduce the factors which encourage people to come to the UK and make it easier to remove people who should not be here.

Chris Ruane: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what the average time is between the expiry of a visa and (a) the person voluntarily leaving the country and (b) the forcible removal of the visa holder. [196067]

Reply from James Brokenshire: The information requested is not available.

Margaret Beckett: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many family visit visa applications to the UK were made between June 2013 and December 2013; and how many such applications were (a) granted, (b) refused, (c) withdrawn, (d) lapsed and (e) given the right to appeal. [196070]

Reply from James Brokenshire: From the 1 of June until the 31 of December 2013 there were 149,995 applications for family visit visas. Of those applications:
111,990 were issued
37,370 were refused

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

65 were lapsed
330 were withdrawn
4,570 were given the right to appeal

These figures are based upon management information, and have been rounded to the nearest five. Until the 24 June 2013, any family visit visa that was refused was given a right of appeal against that decision. The numbers above reflect this change to appeal rights.

Ian Lucas: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what criteria are used to decide in which countries to have UK consular and visa offices. [196075]

Reply from James Brokenshire: Decisions regarding the location of our visa application centres, and the places in which the applications are decided, are based on a number of different factors, including geography, security issues, distribution of demand, political and economic impacts, as well as the financial cost. The Home Office uses commercial partners to help run its network of visa application centres, which are the customer-facing end of the service. Under new contracts which came into effect on 1 April 2014, we will have 340 visa application points in 142 countries around the world. Applications submitted at visa application centres are then sent to one of our 32 decision-making hubs for consideration.

On the consular side, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) supports British nationals through the diplomatic network of 220 posts around the world, in 170 countries. They also have a network of 230 honorary consuls who provide support in places where the UK is not otherwise represented. Having consular partners present in countries where the UK is not represented ensures British nationals have immediate access to assistance. There are only three countries in the world where there is no in country consular representation by the UK or any of our main consular partners (EU, Australia, Canada, US or New Zealand).

These are Palau, Sao Tome & Principe and Tuvalu. In these cases, UK Travel Advice instructs British nationals to seek assistance when needed through the nearest country with British diplomatic representation: Philippines, Angola and Fiji respectively. The FCO currently advise against all travel to Syria and warn British nationals who travel there that the FCO will not be able to provide them with any assistance. The FCO also advise against all but essential travel to Iran and advise British nationals to seek assistance from any EU member state present in the country.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140429/text/140429w0002.htm#1404307000122>

Entry Clearances

Adam Afriyie: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what assessment she has made of the contribution of the (a) Tier 1 (Entrepreneur) visa route and (b) Tier 1 (Investor) visa route on economic growth. [193286]

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) advises the Government on economic issues relating to migration.

On 1 July 2013 the MAC published a "Report on the economic and labour market impacts of tier 1 entrepreneur and investor migrants to the UK" which it had commissioned from the Migration Observatory. The report made a number of findings, although it concluded that it was too early to make a full assessment of the economic contribution of the two routes without further research. The report is available on the gov.uk website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/economic-and-labour-market-impacts-tier-1-entrepreneur-and-investor-migrants>

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

More recently, on 25 February 2014 the MAC published its own report, "Tier 1 (Investor) route: investment thresholds and economic benefits" in response to a Government commission. The MAC concluded that the direct investment required by the route is of little or no benefit, but there is some benefit from indirect spending by investors and their families in the UK (although this is difficult to quantify). The report is available on the gov.uk website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-investment-limits-and-economic-benefits-of-the-tier-1-investor-route-feb-2014>

The Government keeps all routes under review and is currently considering its response to the MAC's report on the Tier 1 (Investor) route.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140430/text/140430w0001.htm#14043053000078>

Illegal Immigrants: Employment

David Hanson: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many individual prosecutions for employing an illegal worker under the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 have been (a) brought and (b) successful in each year since 2010. [192793]

Reply from James Brokenshire: Employers have a responsibility to check that their employees have the right to work in the United Kingdom and this duty is underpinned by criminal and civil sanctions.

The Home Office only holds data on individual prosecutions on its national operations database from 2012.

(a) Five employers were charged in 2012 and five employers were charged in 2013 for an offence of knowingly employing illegal workers under section 21 of the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006.

1. The figures quoted have been derived from management information and are therefore provisional and subject to change. This information has not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols.

2. Figures relate to employers charged (offence recorded as IAN 2006 S21) between 1 January 2012 and 31 December 2013 recorded on the national operations database (NODMMX).

3. Figures relate to individuals who may have been charged for more than one offence under section 21.

4. Figures rounded to nearest five. In compliance with legislation such as the Data Protection Act 1998 and principle 5 of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, we are required to preserve the confidentiality of the data we collect, process and disseminate. In order to prevent the disclosure of personal information counts of individuals are rounded to the nearest multiple of five.

5. Data extracted on 20 March 2014.

(b) Under section 21 of the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006, fewer than five employers were successfully prosecuted in 2012 and five employers were successfully prosecuted in 2013.

1. The figures quoted have been derived from management information and are therefore provisional and subject to change. This information has not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols.

2. Figures relate to employers successfully prosecuted (offence recorded as IAN 2006 S21) between 1 January 2012 and 31 December 2013 recorded on the national operations database (NODMMX).

