

## Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

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**Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month, and that the Scottish and UK Parliament and Government websites been redesigned, so that links published in back issues of MEMO may no longer work. To find archive material on these websites, copy details from MEMO into the relevant search facility.**

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**The Scottish Parliament returns from recess today.**

## Immigration and Asylum

### Scottish Parliament Motion

**S4M-11288 Sandra White: Respected Musician Faces Deportation**—That the Parliament notes with concern attempts by the UK Government to deport the musician, Dr Steve Forman; notes that Dr Forman has lived in Scotland for the last six years and has taught at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS) in Glasgow for the last four; considers that Dr Forman has made an outstanding contribution to the music industry, having played with bands and musicians including Pink Floyd, John Lennon and Fleetwood Mac, and is now sharing his skills and experience with a new generation of artists and musicians in Scotland through his post at the RCS, and notes calls for the UK Government to urgently reconsider its decision and allow Dr Forman to remain in Glasgow.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-11288&ResultsPerPage=10>

## Immigration and Asylum (continued)

### UK Parliament Questions

#### Health Services: Foreign Nationals

**Nicholas Soames** [210345] To ask the Secretary of State for Health, if he will make it his policy to prevent free access to GP services for people in the UK (a) illegally and (b) temporarily on visitor visas.

**Reply from Daniel Poulter:** The Department is working to develop and implement a comprehensive package of measures to support the National Health Service to correctly identify patients who should be charged for their healthcare.

We have worked to encourage better communication between secondary care providers and general practitioners (GPs) once a chargeable patient has been identified. A toolbox for NHS Overseas Visitor Managers was published online in September 2014 that provided support materials on charging. This also includes template letters to enable providers to notify GPs if one of their patients is deemed chargeable.

The NHS cost recovery programme is also focusing on engagement with GPs and primary care providers to help them understand the charging rules. We will also encourage better dialogue between primary and secondary care providers to ensure a process of early identification and appropriate charging.

The Cost Recovery Team's Implementation Plan (published July 2014) identified several strategies for cost recovery from European Economic Area (EEA) member states and non-EEA chargeable patients, which include:

- The EEA incentive – launched on 1 October 2014
- The non-EEA incentive and sanction – expected to go live in April 2015
- The non-EEA health surcharge - expected to go live in April 2015.

As outlined in the Government's response to the public consultation (published December 2013), in the interest of public health, the Department has no intention of making GP and nurse consultations in primary care chargeable for patients who would not otherwise be eligible for free NHS treatment. This includes people who are illegally here in the United Kingdom or on temporary visitor visas.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-14/210345/>

#### National Insurance: Foreign Nationals

**Lord Laird** [HL2129] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many foreign nationals have been given national insurance numbers in the last eight quarters; how many were given numbers in total in those two years; and what were the top 20 nationalities of those given national insurance numbers in the last two years.

**Reply from Lord Freud:** The information requested for the number of foreign nationals registered for national insurance numbers is published and available at:

<https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk>

Guidance on how to extract the information required can be found at:

[https://sw.stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/webapi/online-help/Stat-Xplore\\_User\\_Guide.htm](https://sw.stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/webapi/online-help/Stat-Xplore_User_Guide.htm)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2014-10-15/HL2129/>

#### Foreign Workers: Recruitment

**Nicholas Soames** [210346] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the effectiveness of operation of the cap on recruitment of non-EU workers.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The annual limit, together with other reforms the Government has made since 2010, is helping to deliver an immigration system which works in the national interest: welcoming migrant workers who will contribute to economic growth, while reducing numbers to a more sustainable

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

level and eliminating abuse.

The limit was last formally reviewed in 2012 by the Migration Advisory Committee, who recommended no change to its level. The Government has committed to maintaining the limit at 20,700 places per year for at least the remainder of this parliament, to provide businesses with a period of policy stability.

The limit is working effectively and we continue to monitor its operation. Non-EU net migration was 218,000 in September 2010. We have cut it to 162,000 – down 56,000 under this Government. At the same time, the limit has not prevented businesses recruiting people with the skills they need.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-14/210346/>

### Immigration Controls

**Paul Blomfield** [211153] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many charities and non-governmental organisations hold Tier two sponsor licences in each region and constituent part of the UK.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The table below shows the number of Tier 2 sponsors categorised as charities and non-governmental organisations by region.

Region	Organisation Type	Total
London & South East	Charity	818
	Non-Government Organisation	15,963
Midlands & East of England	Charity	237
	Non-Government Organisation	3,864
North East, Yorkshire & the Humber	Charity	52
	Non-Government Organisation	1,252
North West	Charity	54
	Non-Government Organisation	1,229
Scotland & Northern Ireland	Charity	87
	Non-Government Organisation	1,458
Wales & South West	Charity	81
	Non-Government Organisation	1,526

**Note:** The Home Office classifies sponsors by region, based on its postcode prefix.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-20/211153/>

### Immigration: EU Nationals

**Steve McCabe** [210338] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, if he will make an estimate of the number of EU migrants arriving in the UK for work since 1 January 2014.

**Reply from Rob Wilson:** The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the Authority to reply.

**Glen Watson, Director General for ONS:** ... Long-term immigration estimates for the number of EU migrants who have arrived in the UK for work are derived from the International Passenger Survey (IPS). The latest estimates are for the year ending March 2014 and show that an estimated 136,000 EU citizens (excluding British) arrived in the UK for work-related reasons, with a margin of error of +/- 19,000. The margin of error refers to the 95 per cent confidence interval and is a measure of the uncertainty associated with making inferences from a sample survey.

## Immigration and Asylum

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Estimates for the number of EU migrants arriving for work for the year ending December 2014 will become available on 21 May 2015.

Estimates of employment levels by country of birth and nationality from the Labour Force Survey provide information on the total number of EU nationals employed in the UK. The latest estimates are for the period April to June 2014 and show that there were an estimated 1,732,000 EU citizens employed in the UK (79% of the population of EU nationals aged 16-64).

