

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

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

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## Immigration and Asylum

### UK Parliament Ministerial Statement

#### Unaccompanied-Asylum Seeking Children

**The Minister for Security and Immigration (James Brokenshire):** The UK has opted in to the regulation that amends a single article in the Dublin Regulation (EU) No. 604/2013 ("Dublin III") concerning its application to unaccompanied children. The amendments concern the position of unaccompanied children who are applicants for international protection and who have no family member, sibling or relative present in the states covered by the Dublin Regulation. They are being made to reflect the Court of Justice of the European Union's ruling in the case of MA and others (C-648/11) that the best interests of the child are generally best served by an asylum claim being considered in the state of the most recent application rather than, if different, the state where a child first lodged an application. The basic approach in the proposal is one that we and other states participating in the Dublin Regulation have been following since the court's ruling

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Ministerial Statement (continued)

in June 2013, so opting in will have no additional impact on current practice.

The Government are fully committed to the system created by the Dublin Regulation, which determines which participating state is responsible for examining an application for international protection. The UK has opted in to all earlier proposals concerning the Dublin Regulation and the related Eurodac Regulation. Opting in to this single issue proposal concerning unaccompanied asylum seeking children is consistent with our strong support for the Dublin system as a whole, which has been of great benefit to the UK, enabling the removal of over 12,000 asylum individuals since 2003 to other participating states (Member states of the European Union, Norway, Iceland, Switzerland and Liechtenstein).

The Government will continue to consider the application of the UK's right to opt in to forthcoming EU legislation in the area of justice and home affairs on a case by case basis, with a view to maximising our country's security, protecting Britain's civil liberties and our ability to control immigration.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmhansrd/cm150123/wmstext/150123m0001.htm#15012343000003>

## UK Parliament Questions

### Prisons: Interpreters

*The following two questions both received the same answer.*

**Dan Jarvis** [219418] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how much was spent on professional interpretation services in each prison in England and Wales in 2012; and on how many occasions such interpretation services were used.

**Reply from Andrew Selous:** The percentage success rates for the Capita Translation and Interpreting contract are published and can be found using the below link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/statistics-on-the-use-of-language-services-in-courts-and-tribunals-january-2012-december-2013>

Please find below a table showing the number of assignments and total spend in 2012 in each prison on professional interpretation through the MoJ Language Services Contract with Capita Translation and Interpreting.

**To read the lengthy table see the links below**

Interpreters used by the Prison Service are self employed, freelance booked and sourced via the Capita-TI contract. Each assignment constitutes a separate individual booking which can range from one hour to a few days dependent upon the requirement. The value of spend and number of assignments for HMP Wandsworth and HMP Whatton are due to the requirement for a British Sign Language interpreter for a 6 month period in each facility to aid a member of prison service staff with access to work. This requirement, whilst initially paid for by HMPS, was reimbursed by the Department of Work and Pensions.

The interpreting contract was introduced to tackle the inefficiencies and inconsistencies in the previous system. The contract has delivered significant improvements so far and we now have a system that is robust, sustainable and able to deliver a quality service at an affordable level. As a result of the contract, we have spent £27m less in the first two years it has been running, and it continues to reduce the burden on taxpayers.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-12-18/219418/>

## Immigration and Asylum

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

#### Higher Education: Overseas Students

**Baroness Hamwee:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the impact on students, universities and international relations of requiring overseas students to leave the United Kingdom immediately upon graduating.

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Bates):** My Lords, our reforms have clamped down on the student migration abuse allowed under the last Government, while ensuring that our excellent universities continue to attract the brightest and best students. Ensuring that immigrants leave at the end of their visa is just as important as controlling who comes here to study in the first place.

**Baroness Hamwee:** My Lords, I am sorry that the Minister used the term "abuse" in this context. There has been much criticism, including by eminent businesspeople and economists, about, "shutting the door on some of the very individuals who help the UK's unique global service economy to thrive", to use the words of the British Chambers of Commerce. I tabled the Question in the Recess, when the proposal referred to appeared from the Home Office—I am glad that it seems not to be making progress—but can the Minister tell us what current Conservative thinking is on visas for new graduates?