3. Figures relate to individuals.

4. Years refer to date of prosecution and charges may have been laid in the same or a previous year.

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions *(continued)*

5. In compliance with legislation such as the Data Protection Act 1998 and principle 5 of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, we are required to preserve the confidentiality of the data we collect, process and disseminate. In order to prevent the disclosure of personal information counts of individuals are rounded to the nearest multiple of five.

6. Data extracted on 20 March 2014.

The civil penalty notices in the table below were issued to employers for breaching the illegal working provisions in section 15 of the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 in each year since 2010.

The figures are based on the number of civil penalties served at visited business addresses.

Please note the figures are for penalties levied at the initial decision stage which may be reduced, cancelled, increased or reissued at the objection or appeal stage.

<i>1 January to 31 December each year</i>	<i>Number of civil penalties issued</i>
2010	2,092
2011	1,424
2012	1,215
2013	1,823

David Hanson: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many maximum fines have been levied under the Immigration (Employment of Adults, Subject to Immigration Control) (Maximum Penalty) Order 2008 in each year since it was enacted. [193753]

Reply from James Brokenshire: The maximum penalty of £10,000 has been levied with regards to 22 employers. The breakdown of employers levied with the maximum penalty for each financial year is shown in the table.

Please note the figures are for penalties levied against employers at the initial decision stage and may relate to more than one worker. A penalty may be reduced for a number of reasons, including if it was a first visit to the business; if the employer co-operated with the visit; or if the employer can provide evidence that a partial check has been undertaken. We propose to tighten and clarify the use of mitigating factors in the calculation of civil penalties with an increased focus on employer co-operation with the Home office.

<i>Table of maximum penalties levied</i>	
	<i>Number of civil penalties levied at Maximum Penalty of £10,000</i>
28 February 2008 to 31 March 2009	0
1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010	8
1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011	6
1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012	5
1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013	2
1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014	1
Total	22

David Hanson: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many fines have been levied under The Immigration (Employment of Adults Subject to Immigration Control) (Maximum Penalty) Order 2008 of a value of (a) up to £1000, (b) between £1000 and £2000, (c) between £2000 and £5000 and (d) between £5000 and £10000 to date. [194134]

Reply from James Brokenshire: Enforcement operations against illegal working

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

have increased significantly, with a 47% increase in 2013 compared to 2012. The administration of the penalty scheme and administrative debt recovery processes have been reviewed, including with Cabinet Office input and are being streamlined and further improved.

The information on the number of civil penalties levied is provided in the following table. Data has been provided from £2,500 upwards as this is the minimum penalty value that is levied in line with the published penalty calculation framework. The table includes values of £10,000 upwards to account for multiple workers per penalty. Please note the figures are for penalties levied at the initial decision stage which may be reduced, cancelled, increased or reissued at the objection or appeal stage.

<i>Value of penalty</i>	<i>£2,500-£5,000</i>	<i>£5,000-£10,000</i>	<i>£10,000 plus</i>
Total penalties levied	5,701	2,774	1,954

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140428/text/140428w0001.htm#1404297000019>

Illegal Immigrants: Employment

David Hanson: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what total amount of fines has been (a) levied and (b) collected under the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 for employment of illegal workers in each year since 2010. [192805]

Reply from James Brokenshire: The civil penalty scheme to prevent illegal working was introduced in the Immigration Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 (2006 Act), and came into effect in February 2008.

Before 2010, the average value of penalties collected under the scheme was 14%. Since 2010, the average value of penalties collected has been 45%. The information requested is in the following table. The figures are based on the number of civil penalties served at visited business addresses.

Please note the figures are for penalties levied at the initial decision stage which may be reduced, cancelled, increased or reissued at the objection or appeal stage.

Please also note that the collection figures are not cohort based statistics and therefore do not represent payment against penalties issued in a particular year.

<i>Financial years</i>	<i>Value of initial penalties issued</i>	<i>£ million</i> <i>Value of penalties collected</i>
2008-2009	16.7	1.3
2009-2010	23.2	4.4
2010-2011	17.1	6.9
2011-2012	11.4	6.5
2012-2013	10.8	6.3
2013-2014 up to 28 February 2014	15.6	5.2

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140429/text/140429w0002.htm#1404307000125>

Asylum

Andrew Turner: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) how many rejections of asylum seekers, by country of origin, there have been in each of the last five years; [196228]

(2) how many asylum seekers there were, by country of origin, in each of the last five years; [196226]

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

(3) how many asylum seekers, by country of origin, have been waiting for a decision on their application for asylum for (a) one and (b) more than five years. [196227]

Reply from James Brokenshire: Figures for asylum applications for main applicants, by nationality, from 2009 to 2013 are published in Table as_01 (Asylum data tables Volume 1) in the release Immigration Statistics.

The number of asylum applications from main applicants pending an initial decision, by nationality, for (a) more than one year and (b) more than five years, as at the end of 2013, can be found in the table, "Asylum application from main applicants pending an initial decision as at 31 December 2013" which I will place in the House Library.

These figures are a subset of those also published in Table as_01 (Asylum data tables Volume 1) of the release Immigration Statistics.

Figures for asylum applications from main applicants refused a grant of asylum, humanitarian protection, discretionary leave or other grants of leave, at initial decision, by nationality, from 2009 to 2013 are published in Table as_01 (Asylum data tables Volume 1) of the release Immigration Statistics.