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-14/210338/>

#### Entry Clearances

**Julian Huppert** [210665] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment her Department has made of the consequences for employment of requiring indefinite leave to remain visas to be in a current passport.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** In May 2014, the Government amended the regulations governing right to work checks to prevent illegal working in the UK. This followed a public consultation on ways to strengthen and simplify controls on the employment of illegal workers and to make it easier for law abiding employers to conduct checks. The changes included reducing the range of documents for checking purposes, with a greater reliance on more secure and current forms of documentation.

Since May, endorsements, including those for indefinite leave to remain are therefore required to be in documents which have not expired. This is to enable us to replace insecure immigration documents with secure biometric residence permits. Individuals whose documents are no longer valid may make an application to the Home Office to upgrade their older form of immigration documentation.

Employers are only required to conduct a check at the start of employment for those individuals with no restrictions on their permission to be in the UK. Where that individual has made an application to the Home Office because their document has expired, the employer may contact with the Home Office's Employer Checking Service to verify that the person has the right to work and therefore employment can commence without delay.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-15/210665/>

#### Entry Clearances

**Nicholas Soames** [210469] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Tier 2 general visas have been (a) made available and (b) issued since the introduction of a cap on those visas in 2010.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** An annual limit on the number of Tier 2 (General) authorisations has been in force since 6 April 2011 and applies to Certificates of Sponsorship issued to non-EEA nationals seeking admission to the UK for the purpose of employment.

This annual limit has stood at 20,700 in each year since 6 April 2011 and is released on a monthly basis. The number of Certificates of Sponsorship made available each month to Tier 2 sponsors under this limit has, since May 2014, been published at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/employer-sponsorship-restricted-certificate-allocations/allocations-of-restricted-certificates-of-sponsorship>.

The number of visas issued to holders of a Tier 2 (General) Certificate of Sponsorship since 2010 is as follows in the Table below.

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

**Table vi\_01\_q: Entry clearance visa applications and resolved: Tier 2 - General (main applicants)**

Quarter	Applications	Resolved		Of which		Withdrawn	Lapsed
			Granted	%	Refused		
2010 Q1	3,164	3,070	2,629	86%	425	14%	0
2010 Q2	3,440	3,420	2,930	86%	477	14%	1
2010 Q3	3,421	3,588	3,138	87%	433	12%	2
2010 Q4	1,357	1,512	1,217	80%	278	18%	6
2011 Q1	1,681	1,603	1,447	90%	144	9%	3
2011 Q2	2,101	2,138	1,946	91%	179	8%	0
2011 Q3	2,647	2,726	2,562	94%	148	5%	1
2011 Q4	2,032	1,915	1,809	94%	97	5%	0
2012 Q1	2,252	2,251	2,106	94%	133	6%	0
2012 Q2	2,581	2,566	2,450	95%	100	4%	1
2012 Q3	2,976	2,990	2,874	96%	98	3%	0
2012 Q4	2,069	2,065	1,990	96%	63	3%	0
2013 Q1	2,687	2,659	2,571	97%	81	3%	0
2013 Q2	2,922	2,880	2,741	95%	127	4%	0
2013 Q3	3,914	3,948	3,773	96%	160	4%	2
2013 Q4	2,919	2,828	2,694	95%	120	4%	1
2014 Q1	3,369	3,403	3,238	95%	148	4%	0
2014 Q2	3,599	3,452	3,299	96%	131	4%	1

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-14/210469/>

### Entry Clearances

**Nicholas Soames** [210470] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Tier 2 general visas have been (a) made available and (b) issued in each of the last three months.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The total number of Tier 2 (general) entry clearance visas that can potentially be made available to possible applicants, via sponsors, is limited to 20,700 per year.

In the last quarter for which numbers are available (2014 Q2 April to June) there were 3,299 entry clearance visas granted in this category to applicants overseas (main applicants). Quarterly figures for 2014 Q3 (July to September) will be published on the Home Office website on 27 November as part of the regular quarterly Immigration Statistics, which are available from the Library of the House and at:

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

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-14/210470/>

### Immigration Controls

**Nicholas Soames** [210650] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, on what date exit checks at the UK border will be used to identify migrants who have overstayed their leave to remain.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Government is committed to introducing exit checks by April 2015. Under the last Government, exit checks were suspended and nothing was done to identify illegal overstayers.

## Immigration and Asylum

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

We are currently developing and testing a new Departure Lists system which will enable us to confirm departure and improve our ability to identify those who have overstayed having arrived after 1st April 2015 .

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-15/210650/>

#### Immigration Controls

**Nicholas Soames** [210647] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, on what date exit checks at the UK border will enable an analysis of overstayers by nationality, visa type and sponsor.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Home Office is committed to introducing exit checks by April 2015. Under the last Government, exit checks were suspended and nothing was done to identify illegal overstayers.

We are currently developing and testing a new Departure Lists system which will enable us to confirm departure and improve our ability to identify those who have overstayed by nationality, visa type and sponsor, having arrived after 1st April 2015.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-15/210647/>

#### Entry Clearances

**Guto Bebb** [211067] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her Department's policy is on collecting fees for visa applications in advance of the application being processed.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Home Department policy is that a fee must be paid prior to the application receiving immigration consideration. An application will only go forward for immigration consideration if it is valid.

For an immigration application to be valid a number of requirements must be met. These include the payment of the application fee, unless the applicant satisfies the criteria for a fee exemption. Where an application is invalid and cannot be processed the application fee is returned to the applicant.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-20/211067/>

#### Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

**Paul Blomfield** [210014] To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what assessment he has made of the effects of the reduction in international student visas issued to students from Pakistan and India from 2013 to 2014 on the higher education sector and the wider economy.

**Reply from Greg Clark:** Government departments, the British Council and the higher education sector are working together to ensure prospective overseas students understand all the benefits which the present visa rules offer them, including the current visa opportunities for working in the UK after they graduate. India in particular remains a priority country for greater engagement as evidenced by my Rt. Hon. Friend the Deputy Prime Minister's recent visit; my Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills' recent visit; and my planned visit in November.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-10/210014/>

#### Asylum

**Nicholas Soames** [210510] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department,

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

how many asylum applicants were (a) granted refugee status, (b) granted Humanitarian Protection or Discretionary Leave and (c) refused asylum, Humanitarian Protection or Discretionary Leave at initial decision in (i) 2010, (ii) 2011, (iii) 2012 and (iv) 2013 cohorts of asylum applicants; how many appeals against those decisions were lodged in each of those years; and of those appeals how many were (A) allowed and (B) dismissed.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** Published figures on initial decisions for main asylum applicants, including grants of asylum, Humanitarian Protection and Discretionary Leave, and refusals, are available in Table as\_01 of the quarterly Immigration Statistics release.