**Reply from Lord Bates:** I can certainly inform my noble friend what government thinking is on the position. In the same spirit, I reflect that it seemed to be the position of her party that we ought to count people in and count them out. Last year we counted 121,000 students in and 51,000 out. That leaves 70,000 people who were here without an appropriate visa, and we think that that is wrong. If you are here on a study visa, you should be studying. You should not be working. If you want to come here to work, you are very welcome but you ought to apply for the right visa to uphold that.

**Lord McConnell of Glenscorrodale:** My Lords, it is of course entirely appropriate to ensure that the administration of student visas is being carried out effectively, but that should not diminish the contribution that overseas students make to this country culturally, academically and financially. There are examples all over the world of economies that benefit from overseas students not just when they are studying but from the contribution that they can make following graduation. Will the Government drop this plan to limit the access of overseas students to the United Kingdom after they complete their studies, and will they look at proper examples elsewhere in the world where people stay on, contribute to entrepreneurial activity and eventually return home to help to develop the economies of the countries they came from in the first place?

**Reply from Lord Bates:** Let me underscore that absolute commitment. When people are coming here to study, they are coming to invest in the UK and they will be welcome. There is no cap on students coming to the UK, provided that they are bona fide students in bona fide universities and they have the funds necessary to complete their studies. We are talking about tier 4, which is the student visa, and whether people ought to be able to stay on. There are some examples of abuse of that system under the previous Government, and we are trying to tighten up on that by simply saying that they ought to have an appropriate visa. We have opened up new routes through tier 2 and tier 1 particularly to entrepreneurs and those in high-skilled occupations. They will continue to be welcome in this country, as in others around the world.

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

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201415/ldhansrd/text/150119-0001.htm#15011912000578>

#### Asylum

**Roger Godsiff** [220849] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department,

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

whether her Department takes into account reports produced or evidence submitted by non-governmental human rights organisations in deciding on claims for asylum made on the grounds of political persecution or a risk to someone's life.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** In reaching decisions on asylum claims, caseworkers have access to a wide range of published country of origin information produced by the Home Office, which includes reference to reports produced or submitted by national or international human rights organisations.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-01-14/220849/>

### Immigrants: Detainees

**Ian Davidson** [219387] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much compensation her Department has paid for unlawfully detaining people under immigration powers in Scotland in each of the last five years.

**Reply from James Brokenshire;** Detention is used as a last resort when we consider that there is a risk of harm to the public, or of detainees absconding before they can be removed. We have a robust process for reviewing detention decisions to ensure that they are justified and necessary; occasionally, the courts will disagree with a particular decision and award compensation, but this happens in less than 1% of all detention cases.

The amounts paid by the Home Office in compensation following claims for unlawful detention in Scotland were as follows:

Financial Year No. of Claimants Amount Paid

2011-12 3 £39,300

2013-14 2 £13,500

It is not possible to provide similar information for earlier periods, as data are not held in the appropriate format and to extract them would incur disproportionate cost.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2014-12-18/219387/>

### Asylum: Detainees

**The Earl of Sandwich** [HL4192] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many asylum-seekers are currently in detention, and in which centres; of these, how many are women or part of families; and how many have been detained for (1) more than six months, and (2) more than one year.

**Reply from Lord Bates:** The table below is a subset of the latest published information for people detained in the detention estate who have claimed asylum at some point as at 30 September 2014.

<b>People in detention as at 30 September 2014, who had claimed asylum (1), by place of detention, by sex and by length of detention of over 6 months</b>					
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>6 months to less than 12 months</b>	<b>12 months or more</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,688</b>	<b>1,527</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>53</b>
Brook House IRC	<b>149</b>	149	0	17	5
Campsfield House IRC	<b>110</b>	110	0	10	1
Colnbrook IRC	<b>194</b>	194	0	31	14
Colnbrook STHF	<b>2</b>	0	2	0	0

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Dover IRC	<b>139</b>	139	0	17	8
Dungavel IRC	<b>78</b>	71	7	6	1
Harmondsworth IRC	<b>495</b>	495	0	32	9
Haslar IRC	<b>51</b>	51	0	5	5
Larne House STHF	<b>2</b>	2	0	0	0
Morton Hall IRC	<b>160</b>	160	0	21	8
Pennine House STHF	<b>10</b>	10	0	0	0
The Verne IRC	<b>84</b>	84	0	1	1
Tinsley House IRC	<b>42</b>	42	0	2	1
Yarl's Wood IRC	<b>172</b>	20	152	10	0

(1) Asylum detainees: People detained solely under Immigration Act powers who are recorded as having sought asylum at some stage and may under record due to instances of detainees claiming asylum after the data extract date.