The latest release Immigration Statistics October to December 2013 is available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-october-to-december-2013> and from the Library of the House.

Asylum data tables volume 1 is available from

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/283693/asylum1-q4-2013-tabs.ods

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140429/text/140429w0001.htm#1404307000114>

Asylum: Repatriation

Frank Field: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what her Department's total budget for assisted voluntary returns projects is for the current financial year, and what has been the total budget for such projects in each of the last five years. [196222]

Reply from James Brokenshire: The information requested is shown below.

<i>Financial year</i>	<i>Total spending on assisted voluntary returns programmes (£ million)</i>
2009-10	20.5
2010-11	17.4
2011-12	7.5
2012-13	8.9
2013-14	8.6
2014-15	10.8

The figures quoted relate to the UK Assisted Voluntary Return Programme, and the Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Programmes operated in Greece and Turkey.

The figures for years 2009-10 to 2013-14 relate to actual spend and the figures for 2014-15 are projected spend.

The Home Office also receives funding from the European Union for the UK Assisted Voluntary Return programme. Due to a change in financial reporting the amounts for 2011-12 onwards are shown net of the amounts received or expected from this source, while the amounts for 2009-10 and 2010-11 are shown gross although the yearly total budget allocation remains broadly the same.

The Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Programmes in Greece and Turkey also receive funding from the British Government's Return and

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

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

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140429/text/140429w0001.htm#1404307000115>

Asylum: Deportation

Sarah Teather: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department pursuant to the answer of 24 March 2014, *Official Report*, column 16W, on asylum: deportation, to which countries the enforced removals of adults previously classified as unaccompanied asylum-seeking children were made in each such year. [196663]

Reply from James Brokenshire: The following table shows the number of enforced removals of adults who were previously classified as Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) for the period January 2009 to December 2013.

<i>Destination</i>	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	<i>Grand total</i>
Taiwan (Republic of China)	2	8	30	18	22	80
Ghana	5	16	24	7	11	63
Pakistan	6	17	13	7	4	47
India	0	3	17	13	13	46
China	5	6	15	6	10	42
Italy	4	7	17	6	8	42
Kenya	1	2	12	6	10	31
Malaysia	6	3	13	1	2	25
United Arab Emirates	2	6	6	3	4	21
Brazil	0	5	5	4	4	18
New Zealand	0	1	1	5	8	15
Ukraine	1	2	6	3	2	14
Gambia	1	2	6	0	0	9
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0	4	1	3	0	8
Germany	1	2	2	0	2	7
Greece	0	2	1	0	2	5
Mongolia	0	2	1	1	0	4
South Africa	0	0	3	1	0	4
Albania	0	0	0	1	0	1
Nigeria	0	0	0	0	1	1
Uganda	0	0	0	0	1	1
Destination field is blank	4	3	10	2	6	25
Grand total	38	91	183	87	110	509

Notes: 1. Destinations do not always equate to final destinations. 2. Data relates to people that were over 18 at time of departures. 3. Figures provided cover the calendar years 1 January to 31 December.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140430/text/140430w0001.htm#14043053000070>

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Deportation: Children

Sarah Teather: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many unaccompanied migrant children have been forcibly removed to another country in each of the last five years. [193591]

Reply from James Brokenshire: No unaccompanied child under the age of 18 can be forcibly removed from the UK unless adequate care and reception arrangements are in place in their country of origin. The difficulty of setting up suitable reception arrangements has meant that, with the exception of transfers to other European Union countries under the Dublin Regulations¹, the Home Office does not routinely enforce the return of unaccompanied children to any country. The majority of unaccompanied children whose asylum claims are rejected are granted temporary leave which is reviewed when they reach 17 and a half years of age. We believe that the vast majority of enforced returns of unaccompanied children undertaken between 2006 and 2010 were transfers under the Dublin Regulations.

¹ The Dublin Regulation EC No. 343/2003 is a binding measure of European Community law to determine which State should be responsible for examining an application for asylum made within the EU territory.

<i>Date of removal</i>	<i>Total</i>
2009	31
2010	12
2011	2
2012	6
2013	2
Grand total	53

'Migrant children' have been interpreted as unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) in answering this question.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140428/text/140428w0001.htm#1404297000013>

Advocacy: Children

Alex Cunningham: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) when she plans to publish the terms of reference for the trial advocate scheme; [196473]

(2) if her Department will consider extending the trial advocate scheme to unaccompanied children; [196474]

(3) whether the pilot scheme for advocates will be independent of local authorities; [196475]

(4) what powers advocates will have during the pilot advocate scheme; [196476]

(5) when the pilot advocate scheme will begin. [196477]

Reply from Karen Bradley: In January 2014 the Home Office announced proposals to trial specialist, independent advocates for trafficked children which is due to begin this summer. This trial forms part of the Government's work to eradicate modern day slavery and as such there are no plans for this trial to be extended to unaccompanied children.