Figures relate to decisions made in the given year, rather than for a cohort of applicants.

Published figures on the number of asylum appeal applications and determinations, including appeals allowed and appeals dismissed, are available in Table as\_14 (Asylum data table Volume 1) of the quarterly Immigration Statistics release. A copy of the latest release, Immigration Statistics April – June 2014, is available from

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

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-14/210510/>

### Asylum: Housing

**David Hanson** [210777] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have spent a night in a hotel under the Compass contract for asylum seeker accommodation in each month of 2014 to date.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Home Office does not centrally hold information on the number of asylum seekers who have been accommodated in hotels. This information is held by our accommodation providers. To locate, retrieve and analyse this information and prepare a response would only be possible at a disproportionate cost.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-15/210777/>

### Asylum: Syria

**Sarah Teather** [210553] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Syrian people have been resettled in the UK under the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation scheme since the launch of that scheme.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Home Office publishes statistics on the number of people granted Humanitarian Protection in the UK under the Syrian Vulnerable Persons

Relocation scheme in Table as\_19 (Asylum data table Volume 4) of the quarterly Immigration Statistics release.

A copy of the latest release, Immigration Statistics April – June 2014, is available from:

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

In the year ending June 2014, a total of 50 people were granted Humanitarian Protection under the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-14/210553/>

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

### Asylum: Middle East

**Andrew Rosindell** [210299] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many defined Christians entering the UK from Iraq and Syria have claimed asylum on the grounds of religious persecution in each year since 2012.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** Information on the basis of claim for asylum is not centrally recorded, and the information requested in the Hon. Member's question could only be obtained through a manual search of individual case files. This would exceed the cost limit.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-14/210299/>

### Illegal Immigrants

**Frank Field** [209992] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what average length of time it currently takes for documentation necessary to return home to be issued to an illegal immigrant found in the UK without such documentation who is from (a) India, (b) Bangladesh, (c) Pakistan, (d) Nigeria and (e) China.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The information below sets out the average number of days taken from application to agreement for each country. The information relates to emergency travel documents agreed by the countries concerned in financial year 2013/14.

Applications for travel documents are usually processed more quickly when an individual provides accurate supporting evidence of their identity and nationality. In some cases the process may take a lot longer where identity or nationality is disputed.

Average days

Bangladesh 129

China 44

India 131

Nigeria 101

Pakistan 83

Internal Home Office management information has been used to provide a response to this question. These figures are not quality assured under National Statistics protocols and are 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.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-10/209992/>

### Immigrants: Detainees

**Stephen Doughty** [210110] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people aged (a) under 18 and (b) 18 and over who have been detained in immigration removal centres (IRCs) in England and Wales are missing having left the premises without permission from each IRC.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** No detainees absconded from the detention estate located in England and Wales in 2013, the latest year for which figures have been published. The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on the number of people detained in the United Kingdom for immigration purposes, within Immigration Statistics: April – June 2014, from the GOV.UK website:

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

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-13/210110/>



## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

### Prisoners: Illegal Immigrants

**Sarah Teather** [210460] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people are being held in prisons solely under immigration powers.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** As at 14 October 2014 there were 374 detainees held in prison establishments solely under immigration powers.

The information provided above is based on management information only and has not been subject to the detailed checks that apply for National Statistics publications. These figures are provisional and are subject to change.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-14/210460/>

### Slavery

**Graham Evans** [210789] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to ensure the independence of the planned Anti-Slavery Commissioner.

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** The independent Anti-slavery Commissioner will encourage good practice in the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of modern slavery offences and the identification of victims.

They will have the freedom and independence to look at the law enforcement response to modern slavery without fear or favour, and make reports which will highlight where improvements can be made.

The Commissioner's reports will be independent and the Commissioner's annual report will be laid before Parliament.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-15/210789/>

### Slavery

**Graham Evans** [210792] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what (a) training and (b) financial assistance the Government has provided to local authorities to tackle human trafficking and modern slavery in each year from 2011 to 2014 to date.

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** No training or financial assistance has been provided directly to local authorities, by the Home Office, to tackle human trafficking and modern slavery in the years 2011-2014.

In 2013, three Non-Government Organisations were awarded total grant funding of approximately £75,000 by the Home Office to provide training to a range of local professionals, including those working in local authorities.

Home Office funding of £420,000 is being provided to Barnardo's to fund independent child advocacy service trials for a period of twelve months in 23 local authorities.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-15/210792/>

### Slavery

**Graham Evans** [210790] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much her Department has spent on (a) raising greater public awareness of modern slavery, (b) providing detailed information on the numbers and locations of victims of trafficking and traffickers and (c) specific police forces' campaigns to tackle modern slavery.

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** The Home Office is spending £2.3million on a modern slavery publicity campaign to raise greater public awareness of modern slavery and encourage reporting to the new modern slavery helpline, launched on 31 July. This includes the costs of all planning, media buying, agency fees and

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

production.

Detailed information on the numbers and locations of victims of trafficking and traffickers is provided by the Salvation Army and the National Crime Agency. Specific funding is not provided by the Home Office for this purpose; it is funded through existing resource costs.

The Home Office does not hold information on the costs of specific police force campaigns. This information is held by the individual police forces.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-15/210790/>

### Human Trafficking

**Graham Evans** [210793] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what procedures her Department has in place to ensure that reliable victim evidence can be gathered and presented in court during prosecutions for trafficking.

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** The Government funds the Adult Human Trafficking Care and Co-ordination contract which ensures that potential victims of trafficking receive appropriate care and support once they have been identified. As part of this contract and in compliance with our international obligations (Council of Europe Convention and the EU Directive on Trafficking in Human Beings), the Home Office has made it a core requirement for the Contractor to provide assistance to victims at appropriate stages of criminal proceedings against offenders. The Contractor is also required to cooperate with the police and judicial service in order to assist in the prosecution of potential offenders particularly when requests for information are made.