There were no families with children under the age of 18 detained as at 30 September 2014.

The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on the number of people detained in the United Kingdom for immigration purposes, within the Immigration Statistics release. The data relating to people in detention are available in tables dt\_11\_q and dt\_12\_q in Immigration Statistics: July – September 2014 on the GOV.UK website:

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

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

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-01-15/HL4192/>

## UK Parliament Early Day Motions

### **Nick Harvey (709) Immigration Rules minimum income threshold**

That this House condemns the arbitrary nature of the minimum income threshold in the Immigration Rules; notes that the requirement for citizens to be earning at least £18,600 for their non-EU family members to be able to migrate to the UK unfairly discriminates against those who live in areas of the country with lower wages, and those who may have an income below £18,600 but are still able to accommodate a family member, such as pensioners; further notes a study by Middlesex University which found that the financial requirement costs the Government money due to the loss of migrants' economic activity; and calls on the Government to introduce more flexibility into the financial threshold to ensure that families are not unnecessarily kept apart.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2014-15/709>

## Immigration and Asylum

### UK Parliament Motions (continued)

#### **Julian Huppert (714) Change to rules on submitting new evidence in asylum cases**

–That this House expresses concern that the Home Office has made a rule change, due to be enforced on 26 January 2015, that asylum seekers who have been refused leave to remain will have to submit evidence in person in Liverpool regarding their case, regardless of where they are living; notes that asylum seekers who have been refused leave to remain can under current arrangements present evidence at a local centre; further notes that this means it is more affordable for charities, other organisations and individuals to help pay for an asylum seeker's travel fare or volunteer to take somebody who cannot use public transport due to a disability or other reasons; expresses further concern that the rule change will make it much harder for asylum seekers to present evidence which may be crucial to correctly resolving their case; and urges the Government to abandon this rule change and ensure that people seeking protection in the UK are able to present evidence relating to their case.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2014-15/714>

## Press Release

#### **TUC launches guide in 13 languages to tackle migrant worker exploitation**

<http://www.tuc.org.uk/international-issues/labour-standards/migration/workplace-issues/tuc-launches-guide-13-languages>

## New Publications

**Working in the UK** (available in Polish, Romanian, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Lithuanian, Latvian, Slovakian, Russian, Portuguese, Spanish, Italian, French and English)

<http://www.tuc.org.uk/workingintheuk>

#### **Dispersal - accommodation requests policy**

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/397095/Accommodation\\_Requests\\_PUBLIC\\_v1\\_0.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/397095/Accommodation_Requests_PUBLIC_v1_0.pdf)

#### **Applications for British Citizenship received from 2002**

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/396448/FOI\\_33561.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/396448/FOI_33561.pdf)

## News

#### **Pickles in English teaching plea**

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/pickles-in-english-teaching-plea-1.794585>

#### **Fall in number of criminals deported**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/crime/article4328278.ece>

#### **Home Office faces legal challenge over move to force Scots asylum seekers to travel 220 miles for appeals**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/home-office-faces-legal-challenge-over-move-to-force-scots-asylum-seekers-to-travel-2-x.116873049>

## Immigration and Asylum

### News (continued)

#### **Asylum seekers required to travel to Liverpool to submit documents**

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/latest\\_news/2566\\_asylum\\_seekers\\_required\\_to\\_travel\\_to\\_liverpool\\_to\\_submit\\_documents](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/latest_news/2566_asylum_seekers_required_to_travel_to_liverpool_to_submit_documents)

#### **Asylum seekers set to be forced to travel hundreds of miles to submit documents to Home Office**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/incoming/asylum-seekers-set-to-be-forced-to-travel-hundreds-of-miles-to-submit-documents-to-home-office-9993667.html?origin=internalSearch>

#### **A third of voters want to hear LESS about immigration as concern about too many foreigners in Britain falls to 14-year low**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2918226/A-voters-want-hear-immigration-concern-foreigners-Britain-falls-14-year-low.html>