The child trafficking advocate will be fully independent from the local authority, but will need to work with the existing structures around the child trafficking victim, such as children's services, education, criminal justice system and immigration system. The advocate role is intended to deliver the best outcomes for children. The advocate's role will include the following activities but this is not an

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

exhaustive list and we expect the advocate to respond to the specific needs of the child:

being a consistent point of contact for the child trafficking victim;

assisting the local authority to assess the needs of the child trafficking victim as a victim of trafficking, thereby promoting the safety and wellbeing of the child trafficking victim (in particular in light of the risk of re-trafficking);

making recommendations for referrals to other services (e.g. mental health services) to ensure the child trafficking victim receives educational, medical, practical and legal support they need and deserve;

accompanying the child trafficking victim to certain meetings—e.g. with an immigration lawyer;

supporting the child trafficking victim in any age assessment process;

supporting the child trafficking victim in overcoming language and cultural barriers;

supporting witnesses through the criminal justice system;

supporting looked after children and children in need through the care system, in particular in safety planning, age assessment and future planning;

assisting the local authority to plan for the child trafficking victim's future and receive any compensation that they may be entitled to;

helping prevent the child trafficking victim from facing further exploitation or harm from traffickers (and the risks of going missing);

providing advice on immigration, criminal justice and welfare matters to the child trafficking victim and arranging effective legal representation;

involvement in the key decisions relating to the child trafficking victim (but final decisions would remain the responsibility of the local authority or Home Office, where relevant).

The Home Office is commissioning an independent evaluation of the trial which will report six months after the trial commences. The evaluation will include the terms of reference for the trial.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140428/text/140428w0001.htm#1404297000008>

Human Trafficking (Labour Exploitation)

David Heath: What steps [the Secretary of State for the Home Department] has taken to prevent human trafficking for purposes of labour exploitation. [903687]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department (Karen Bradley): My right hon. Friend the Home Secretary has set out in detail much of the work that the Government are doing to tackle human trafficking and slavery. To better tackle labour exploitation, we have moved the Gangmasters Licensing Authority to the Home Office to strengthen its links with law enforcement agencies.

David Heath: ... I know ... how effective the Gangmasters Licensing Authority is. It is particularly effective because it focuses its attention on the areas with the highest risk of criminality and exploitation, rather than on lower-risk areas. ...

...will she also consider the status of the GLA's board members, now that it is in her remit? Will she, first, upgrade the status of the sole representative for human trafficking on the board from delegate status to full status ...?

Reply from Karen Bradley: That is also an interesting suggestion that I will look into, although I cannot promise where we will get to.

Charlie Elphicke: When I visited the migrant camps at Calais with the deputy mayor of Calais, every person there said that they had paid traffickers to get there, putting them in danger of labour exploitation in the UK. Will Home Office Ministers consider supporting a joint initiative by Dover and Calais for the French police to clear those camps and

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

repatriate people or process their asylum claims, as the case may be?

Reply from Karen Bradley: ... We work closely with our counterparts in the French police to deal with this issue, and my hon. Friend makes an important point. Many victims of modern slavery that I have met came into the country willingly but illegally, because they felt they were coming for a better life. They have been exploited; that is not right and we need to stamp that out.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140428/debtext/140428-0001.htm#1404282000013>

Human Trafficking: Victim Support Schemes

Graham Evans: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) pursuant to the answer of 7 April 2014, *Official Report*, column 114W, on human trafficking: victim support schemes, how many of those referred were (a) men and (b) women, by country; what steps are taken to ensure after the victim exits the shelter into which they have been placed by the Salvation Army they are not re-trafficked or contact their former traffickers; and if she will make a statement; [196158]

(2) pursuant to the answers of 7 April 2014, *Official Report*, columns 114-15W and of 14 January 2014, *Official Report*, columns 481-86W, on human trafficking: victim support schemes, for what reason information on each individual, whether male or female, and location found, is excluded from the figures for January 2013; and if she will provide this information for future questions on the subject. [196155]

Reply from Karen Bradley: The requested information on the gender of potential victims and the regions in which they were found in January 2014 was provided in the answer of 7 April 2014, *Official Report*, columns 114-15W, on human trafficking: victim support schemes. However, this data was provided in a number of separate tables. The information was not withheld and is provided below in an alternative format, giving the same data broken down by individual case, in one table.

The victim care contract does not require support providers to maintain any form of formal contact after the recovery and reflection period. However, some survivors do maintain informal contact with their support provider. All support providers will work with victims throughout their support period to help them move on from the service. We are looking at what more we can do to help victims reintegrate effectively.

To read the very lengthy tables see

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140428/text/140428w001.htm#1404297000018>

Human Trafficking

Angie Bray: 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 February 2014; in which (a) region and (b) county each of the suspected victims was found; which agency referred each person to the scheme; in which town the shelter in which they were placed was for the relevant period; and what contact has been made with each victim to ensure they are not re-trafficked. [196685]

Reply from Karen Bradley: In February 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 support to safely return home or

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

integrate in the UK. Once they exit the service, no formal mechanisms exist to maintain contact.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140430/text/140430w0002.htm#14043053000080>

Human Trafficking: Children

Angie Bray: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what criteria were used to select organisations or local authorities to pilot the advocacy scheme for trafficked children; how that scheme was commissioned; when such schemes will start in which location and for what duration; and if she will make a statement. [196686]

Reply from Karen Bradley: The Modern Slavery Bill will enable us to strengthen our response to human trafficking and modern slavery for both adults and children. We announced in January our intention to trial specialist independent advocates for victims of child trafficking.