Such assistance includes:

- explaining to victims the relevant procedures relating to the prosecution of offenders;
- encouraging victims to cooperate with any police enquiries and with the wider justice system.
- explaining to victims where relevant, what role they will have in court proceedings; and
- facilitating access to independent legal support for victims and where appropriate assisting victims to apply for Legal Aid.

In addition, the police have raised awareness amongst its officers about the need to ensure that victims are at the centre of any modern slavery investigation, this awareness includes how to conduct interviews with traumatised potential victims in order to ensure that they are able to provide the most comprehensive information required to assist in prosecutions.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-15/210793/>

### Human Trafficking: Convictions

**Andrew Rosindell** [210365] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many people have been convicted for offences related to human trafficking since January 2013.

**Reply from Mike Penning:** The number of defendants proceeded against at magistrates' courts and found guilty at all courts for offences related to human trafficking, in England and Wales, for calendar year 2013 (the latest data available), can be viewed in the table.

Human trafficking and modern day slavery is an appalling crime that has no place in today's society. That is why we have brought forward a Modern Slavery Bill, one of the first of its kind in the world. The Modern Slavery Bill will give law enforcement the tools to tackle modern slavery and human trafficking. It will

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

consolidate and toughen existing legislation, making it simpler for the police and prosecutors to understand, ensure that perpetrators can receive suitably severe punishments for these appalling crimes, including life sentences, and enhance protection for victims.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-14/210365/>

### Human Trafficking

**Diana Johnson** [210663] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much funding her Department has allocated for campaigns to promote awareness of human trafficking in the 2014-15 financial year; how much of that funding was spent sponsoring an article in the Daily Mail; and whether her Department has placed sponsored articles placed in any other newspapers.

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** The Home Office has allocated a budget of £2.3 million to raise awareness of Modern Slavery in the UK and promote a new Modern Slavery helpline and website. The objective is to increase reporting of slavery so that more victims can be supported and protected and more perpetrators of this heinous and hidden crime are brought to justice. We have paid for a number of sponsored online and print articles in the Daily Mail and Mail on Sunday to raise awareness of the issue and encourage reporting at a cost of £154,000. We are unable to give a cost for individual articles because of commercial confidentiality. We have also placed a number of sponsored articles in The Daily Telegraph and The Sunday Telegraph at a cost of £125,000.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-15/210663/>

## New Publications

**Code of Practice on illegal immigrants and private rented accommodation: Civil penalty scheme for landlords and their agents (Working draft)**

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/365711/landlords\\_code\\_of\\_practice.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/365711/landlords_code_of_practice.pdf)

**Tier 4 of the Points Based System – Policy Guidance (Updated)**

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/364762/T4\\_Guidance\\_10-14.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/364762/T4_Guidance_10-14.pdf)

**Home Office response to the Independent Chief Inspector’s report: “An investigation into the Home Office’s Handling of Asylum Claims Made on the Grounds of Sexual Orientation”**

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/365654/ResponseAsylumClaimsBasisSexualOrientation.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/365654/ResponseAsylumClaimsBasisSexualOrientation.pdf)

**Freedom of Information release: Allegations of assault made by detainees against staff in immigration removal centres**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/allegations-of-assault-made-by-detainees-against-staff-in-immigration-removal-centres/allegations-of-assault-made-by-detainees-against-staff-working-in-immigration-removal-centres-from-2011-to-march-2014>

**Be Here Now: Six stories of life and change in modern British communities**

<http://www.ippr.org/assets/media/publications/attachments/BeHereNow.pdf>

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

**EU freedom of movement rules cannot be changed - Juncker**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-29731120>

**Juncker slaps down Cameron on migration**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4244416.ece>

**Juncker in warning to Cameron: Freedom of movement within the EU is non-negotiable**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/juncker-in-warning-to-cameron-freedom-of-movement-within-the-eu-is-nonnegotiable-9812037.html>

**Jean-Claude Juncker issues migrant threat to Cameron**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/11179862/Jean-Claude-Juncker-issues-migrant-threat-to-Cameron.html>

**Juncker tells Cameron: you can't destroy EU migration rules**

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/oct/23/juncker-tells-cameron-cant-destroy-eu-migration-rules>

**Merkel moves to block Cameron's plan to limit EU migrants**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4248216.ece>

**Barroso warns UK cap on EU migrants is illegal**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/barroso-warns-uk-cap-on-eu-migrants-is-illegal-1-3577606>

**Jose Manuel Barroso warns David Cameron against making 'historic mistake' over immigration reforms**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/britains-obsession-with-immigration-will-isolate-it-warns-barroso-9805775.html>

**Jose Manuel Barroso: 'Immigration cap will never be accepted by Europe'**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/eu/11173833/Jose-Manuel-Barroso-Immigration-cap-will-never-be-accepted-by-Europe.html>

**Cameron plans to block jobless EU migrants**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4242717.ece>

**Some towns 'swamped by migrants'**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/pa/article-2808336/Some-towns-swamped-migrants.html>

**Some towns 'swamped by migrants'**

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/some-towns-swamped-by-migrants-1.647621>

**Student visa rules condemned by employers**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/education-29746859>

**Home Office Student Visa System Slammed, Politicians Accused Of 'Cheap, Pathetic Gestures'**

[http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2014/10/23/international-student-visas-slammed-home-office\\_n\\_6035560.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2014/10/23/international-student-visas-slammed-home-office_n_6035560.html)

**Government 'deporting too few foreign criminals'**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-29715630>

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

### **Immigration staff 'must act faster'**

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/immigration-staff-must-act-faster-1.643694>

### **Call for musician deportation U-turn**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-29742967>

### **Musician who played with Bowie faces deportation**

<http://www.scotsman.com/what-s-on/music/musician-who-played-with-bowie-faces-deportation-1-3580928>

### **US music guru who's worked with Floyd, Bowie pleads: don't deport me because I don't earn enough**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/us-music-guru-in-deportation-battle-over-shortfall-in-salary.25668245>