#### **Indian doctors face extinction in NHS after visa changes**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/health/news/article4332625.ece>

#### **They fled rape, forced marriage, stoning, the Taliban and murder gangs - the refugees fighting to stay in Scotland**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/they-fled-rape-forced-marriage-stoning-the-taliban-and-murder-gangs-the-refugees-figh.116829552>

#### **Glasgow event hears of “dire” refugee situation**

<http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/tfn-news/social-justice-and-poverty/glasgow-event-hears-of-dire-refugee-situation>

#### **UK rejects visa plea for five-year-old's funeral**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/jan/20/uk-rejects-visa-plea-five-year-old-granddaughter-funeral-zimbabwe>

#### **Andrea Gada's parents write to PM after funeral visa plea is rejected**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/jan/20/andrea-gada-parents-write-cameron-funeral-visa-plea-rejected>

#### **Grieving relatives of Andrea Gada shocked by UK visa refusal**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/jan/21/relatives-andrea-gada-shocked-visa-refusal>

#### **What kind of country keeps out grieving relatives because they are poor?**

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/jan/21/uk-grieving-relatives-andrea-gada-grandparents-visa>

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## Community Relations

### Press Release

#### **Muslim Council of Britain Letter to Secretary of State for Communities & Local Government**

<http://www.mcb.org.uk/lettertosscld/>

## **Community Relations** (continued) **News**

### **PM takes aim at Muslim chiefs over British values**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4328237.ece>

### **Umunna loses his cool over open letter to imams**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4327729.ece>

### **Cameron tells UK's top Muslim group it 'really has a problem'**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4327574.ece>

### **Identity Check**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/opinion/leaders/article4328085.ece>

### **Government tells mosques: force out the preachers of hate**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/11354089/Government-tells-Mosques-force-out-the-preachers-of-hate.html>

### **Britain's Muslims are only being asked to help**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/11356146/Britains-Muslims-are-only-being-asked-to-help.html>

### **Cameron backs Pickles' letter to Muslim leaders**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/jan/19/david-cameron-backs-eric-pickles-letter-muslim-leaders>

### **Muslim Council of Britain objects to Pickles letter to Islamic leaders**

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2015/jan/19/uk-muslim-council-objections-eric-pickles-letter>

### **Muslims will speak up for British values only when they know they will be heard**

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jan/24/sayeeda-warsi-muslims-british-values>

### **Dear Eric Pickles – why single out Islam for this patronising treatment?**

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/jan/20/eric-pickles-why-single-out-islam-patronising-treatment>

### **David Cameron says anyone criticising Eric Pickles' letter to Muslims 'really has a problem'**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/david-cameron-says-anyone-criticising-eric-pickles-letter-to-muslims-really-has-a-problem-9987397.html>

### **Government accused of acting like 'far right' as Eric Pickles says Muslims have 'more work to do'**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/government-accused-of-acting-like-far-right-as-eric-pickles-says-muslims-have-more-work-to-do-9986996.html>

### **British Muslim leaders outraged after Eric Pickles says followers of Islam should 'prove their identity'**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/uk-muslim-leaders-outraged-after-eric-pickles-says-followers-of-islam-should-prove-their-identity-9988795.html>

### **Government 'suspicious of Muslims'**

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/government-suspicious-of-muslims-1.805711>



## Community Relations

### News (continued)

**Baroness Warsi says Government is not doing enough to reduce 'trust deficit' with Muslims**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/the-government-not-doing-enough-to-reduce-trust-deficit-with-muslims-says-baroness-warsi-10000949.html>

**UK plea to imams to fight extremism draws charge of Islamophobia**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-2916592/Language-UK-plea-imams-fight-radicalism-angers-Muslims.html>

**Letter to Mosques from Eric Pickles MP Not An Issue, Though Greater Face to Face Engagement With Key Activists Needed**

<http://tellmamauk.org/statement-from-tell-mama-director-fiyaz-mughal-on-letter-by-rt-hon-eric-pickles-mp/>

**Government has become 'suspicious of Muslims', fuelling a lack of trust, warns ex-Cabinet minister Baroness Warsi**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2925255/Government-suspicious-Muslims.html>

**Language of UK plea to imams to fight radicalism angers some Muslims**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-2916544/Language-UK-plea-imams-fight-radicalism-angers-Muslims.html>

**Jewish Museum in London spreads the love with crowd-sourced exhibition**

<http://www.theguardian.com/culture/2015/jan/23/jewish-museum-kings-college-love-exhibition>

**Dundee bus spreads Muslim message of peace**

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/local/dundee/dundee-bus-spreads-muslim-message-of-peace-1.798804>

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## Equality

### UK Parliament Questions

#### **New Businesses: Government Assistance**

**Rehman Chishti** [220513] To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, how many and what proportion of start-up loans have been taken up by black and minority ethnic people in the last five years.