23 local authorities have agreed to participate in the trial: Greater Manchester including Manchester City, Stockport, Tameside, Oldham, Rochdale, Bury, Bolton, Wigan, Salford, Trafford; West Midlands including, Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall, Wolverhampton; Croydon; Derbyshire; Kent; Lancashire; Oxfordshire; and West Sussex.

These local authorities represent a wide demographic range as well as major transport hubs and asylum screening units. These areas also have the highest rates of trafficking referrals to the National Referral Mechanism or are areas where we are aware of a high number of trafficking investigations by law enforcement agencies.

We remain committed to trialling this approach. We are currently considering bids from a number of voluntary and community services organisations that were identified as potential providers of the advocacy service because of the particular expertise they hold. We will announce the outcome of the process in due course.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140501/text/140501w0002.htm#14050154000010>

Press Releases

Commission publishes advice to United Nations Committee on tackling child trafficking in the UK

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/news/2014/april/commission-publishes-advice-to-united-nations-committee-on-tackling-child-trafficking-in-the-uk/>

Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) report update on low-skilled migration

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/migration-advisory-committee-mac-report-update-on-low-skilled-migration>

Human trafficking: Karen Bradley sees how modern slavery survivors are supported

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/human-trafficking-karen-bradley-sees-how-modern-slavery-survivors-are-supported>

Migrant workers: living in the shadows

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

Population growth vital for our economy

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Population-growth-vital-for-our-economy-c10.aspx>

Immigration and Asylum Press Releases (continued)

Generations of Scottish-Polish links

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Generations-of-Scottish-Polish-links-c1c.aspx>

Undocumented Migrant Workers are Widely Exploited, Despite Existing Legal Frameworks

http://picum.org/picum.org/uploads/file_/Press%20release%20Labour%20Day%202014%20Final_1.pdf

New Publications

Women and Children First? Refused asylum seekers' access to and experiences of maternity care in Glasgow

Summary

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0000/7923/Women_Children_First_ExcSum_Final.pdf

Full report

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0000/7924/Women_Children_First_Final.pdf

Immigration and Independence: Public Opinion on Immigration in Scotland in the Context of the Referendum Debate

http://www.migrationobservatory.ox.ac.uk/sites/files/migobs/Report%20-%20immigration%20and%20independence_0.pdf

Migration Advisory Committee: triennial review

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/307172/TriennialReviewMAC.pdf

Guidance for dependants of UK visa applicants (tiers 1, 2, 4, 5)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/306809/DEP_guidance_04-14.pdf

Migration: The Compas Anthology

<http://compasanthology.co.uk/>

News

Polish MP Artur Debski finds job as London handyman

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-27015348>

'Shame' of migrant deportations

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/shame-of-migrant-deportations-1.322237>

A third of immigration arrests lead to deportation

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-27052266>

UK immigration policy puts off students warns university chief

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/education/uk-immigration-policy-puts-off-students-warns-university-chief.23987039>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Beware the fake patriots' anger on immigration

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/apr/19/pity-poor-immigrants-coming-to-britain>

What Adnan and Audrey can teach us about being a British citizen

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/apr/18/british-citizen-induction-ceremony>

UK 'loses control' of immigration

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/law/article4064927.ece>

Asylum housing scheme 'badly managed', say MPs

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-27125747>

Asylum seekers left to suffer by Home Office

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/asylum-seekers-left-to-suffer-by-home-office-1-3386586>

Asylum seeker contract bungled: MPs

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/asylum-seeker-contract-bungled-mps-1.334220>

Asylum housing contracts save less than half expected sum

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/10783392/Asylum-housing-contracts-save-less-than-half-expected-sum.html>

Polish invasion that's SAVED my home town

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2613565/Polish-invasion-thats-SAVED-home-town-An-influx-25-000-Poles-left-Southamptons-schools-bursting-locals-feeling-pushed-But-BARBARA-DAVIES-grew-theres-story.html>

Don't ask migrants how long they're staying: Border guards are told that quizzing arrivals from the EU is a 'breach of Brussels rules'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2610685/Dont-ask-migrants-long-theyre-staying-Border-guards-told-quizzing-arrivals-EU-breaches-Brussels-rules.html>

Alarmist rhetoric on immigration fuels anger at 'all these people coming to this country', warns Cardinal Vincent Nichols

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2610110/Alarmist-rhetoric-immigration-fuels-anger-people-coming-country-warns-Cardinal-Vincent-Nichols.html>

Cardinal warns politicians over "alarmist" immigration rhetoric

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/10778468/Cardinal-warns-politicians-over-alarmist-immigration-rhetoric.html>

Home Office system 'will not measure immigration'

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4070171.ece>

UK e-Borders programme unable to help track immigration

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/apr/22/e-borders-programme-unable-track-immigration-uk>

Migrants can't be asked how long they will stay

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/10780685/Flagship-borders-IT-scheme-will-not-measure-immigration-ministers-admit.html>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Ten years on and Poles are glad to call Britain home

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/apr/26/polish-immigration-britain-cities-elections>

Children 'kept from parents' at centre for failed asylum seekers

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/apr/27/children-parents-asylum-seekers-cedars-centre-barnardos>