### **Musician who played with Pink Floyd faces deportation as his pay is too low**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article4245115.ece>

### **Sex attacker working as asylum interpreter**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/sex-attacker-working-as-asylum-interpreter.25660883>

### **Charity's fear over sex fiend interpreter**

<http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/charitys-fear-over-sex-fiend-interpreter-185594n.25661096>

### **Peerage for 'white flight' immigration campaigner**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4243794.ece>

### **Sir Andrew Green peerage: A highly misguided Lords appointment for the Migration Watch founder**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/editorials/sir-andrew-green-peerage-a-highly-misguided-lords-appointment-for-the-migration-watch-founder-9809327.html>

### **The promised land**

<http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/Magazine/article1473494.ece>

### **Migrants fight in Calais for control of routes to Britain, say police**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/france/11178783/Migrants-fight-in-Calais-for-control-of-routes-to-Britain-say-police.html>

### **Migrants storm UK-bound lorries at Calais**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/11176011/Migrants-storm-UK-bound-lorries-at-Calais.html>

### **Gay asylum seekers face 'intrusive' sexual questions**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/oct/23/gay-asylum-seekers-sexual-questions-uk-immigration>

### **Gay and lesbian asylum seekers face 'intrusive' sexual questions**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/gay-and-lesbian-asylum-seekers-face-intrusive-sexual-questions-9814768.html>

## Immigration and Asylum

### News (continued)

#### **Report raises concerns about processing of LGB asylum claims**

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/latest\\_news/2524\\_report\\_raises\\_concerns\\_about\\_processing\\_of\\_lgb\\_asylum\\_claims](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/2524_report_raises_concerns_about_processing_of_lgb_asylum_claims)

#### **Better integration is the best way to quell immigration fears**

<http://www.theguardian.com/society/2014/oct/21/better-integration-quell-immigration-fears>

#### **Don't dismiss public fears about migration as mere bigotry**

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/oct/22/wisbech-immigration-politicians-david-cameron-ukip-eu-exit>

#### **Britain admits nearly three times more migrants from outside the EU than any other member state, statistics show**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/britain-admits-nearly-three-times-more-migrants-from-outside-the-eu-than-any-other-member-state-statistics-show-9815009.html>

#### **Cutting EU immigration will backfire, say employers**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/cutting-eu-immigration-will-backfire-say-employers-9807147.html>

#### **NHS hires foreign doctors to stave off winter crisis**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/health-news/nhs-hires-foreign-doctors-to-stave-off-winter-crisis-9807023.html?origin=internalSearch>

#### **Scottish Refugee Council Office abuzz with potential volunteers**

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/latest\\_blogs/2523\\_office\\_abuzz\\_with\\_potential\\_volunteers](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_blogs/2523_office_abuzz_with_potential_volunteers)

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## Community Relations

### Scottish Parliament Motion

**S4M-11273 Ken Macintosh: Multicultural Homecoming Cup**—That the Parliament congratulates the Scottish Football Association (SFA) and BEMIS Scotland on the success of the recent Multicultural Homecoming Cup event; notes that the multicultural festival of football was held at Toryglen National Football Centre on 17 October 2014 and saw 16 teams with more than 120 players from diverse cultural backgrounds competing for the national title; understands that the SFA Equity Project, a partnership project between the SFA and BEMIS Scotland, is a CashBack for Communities-funded initiative that develops participation for diverse communities in the national sport via bespoke training, coaching and volunteering opportunities while using football as a means of promoting health, wellbeing, community spirit, respect and equal opportunity; recognises that Multicultural Homecoming 2014 is part of the national programme of events led by BEMIS Scotland celebrating Scotland's diverse cultural and ethnic minority communities, and wishes all participants, organisations and community groups involved every success for the remainder of the celebrations.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-11273&ResultsPerPage=10>

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## Equality

### Scottish Parliament Motion

**S4M-11265 Sandra White: Funding Success for Glasgow's West of Scotland Regional Equality Council**—That the Parliament congratulates the West of Scotland Regional Equality Council on its recent award of £49,772 from the Big Lottery Fund's Young Start programme; commends what it considers the fantastic work by the council in delivering services across many sectors in the community to challenge inequality, including efforts to tackle sectarianism and projects to improve the living equality of both older and younger minority groups; understands that this grant will be used to continue a programme of music and arts-based activities to reach groups of young people from diverse parts of Glasgow, to increase confidence and communication and provide the opportunity to gain new skills, and wishes the council every continued success.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-11265&ResultsPerPage=10>

### UK Parliament Question

#### **Business: Equality**

**Nigel Dodds** [210714] To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, if he will take steps to ensure that a conscience clause is included within equality legislation affecting UK businesses.

**Reply from Jo Swinson:** The Government is committed to ensuring that people are protected against discrimination because of religion or belief, and that they are able to exercise the right to hold and manifest their beliefs in a reasonable manner. We believe that the Equality Act 2010 strikes the right balance between the rights of people to manifest their religion or beliefs and the rights of others not to be discriminated against or harassed due to other protected characteristics, such as gender or sexual orientation, in areas such as employment and the provision of goods and services.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-15/210714/>

### Press Release

**Freedom of religion or belief must also be protected at the workplace – UN rights expert**

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=15203&LangID=E>

### New Publications

**Travellers, Gypsies and Roma: access to public services and community relations**

<http://www.britishirish.org/assets/CommitteeDRomaTravellerReport.pdf>

**Interim report of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief**

<http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Religion/A.69.261.pdf>

## Equality (continued) News

**Governments across all British and Irish jurisdictions should consider new duty on Local Authorities to co-ordinate Traveller site provision**

<http://www.britishirish.org/governments-across-all-british-and-irish-jurisdictions-should-consider-new-duty-on-local-authorities-to-co-ordinate-traveller-site-provision/>

**Gypsies endure 'Third World' health care**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/top-stories/gypsies-endure-third-world-health-care-1-3581212>

**Concern over Traveller healthcare**

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/concern-over-traveller-healthcare-1.640361>

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## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### UK Parliament Questions

#### Antisemitism

**John Mann** [210224] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, how many times he or Ministers in his Department have raised concerns about anti-Semitism with their counterparts in (a) France, (b) Germany, (c) Holland, (d) Belgium, (e) Poland, (f) Australia, (g) the US and (h) Ireland since 2010.