**Reply from Matthew Hancock:** As of 31st December 2014, 6,351 start-up loans with a value of £34.8 million have been drawn down by black and minority ethnic people. This equates to 25% of the total lent under the programme.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-01-13/220513/>

#### **Higher Education: Admissions**

**Dan Jarvis** [220852] To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, (a) how many and (b) what proportion of successful applications to UK universities were made by British people from BME communities in each year since 2010.

**Reply from Greg Clark:** The latest available figures are shown in the table. The figures for 2014 entry will be published by UCAS on January 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Equality

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

#### Accepted applicants from the UK to full-time undergraduate courses in the UK, by ethnic group

	Year of entry							
	2010		2011		2012		2013	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
Total	424,634	100.0	431,235	100.0	407,391	100.0	434,690	100.0
of which:								
White	331,491	78.1	333,198	77.3	308,545	75.7	328,625	75.6
Black	27,162	6.4	29,688	6.9	30,794	7.6	32,485	7.5
Asian	40,737	9.6	43,211	10.0	42,561	10.4	45,665	10.5
Mixed	14,185	3.3	15,494	3.6	14,821	3.6	16,255	3.7
Other	4,419	1.0	4,709	1.1	5,901	1.4	6,195	1.4
Unknown	6,640	1.6	4,935	1.1	4,769	1.2	5,460	1.3

Source: UCAS

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-01-14/220852/>

#### Pupils: Travellers

**Baroness Whitaker** [HL4157] To ask Her Majesty's Government, in the light of the report by the National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups, *Civil Society Monitoring on the Implementation of the National Roma Integration Strategy in the United Kingdom in 2012 and 2013*, and the report *Overcoming barriers* by Ofsted, what plans they have to encourage local authorities to appoint leaders to drive forward strategies to improve outcomes for Roma school students.

**Reply from Lord Nash:** Local authorities have an important role to play in promoting better outcomes for Roma pupils. They are best placed to determine how to organise their local arrangements to support these pupils and should consider issues highlighted in the reports referred to by the noble Lady.

To support local authorities, the Department for Education funded two local authorities to trial a 'virtual headteacher' for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils, with responsibility for supporting schools to promote better outcomes for this group. The effective practice identified has been circulated to every local authority. The Department will work with its Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Education Stakeholder Group, chaired by the noble Lady, to discuss ways for all the parties to encourage local action to improve provision and pupils' outcomes.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-01-14/HL4157/>

## News

**Bridging the gap – school attainment to be focus for Scottish Parliament Education Committee**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/newsandmediacentre/85406.aspx>

**Home Office u-turn allows Sikh solicitors to wear Kirpan in detention centres**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/home-office-u-turn-allows-sikh-solicitors-to-wear-kirpan-in-detention-centres.116657613>

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# Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

## Scottish Parliament Motions

**S4M-12103 Hanzala Malik: Racism on the Rise in Glasgow's Schools**—That the Parliament notes with sadness reports of a drastic rise in the number of racially-motivated assaults in Glasgow's schools, with figures from Glasgow City Council suggesting that these have more than doubled in recent years; notes that 46 attacks were recorded in 2014, compared with 18 in 2010, which represents a 115% increase, further notes that the overall number of racist incidents in Glasgow schools has also gone up from 128 to 145 in the same time period, with incidents including physical assaults, verbal abuse and the ridiculing of pupils because of cultural differences; understands that Mr Jatin Haria, the executive director of the Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights, has stated that, as many racist incidents are not recorded, the real figure might be much greater; believes that such incidents happen not only in Glasgow, but across Scotland; finds this latest news both concerning and worrying, and notes the view that, as it concerns the children of Scotland, this matter must be addressed immediately.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-12103&ResultsPerPage=10>