Migrants in Britain a decade on: 'It's natural to vote for different people', says Pole standing for Ukip

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/migrants-in-britain-a-decade-on-its-natural-to-vote-for-different-people-says-pole-standing-for-ukip-9284114.html>

Migrants in Britain a decade on: The Poles who brought prosperity

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/migrants-in-britain-a-decade-on-the-poles-who-brought-prosperity-9278710.html>

Migrants in Britain a decade on: They came, they worked, they stayed in Lincolnshire

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/migrants-in-britain-a-decade-on-they-came-they-worked-they-stayed-in-lincolnshire-9275661.html>

Wave of Polish immigration is over says ambassador – these days Poles prefer to stay at home

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/wave-of-polish-immigration-is-over-says-ambassador--these-days-poles-prefer-to-stay-at-home-9273556.html?origin=internalSearch>

Managed properly, immigration makes our country richer. But the best argument for it is moral, not economic

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/editorials/managed-properly-immigration-makes-our-country-richer-but-the-best-argument-for-it-is-moral-not-economic-9282382.html?origin=internalSearch>

The 150,000 migrants paying £1 a week tax: Generous credit system means single people who earn minimum wage make tiny contribution to the Exchequer

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2616448/The-150-000-migrants-paying-1-week-tax-Generous-credit-means-single-people-earn-minimum-wage-make-tiny-contribution-Exchequer.html>

Migrants 'should learn English to get benefits'

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4075578.ece>

New partnership project helps reunited families rebuild their lives in Scotland

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/2327_new_partnership_project_helps_reunited_families_rebuild_their_lives_in_scotland

[TOP](#)

Community Relations

UK Parliament Question

Community Relations: Religion

Kerry McCarthy: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government what steps his Department is taking to ensure that people of no faith are consulted and listened to when formulating policy on faith and communities. [196267]

Reply from Stephen Williams: The 'Creating the Conditions for Integration' paper sets out the Government's approach to achieving a more integrated society, for everyone of faith and of no faith to live and work successfully alongside each other. In September 2012 the Prime Minister appointed my noble Friend Baroness Warsi as Minister for Faith and Communities. Along with colleagues, such as myself, the Minister has worked closely with faith and non-faith groups on an approach to integration.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140501/text/140501w0002.htm#14050155000023>

News

David Cameron Christianity claim backed by religious groups

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-27105023>

David Cameron risks 'alienation', public figures claim

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-27099700>

UK is a plural society, PM told

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/uk-is-a-plural-society-pm-told-1.329008>

UK non-Christian claims 'absurd', senior Tories say

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-27121879>

[TOP](#)

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament Question

Racial Discrimination

Philip Hollobone: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government how much financial support his Department provided to Show Racism the Red Card in each of the last three years; and what controls are in place to prevent the use of such monies for party political campaigning. [196797]

Reply from Stephen Williams: The Department for Communities and Local Government provided the following funding to Show Racism the Red Card:

<i>Calendar year</i>	<i>£</i>
2012	52,460
2013	105,077
2014	47,427
Total	204,964

We are satisfied that the funding for Show Racism the Red Card was used for purposes outlined in the funding agreement — the provision of education

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament Question (continued)

workshops to equip young people with skills to reject the divisive messages of groups like the English Defence League—and that no funding was used for purposes of a political nature. Conditions in the funding agreement prevent funds being spent on anything other than educational work (including a prohibition on any political campaigning) and their status as a charity further precludes them from engaging in political activities.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140501/text/140501w0002.htm#14050155000027>

Press Release

Mapping of MET/MPS Islamophobia Figures since 2012

<http://tellmamauk.org/mapping-of-metmps-islamophobia-figures-since-2012-tell-mama/>

New Publication

Hate crime action plan: Challenge it, Report it, Stop it

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/307624/HateCrimeActionPlanProgressReport.pdf

News

More than 100 hate-crime murders linked to single website, report finds

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/apr/18/hate-crime-murders-website-stormfront-report>

BBC 'doesn't respect black staff', warns axed reporter

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/Tech/article1401921.ece

Neo-Nazi clothing firm causes outrage by using Scottish landmarks as background for catalogue photo shoot

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/neo-nazi-clothing-firm-causes-outrage-3467448>

'We are all monkeys'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/blogs-trending-27191333>

Stars rally round Dani Alves after banana incident

<http://www.scotsman.com/sport/football/english/stars-rally-round-dani-alves-after-banana-incident-1-3393317>

UKIP suspends 'Islam is evil' tweet candidate

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-27268747>

Bristol academy worker wins race discrimination damages

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-bristol-27260626>

Pair guilty of mosque incident

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/crime-courts/pair-guilty-of-mosque-incident.24121607>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

News (continued)

Pair convicted of throwing bacon into mosque

<http://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/crime/pair-convicted-of-throwing-bacon-into-mosque-1-3397678>

Two female football fans found guilty of ripping up pages from the Koran before throwing them in the air 'like confetti' while chanting racist songs about Muslims

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2618005/Two-female-football-fans-ripped-pages-Koran-throwing-air-like-confetti-chanting-racist-songs-Muslims.html>

In his SS cap, fanatic who called himself Adolf and plotted in his bedroom to blow up mosques: 10 years for Hitler worshipper