**Reply from David Lidington:** We are concerned about all instances of anti-Semitism, and regularly raise this issue with a number of countries, including those referred to in the Honorable Member's question, though we do not hold a central record of every time we have done so. Our Embassies and High Commissions monitor cases of anti-Semitism and raise them with their host governments. We support the efforts of EU partners to tackle racism in all its forms. For instance, a number of Ministers, including the Home Secretary, strongly condemned the murders at the Jewish Museum in Brussels in May.

Anti-Semitism (and particularly Holocaust denial and denigration) are regularly discussed during meetings of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) in a dedicated Committee, and as a formal agenda item during the plenary meetings held twice a year. The UK Envoy for Post-Holocaust Issues, Sir Andrew Burns, leads an active UK delegation in these discussions. All the states to which your question refers are members of IHRA, with the exception of Australia.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office also works very closely with the UK Member of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), who provides expert advice on tackling anti-Semitism to the British Government and internationally.

The British Government will be represented at a senior level at the tenth anniversary of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Conference and Declaration on Anti-Semitism, being held in Berlin on 13 November 2014.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-13/210224/>

#### Racially Aggravated Offences

**Matthew Offord** [210620] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what



## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

steps her Department is taking to identify and implement future crime prevention measures in relation to race hate crime.

**Reply from Norman Baker:** The Coalition government takes all forms of hate crime very seriously. The Government's hate crime action plan brings together the activities of government departments to: prevent hate crime by challenging the attitudes and behaviours that foster hatred; increase the reporting of hate crime by building victims' confidence to come forward and seek justice, ensuring the right support is available when they do, and; work across the criminal justice system to improve the operational response to hate crime.

Police forces in England, Wales and Northern Ireland have recently been issued with new guidance for dealing with hate crimes, which includes advice for dealing with incidents and how to monitor and deal with community tensions.

Data published on 16 October showed a 5% increase in hate crime recorded by the police in the last year with increases across all five of the monitored hate crime strands. The government is encouraged that more victims are coming forward and that the police are improving the way they identify hate crime.

The government has also worked with organisations, including Show Racism the Red Card, the Anne Frank Trust and the Jewish Museum to raise awareness of prejudice with children and young people, in order to prevent hate crime from happening in the first place.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-15/210620/>

### Harassment

**Emily Thornberry [210501]** To ask the Attorney General, on how many occasions the CPS has prosecuted cases of racially or religiously aggravated harassment in each of the last seven years.

**Reply from Robert Buckland:** The records held by the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) indicate the number of offences charged, in which a prosecution commenced at magistrates' court under Section 32 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (racially or religiously aggravated harassment), rather than identifying the number of defendants prosecuted. It is often the case that an individual defendant is charged with more than one offence against the same victim.

The table below shows, in each of the last seven years, the number of offences, charged by way of Section 32 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (racially or religiously aggravated harassment), and which reached a first hearing at magistrates' courts, in England and Wales.

	Crime and Disorder Act 1998 { 32 }
2007-2008	556
2008-2009	527
2009-2010	494
2010-2011	536
2011-2012	379
2012-2013	317
2013-2014	335

Data Source: CPS Management Information System

There is no indication of the number of individual defendants prosecuted for these offences or the final outcome of the prosecution proceeding or if the charged offence was the substantive charge at the time of finalisation.

The last five years have seen a year on year reduction in the overall number of cases referred to the CPS from the police, however the CPS do not hold data

## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

related to the number of police referrals of cases in which charges of racially or religiously aggravated harassment would be appropriate.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-14/210501/>

## Press Releases

### Conviction rate for hate crime at all-time high (England and Wales)

[http://www.cps.gov.uk/news/latest\\_news/conviction\\_rate\\_for\\_hate\\_crime\\_at\\_all-time\\_high/](http://www.cps.gov.uk/news/latest_news/conviction_rate_for_hate_crime_at_all-time_high/)

### Data collection gaps continue to hamper efforts to combat antisemitism

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2014/data-collection-gaps-continue-hamper-efforts-combat-antisemitism>

## New Publications

### Hate crime and crimes against older people report 2013-2014 (England and Wales)

[http://www.cps.gov.uk/publications/docs/cps\\_hate\\_crime\\_report\\_2014.pdf](http://www.cps.gov.uk/publications/docs/cps_hate_crime_report_2014.pdf)

### Antisemitism - Summary overview of the situation in the EU 2003-2013

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014\\_antisemitism-update-2003-2013\\_web.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014_antisemitism-update-2003-2013_web.pdf)

## News

### Equalities watchdog to investigate 'white drivers' policy of Rochdale minicab firm

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/oct/22/equalities-watchdog-to-investigate-white-drivers-policy-of-rochdale-minicab-firm>

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## Other UK Parliament and Government

### Parliamentary Questions

#### Scotland: Devolution Commission

**Lord Foulkes of Cumnock:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what progress has been made by the devolution commission, chaired by Lord Smith of Kelvin; and when they expect it to report.

**Reply from the Advocate-General for Scotland (Lord Wallace of Tankerness):** My Lords, the noble Lord, Lord Smith of Kelvin, has already done his work and is today chairing the commission's first plenary session. All of Scotland's five main parties are taking part in this process. There is a clear timetable for the work and an opportunity for people across Scotland to participate. The Smith commission will produce a heads of agreement report by 30 November this year.

**Lord Foulkes of Cumnock:** ... the Smith commission should not operate on the basis of party horse trading but on principles, particularly the principle that each power devolved should be appropriate to be exercised at that level, and that Holyrood should be given

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

tax-raising powers sufficient to enable it to raise enough money to cover the expenditure for which it is responsible?