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2617944/Neo-Nazi-Ian-Forman-wanted-light-sky-burning-mosques-plan.html>

[TOP](#)

Scottish Independence Referendum

UK Government Publication

Scotland analysis: work and pensions

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/306086/scotland-analysis-work-and-pensions.pdf

Other Publication

Ethnic Minority 3rd Sector Network Interim report on consultation themes, discussions and outcomes of 'The Future of Scotland' events

<http://bemis.org.uk/docs/em3sn-white-paper-consultations-summary.pdf>

Scottish Government Press Release

All women Cabinet

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/All-women-Cabinet-ba2.aspx>

News

More than 98,000 16 and 17-year-old have registered to vote in indyref

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/referendum-news/more-than-98000-16-and-17-year-old-have-registered-to-vote-in-indyref.1398959125>

80% of 16-17 year olds sign up for referendum vote

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/top-stories/80-of-16-17-year-olds-sign-up-for-referendum-vote-1-3396003>

[TOP](#)

Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Debate

Organ Donation

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9137&mode=html#iob_82482

Parliamentary Motions

Sandra White (S4M-09741) Congratulations to the Ethnic Minorities Law Centre—

That the Parliament congratulates the Glasgow Kelvin-based Ethnic Minorities Law Centre (EMLC) on being awarded what it considers an extremely generous £562,985 grant by the Big Lottery Fund's Investing in Communities 21st Century Programme; understands that this will be used to support the EMLC in delivering its three-year programme, Access to Advice and Legal Services, which will support people from black and minority ethnic (BME) communities throughout Scotland and that, by working alongside the Equalities Capacity Building Programme and the Dynamic Inclusive Communities Programme, it will support a host of projects that aim to build a sustainable framework providing advice and legal representation services; understands that the EMLC will build working regional partnerships that will be responsible for delivering extensive services and provide support for people from BME communities, and wishes the EMLC every continued success.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-09741&ResultsPerPage=10>

S4M-09858 Hanzala Malik: Happy Birthday, Awaz FM—That the Parliament congratulates the radio station, Awaz FM, on its 12th birthday; understands that the station, which was originally given a one-year licence, first went live on 29 April 2002 with the first broadcast made by Javed Ullah, who remains at the station; notes that "awaz" means "voice" in both Urdu and Hindi and believes that the station has taken this to its heart and has become the voice for the black and ethnic minority communities in Glasgow and further afield; wishes Awaz FM a very happy birthday, and looks forward to the next 12 years of what it considers the station's superb multicultural broadcasting.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-09858&ResultsPerPage=10>

[TOP](#)

Other UK Parliament and Government

Parliamentary Questions

Female Genital Mutilation

Gavin Shuker: What discussions [the Secretary of State for the Home Department] has had with her ministerial colleagues on implementing the recommendations of the joint royal colleges' report "Tackling FGM in the UK" published in November 2013. [903692]

Lyn Brown: What discussions [the Secretary of State for the Home Department] has had with her ministerial colleagues on implementing the recommendations of the joint royal colleges' report "Tackling FGM in the UK" published in November 2013. [903693]

Reply from the Minister for Crime Prevention (Norman Baker): The coalition welcomed the joint royal colleges' report published last November. The Government is committed to eradicating female genital mutilation and is taking

Other UK Parliament and Government Parliamentary Questions (continued)

action in each of the areas recommended in the report. As part of our strategy, eight Departments have signed a cross-government declaration reaffirming our commitment to protecting current and future generations of girls from this abuse, and each Department is doing what it can to eradicate the practice in the UK.

Gavin Shuker: Given that the Minister accepts that both strong political leadership and joint working are essential to tackle the problem, will he give me an assurance that he has met the Secretary of State for Education to discuss the matter?

Reply from Norman Baker: I have certainly been in correspondence with the Education Secretary, and I have met on more than one occasion the relevant Education Minister. The hon. Gentleman will know that the Education Secretary has now written to schools, which is a very helpful development.

Lyn Brown: I am a little concerned to hear that answer, given that the Minister talked about good co-operation across all Departments. Given that the survey quoted by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children reports that one in six teachers are unaware that FGM is a crime and that 68% are unaware of any guidance from the Government on what to do if they suspect a pupil is at risk, can the Minister assure the House that he will meet the Secretary of State for Education, discuss this very important issue and report back to the House on what agreements they make on how to tackle this despicable crime?

Reply from Norman Baker: I agree with the hon. Lady that it is a despicable crime. That is why we take it so seriously not just in the Home Office but across Government. I refer her to the cross-government agreement I mentioned in my original answer, which has been signed by eight Departments, including by the Under-Secretary of State for Education, the hon. Member for Crewe and Nantwich (Mr Timpson), on behalf of the Department for Education. We are in regular contact on these matters across Departments and will continue to be so.

Margot James: I welcome my hon. Friend's commitment to interdepartmental working and a multi-agency approach, but does he not agree that until more perpetrators are brought before our courts and convicted, the elders and parents in the communities in which these atrocities take place will not take the law seriously?

Reply from Norman Baker: It is a matter of some regret, in my view, that there have been no successful prosecutions since the practice was outlawed in 1985. I am delighted that there are now two cases pending, although obviously I cannot comment on matters before the courts. What I can say is that in my view there is certainly a willingness on the part of police forces, the Director of Public Prosecutions and others to ensure that where the crime is perpetrated, those responsible are brought to justice. The DPP wrote to me and the Minister for Policing, Criminal Justice and Victims earlier this year with a suggestion for a particular change that might be enacted to try to make prosecutions more likely and more successful. We are looking at that suggestion now.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140428/debtext/140428-0001.htm#1404282000016>

Females: Islam

Barry Sheerman: To ask the Secretary of State for Justice what steps he is taking to ensure that women's rights are not undermined by the use of Sharia law. [903799]

Reply from Shailesh Vara: The Government is committed to the protection and promotion of women's rights. Sharia law has no jurisdiction in England and Wales and the Government has no intention of changing this position. Everyone is equal before the law.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm140501/text/140501w001.htm#1405015000017>

Other UK Parliament and Government (continued) Press Releases

Easter 2014: David Cameron's message

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/easter-2014-david-camerons-message>

Nick Clegg's Easter 2014 message

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/nick-cleggs-easter-2014-message>

Passover 2014: David Cameron's message

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/passover-2014-david-camerons-message>

Passover 2014: Nick Clegg's message

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/passover-2014-nick-cleggs-message>

Foreign Secretary's Passover message

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretarys-passover-message--3>

Faith Minister Baroness Warsi's message for Vaisakhi

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/faith-minister-baroness-warsis-message-for-vaisakhi>

Justine Greening's speech to mark 30 years of Islamic Relief

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/justine-greenings-speech-to-mark-30-years-of-islamic-relief>

Foundation set up to honour first British Muslim head teacher wins Prime Minister's award

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foundation-set-up-to-honour-first-british-muslim-head-teacher-wins-prime-ministers-award>

[TOP](#)

Other News

Launch of Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment resource

<http://scottishhumanrights.com/news/latestnews/article/newseqhrialaunch>

Scottish Human Rights Commission Equality and human rights impact assessment website

<http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/eqhria>

Examiners 'may accommodate Ramadan fasting'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/education-27050945>

School exam timetables should avoid clashes with Ramadan, teachers say

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/2014/apr/17/school-exams-scheduled-avoid-clashes-ramadan-teachers>

Muslim students divided on sharia-compliant loans

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/2014/apr/17/muslim-students-split-on-sharia-loans>

Lloyds Bank accused of religious discrimination over free overdrafts on Islamic accounts

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/lloyds-bank-removes-overdraft-fee-from-islamic-accounts-9291932.html>

Other News (continued)

Subway removes ham and bacon from nearly 200 stores and offers halal meat only after 'strong demand' from Muslims

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2616576/Subway-removes-ham-pork-nearly-200-stores-strong-demand-Muslims-eat-Halal-meat.html>

Gathered Together needs parents to be volunteer Community Champions

We need passionate and dedicated parents from diverse backgrounds who are actively involved in their community to volunteer with Gathered Together.

Champions will gather evidence of parent's experiences, share stories of parental involvement and be our link to the grassroots communities through the work they are already a part of and be able to engage with other local community groups and schools. They will gain skills to further their personal and professional development but most importantly have the opportunity to make a genuine difference.

<http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/?p=122>

[TOP](#)

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>

Scottish Government press release

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Criminal-Justice-Bill-bba.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>

Bills in Progress

UK Parliament (continued)

Illegal Immigrants (Criminal Sanctions) Bill

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

Immigration Bill

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

Immigration Act 1971 (Amendment) Bill

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

Lobbyists (Registration of Code of Conduct) Bill

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

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>

[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

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>

Consultations (continued)

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](#)

Funding Opportunities

Multicultural Homecoming 2014 Grants Programme

As part of the Homecoming 2014 celebrations, BEMIS is setting up a small grants programme that will provide community groups with up to £1,000 to put on local events. Since “home” means very different things to different people, some of these events may have a very local focus, perhaps just on a single street or the local neighbourhood, while others may look at the way people feel about the city they live in, or about another country that has special significance for them.

Guidelines

<http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/homecoming-grant-guidelines.pdf>

Application form

<http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/homecoming-grant-application-form.pdf>

[TOP](#)

Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

Homecoming Scotland 2014

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



BEMIS, in partnership with Visit Scotland and the Scottish Government has launched ‘Multicultural Homecoming 2014’, a programme of events to showcase Scotland’s rich cultural diversity, and a small Grants Programme to help community groups put on local events. For information see <http://bemis.org.uk/project/multicultural-homecoming-2014/>

** *this week!*

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 / 0141 248 9799.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

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

** Developing Management and Leadership Skills

19 May, 16 Jun, 26 Aug, 22 Sep, 20 Oct, 17 Nov, 15 Dec, and 26 Jan at SCVO, Brunswick House, 51 Wilson Street, Glasgow (9.30 – 4.30)

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, which is free, 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>

** 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>

Domestic Abuse and BME Women, Children and Young People:

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

** Refugee Week

16 to 22 June 2014-05-02 Celebration of the warm welcome that Scots give to refugees seeking sanctuary from around the globe and the unique contributions refugees make to our communities. For details of events see

http://issuu.com/scottishrefugeecouncil/docs/refugeeweekscotland2014_guide_singl

[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/>

Useful Links (continued)

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/>

BBC Democracy Live 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.