**Reply from Lord Wallace of Tankerness:** My Lords, I agree with the noble Lord that this should not be a question of horse trading. Ahead of today's meeting the noble Lord, Lord Smith, indicated that he believed that there would be a will among the parties to reach agreement. I do not think that it would be appropriate for the Government to dictate to the Smith commission what the principles should be, although I do think that the noble Lord makes an important point about principles. The one important, fundamental principle is that all five parties should work to strengthen the Scottish Parliament within the United Kingdom. On 18 September, the people of Scotland voted for Scotland to remain part of the United Kingdom, and that is a principle we cannot lose sight of. ...

**Lord Purvis of Tweed:** My Lords, it is, indeed, a historic day when all five major parties in Scotland meet round the table to discuss the way forward for Scotland. This will require those parties that have published proposals not only to form an agreement on the basis of principles but to compromise and, indeed, for some—not exclusively the Labour Party—to go beyond the proposals that they have already published. If that is the case, which we all hope that it will be, will the Government commit to promote actively the result of this to make sure that all families and voters in Scotland are aware of these home rule proposals for the long term? Will the Government also commit to meeting their deadline for bringing forward draft clauses to bring forward the conclusions of the Smith commission for legislation?

**Reply from Lord Wallace of Tankerness:** ... the Government have indicated that they will bring forward draft clauses and, indeed, will do so by Burns Night, 25 January 2015. My noble friend makes an important point about the importance of ensuring that people in Scotland know what these proposals will be. We have sometimes undersold the very significant additional powers that have been made available to the Scottish Parliament under the Scotland Act 2012.

**Lord McConnell of Glenscorrodale:** My Lords, one of the more unfortunate developments in Scotland over the last two years has been the headlong rush to discuss more powers for the Scottish Parliament before discussing what to do with the additional powers in the 2012 Act. But given that situation, it is now vital that we have a sustainable settlement for the longer term. That will need all five parties to move from their current positions and the new commission to agree on the basis of principle. Have the Government set as an objective for the commission a sustainable, long-term settlement for tax powers in Scotland that will then allow the parties to get on and talk about what to do with the powers rather than about how many powers they have?

**Reply from Lord Wallace of Tankerness:** I thoroughly agree with the noble Lord with regard to the importance of the use of the powers. I like to think that the Administration of which he and I were part made very good use of our powers. That is important. It is also important that that is sustainable in the longer term to ensure not only that Scotland's place within the United Kingdom is maintained but that it will be a balanced settlement, which we are ultimately striving for, that is fair to people in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. ...

**To continue reading the lengthy question and answer session see**  
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201415/ldhansrd/text/141022-0001.htm#14102282000448>

### Financial Services: Islam

**Mark Pritchard** [210980] To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what plans he has to extend Sharia financing within the UK banking system.

**Reply from Andrea Leadsom:** There are currently no plans to extend shari'ah

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

compliant financing into the UK banking system, but the Government will continue to work with the financial services industry to broaden the range of shari'ah compliant products and services available in the UK, and encourage the industry to play its part. The Government welcomes, for example, the recent creation of an Islamic Account by Lloyds Bank. This account allows customers who cannot receive credit or debit interest due to their religious beliefs to hold a bank account in the UK and is available to all UK citizens regardless of background or faith. Furthermore, The Bank of England has recently announced that it will be commencing work to assess the feasibility of establishing a shari'ah compliant facility next year, which the Government welcomes. Any such facility will help Islamic banks in the UK to better meet their obligations under the liquidity rules, bringing Islamic finance further into the mainstream.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-10-17/210980/>

## Press Releases

**Treasury Committee holds first session on Scottish Devolution proposals**

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/treasury-committee/news/treasury-committee-holds-first-session-on-scottish-devolution-proposals/>

**Diwali 2014: David Cameron's message**

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

**Diwali 2014: message from Nick Clegg**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/diwali-2014-message-from-nick-clegg>

**Community Ministers' messages for Diwali 2014**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/messages-for-diwali-2014>

**Foreign Secretary's Diwali message for 2014**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretarys-diwali-message-for-2014>

## New Publication

**Government response: Female Genital Mutilation: Proposal to Introduce a Civil Protection Order**

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/365187/female-genital-mutilation-consultation-response.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/365187/female-genital-mutilation-consultation-response.pdf)

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## Other News

**Bone marrow transplant teenager: 'I feel angry that my community let me down'**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/health/11172662/Bone-marrow-transplant-teenager-I-feel-angry-that-my-community-let-me-down.html>

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## Bills in Progress

\*\* new or updated this week

### Scottish Parliament

#### **Assisted Suicide Bill**

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

#### **Criminal Justice Bill**

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

### Bills in Progress UK Parliament

#### **Arbitration and Mediation Services (Equality) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2014-15/arbitrationandmediationservicesequality.html>

#### **Assisted Dying Bill** (England and Wales only)

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2014-15/assisteddying.html>

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

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2014-15/asylumtimelimit.html>

#### **\*\* Illegal Immigrants (Criminal Sanctions) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2014-15/illegalimmigrantscriminalsanctions.html>

Second Reading, House of Commons

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmhansrd/cm141024/debtext/141024-0002.htm#14102457000003>

#### **Modern Slavery Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2014-15/modernslavery.html>

#### **UK Borders Control Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2014-15/ukborderscontrol.html>

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## Consultations

\*\* new or updated this week

#### **\*\* closes this week!**

#### **Equality and Human Rights Commission call for evidence on religion or belief issues**

(closing date extended to 31 October 2014)

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/commission-calls-evidence-religion-or-belief-issues>

#### **\*\* closes this week!**

#### **Cuts to legal aid and the impact on unaccompanied children** (closing date 31 October 2014)

[https://bedshealthsciences.eu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_b49I2xUvB9RzaSN](https://bedshealthsciences.eu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_b49I2xUvB9RzaSN)

#### **Equality and Human Rights Commission Strategic Plan** (closing date 12 November 2014)

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/about-us/our-work/ehrc-consultations/consulting-statutory-review-our-strategic-plan>

## Consultations (continued)

**Inquiry into the devolution of further fiscal powers** (closing date 14 November 2014)  
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/82244.aspx>

**Planning and travellers** (closing date 23 November 2014)  
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/354061/consultation\\_doc\\_140903.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/354061/consultation_doc_140903.pdf)

**Review of the shortage occupation lists for the UK and Scotland** (closing date 5 December 2014)  
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/359315/Call\\_for\\_evidence\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/359315/Call_for_evidence_FINAL.pdf)

**Equality and Human Rights Commission Litigation strategy survey** (closing date 12 December 2014)  
<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/about-us/our-work/ehrc-consultations/litigation-strategy-survey?wssl=1>

**Community Empowerment Bill** (no closing date given)  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yVqICS\\_Rgro&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yVqICS_Rgro&feature=youtu.be)

**Experiences of Race and Religion-Related Hate Speech in the UK** (no closing date given)  
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HR7RBZ3>

**Light on: perceptions and interpretations of expressions** (no closing date given)  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BPJCY6J>

**Advancing Migrant Access to health Services in Europe** (no closing date given)  
<http://www.amase.eu/wp/be-part-of-amase/>

**Inquiry into the recruitment and appointment practices on company boards**  
(no closing date given)  
<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/legal-and-policy/our-legal-work/inquiries-and-assessments/inquiry-recruitment-and-appointment-practices-company-boards>

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## Job Opportunities

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

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## Events/Conferences/Training

\*\* new or updated this week

### 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

## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

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!**

### **Black History Month**

1-31 October 2014

For a full programme of events, see

<http://www.crer.org.uk/BlackHistory/BHM14brochure.pdf>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Stepping into Diversity: film and book launch**

30 October 2014 in Glasgow (6.00)

Over the past eighteen months the West of Scotland Regional Diversity Council has been working with local people to explore the legacy of migration to Glasgow through oral history interviews and heritage walks, and their inspiring stories have now been collated into a book and stop motion animation. For information contact Benjamin Williams 0141 337 6626 / [bwilliams@wsrec.co.uk](mailto:bwilliams@wsrec.co.uk)

**\*\* this week!**

### **Political Shadowing Scheme**

closing date for applications: 1 November 2014

Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights scheme to address the under-representation of minority ethnic communities in Scottish political life. The scheme provides training on media skills, equality and diversity, presentation skills, campaigning and lobbying, and the workings of local, Scottish and UK Government, as well as shadowing a politician over a period of time. For information see <http://www.crer.org.uk/attachments/pssleaflet.pdf> or contact Zandra Yeaman [zandra@crer.org.uk](mailto:zandra@crer.org.uk) / 0141 418 6530

### **Supporting Refugee Women**

4 November 2014 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

4 February 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

28 April 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide an understanding of the issues and legal systems impact specifically on refugee women. This includes discussing issues of FGM and sexual violence. For information contact Martha Harding [martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) / 0141 223 7951 or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training>

### **Domestic Abuse and Minority Ethnic Women, Children and Young People**

6th (9.30-4.30pm) & 7th (9.30-12.30pm) November 2014

3rd (9.30-4.30pm) & 4th (9.30-12.30pm) December 2014

Shakti Women's Aid training to increase awareness and understanding of issues facing Minority Ethnic women, children and 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)

### **Holocaust Memorial Day workshop**

10 November 2014 in Edinburgh (1.15 – 4.00)

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust workshop to explore the HMD 2015 theme "Keep the memory alive", hear more about activity organising, and meet others who are planning to mark HMD in your area. Free but booking essential. For information contact 020 7785 7029 / [enquiries@hmd.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@hmd.org.uk).

## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### **Introduction to Discrimination Law**

12 November 2014 in Greenock (12.45 – 4.30)

Equality and Human Rights Commission training session giving a basic introduction to discrimination law. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/ltd7yvk> or contact Lindsey Reynolds [Lindsey.Reynolds@equalityhumanrights.com](mailto:Lindsey.Reynolds@equalityhumanrights.com) / 0141 228 5967.

### **Domestic Abuse And Women Subject To Immigration Control: Where Human Rights Do Not Reach**

18 November 2014 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 1.00)

Scottish Women's Aid seminar to explore the impacts of insecure immigration status on women who experience violence and abuse. For information contact [booking@scottishwomensaid.org.uk](mailto:booking@scottishwomensaid.org.uk) / 0131 226 6606 or see <http://tinyurl.com/ocvuxva>.

### **New Scots: Working with Asylum Seekers and Refugees**

19 November 2014 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

13 January 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

18 February 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

25 February 2015 in Glasgow (volunteers only) (9.30 – 4.00)

3 March 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

15 April 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

20 May 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

28 May 2015 in Glasgow (volunteers only) (9.30 – 4.00)

2 June 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.00)

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide an introduction to the issues and legal systems affecting people seeking safety in Scotland. For information contact Martha Harding [martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) / 0141 223 7951 or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training>

### **Promoting Good Relations: New Approaches, New Solutions**

21 November 2014 in Glasgow

Commission for Racial Equality and Rights conference to consider one of the most challenging aspects of the Public Sector Equality Duty – the duty to foster good relations. For information contact Nadia Rafiq [nadia@crer.org.uk](mailto:nadia@crer.org.uk)

### **Working with Interpreters**

3 December 2014 in Glasgow (9.30 – 1.00)

18 March 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 1.00)

14 May 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 1.00)

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide an understanding of how to communicate clearly and effectively with people when working with interpreters. For information contact Martha Harding [martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) / 0141 223 7951 or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training>

### **Essentials of Asylum**

9 December 2014 in Glasgow (9.30 – 1.00)

28 January 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 1.00)

6 May 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 1.00)

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide information about the UK asylum process, including the difference between an asylum seeker and a refugee, asylum support, and rights and entitlements. For information contact Martha Harding [martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) / 0141 223 7951 or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training>



## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### **Working With People Affected By Forced Marriage**

11 February 2015 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 4.00)

Scottish Women's Aid seminar to demystify forced marriage and help delegates to gain the knowledge they need to provide appropriate support to those affected. For information contact [booking@scottishwomensaid.org.uk](mailto:booking@scottishwomensaid.org.uk) / 0131 226 6606 or see <http://tinyurl.com/ovxofgs>.

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## Useful Links

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

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

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

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

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

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

**One Scotland** <http://onescotland.org/>

**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)** [www.volunteerscotland.net/disclosure-services](http://www.volunteerscotland.net/disclosure-services)

**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)

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



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



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

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