**S4M-12100 John Mason: Anti-Semitism**—That the Parliament expresses its concern regarding the recent rise in anti-Semitism across Europe and considers that this antipathy toward Europe's Jewish community has sadly been a recurrent theme for hundreds of years; notes Scotland's traditionally positive relationship with its Jewish population; strongly asserts Scotland's warm desire that Jewish people living in Scotland should feel safe, completely at home and a key part of the multicultural Scottish community, and believes that Jews, Muslims, Christians, people of other religions and people of no religion should all be treated equally and should all be able to live here free from the threat of violence or other discrimination.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-12100&ResultsPerPage=10>

## UK Parliament Questions

### Crime

**Rehman Chishti** [220512] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many convictions for racially or religiously aggravated offences there were in each of the last 10 years.

**Reply from Mike Penning:** These are despicable crimes that devastate lives and communities. Hate crimes are not acceptable and the courts hand out tougher punishments where race or religion are found to be aggravating factors.

The number of offenders found guilty at all courts for racially and religiously aggravated offences, in England and Wales, from 2004 to 2013 (the latest available) can be viewed in the attached table.

<b>Offenders found guilty at all courts for racially or religiously aggravated offences, England and Wales, 2004-2013<sup>(1)(2)(3)(4)</sup></b>											
Offence	Outcome	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Racially or religiously aggravated offences <sup>(5)</sup>	Proceeded against	6,379	7,065	8,315	8,966	8,991	9,776	10,628	9,586	8,881	8,576
	Found Guilty	3,512	4,160	5,166	5,949	6,165	6,662	7,246	6,736	6,450	6,229

(1) The figures given in the table on court proceedings relate to persons for whom these offences were the principal offences for which they were dealt with. When a defendant has been found guilty of two or more offences it is the offence for which the heaviest penalty is imposed. Where the same disposal is imposed for two or more offences, the offence selected is the offence for which the statutory maximum penalty is the most severe.

# Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

## UK Parliament Questions (continued)

(2) Every effort is made to ensure that the figures presented are accurate and complete. However, it is important to note that these data have been extracted from large administrative data systems generated by the courts and police forces. As a consequence, care should be taken to ensure data collection processes and their inevitable limitations are taken into account when those data are used.

(4) Defendants proceeded against in one year may not have their final "case outcome" (i.e. found guilty or acquitted) in the same year (e.g. case may be committed for trial at the Crown Court ).

(4) Offences used

29(1)(a) & (2) Racially aggravated wounding or grievous bodily harm - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

29(1)(b) & (2) Racially aggravated assault or assault occasioning actual bodily harm - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

29(1)(c) & (3) Racially aggravated common assault - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

29(1)(c) & (3) Racially aggravated assault by beating - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

31(1)(b) & (4) Racially aggravated intentional harassment - writing - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

31(1)(c) & (5) Racially aggravated harassment - writing - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

32(1)(a) & (3) Racially aggravated harassment (non-violence) - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

32(1)(b) & (4) Racially aggravated harassment/putting another in fear of violence - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

30(1) & (2) Other criminal damage (racially aggravated) - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

S.4 Racially aggravated fear or provocation of violence - Public Order Act 1986 as amended by Crime & Disorder Act 1998

S.20 Religiously aggravated malicious wounding or GBH - Offences Against the Person Act 1861

S.47 Religiously aggravated ABH - Offences Against the Person Act 1861

Religiously aggravated common assault - Common law

S.4A Religiously aggravated causing intentional harassment alarm or distress - Public Order Act 1986

S.2 Religiously aggravated offence of harassment - Protection from Harassment Act 1997

S.1(1) Religiously aggravated other criminal damage - Criminal Damage Act 1971

S.5 Religiously aggravated harassment, alarm or distress - Public Order Act 1986 as amended by Crime & Disorder Act 1998

S.4 Religiously aggravated fear or provocation of violence - Public Order Act 1986 as amended by Crime & Disorder Act 1998

S.31(1)(b) & (4) Racially or religiously aggravated intentional harassment or alarm or distress – words or writing - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

S.32(1)(a) & (4) Racially or religiously aggravated stalking without violence - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

S.29(1)(c) & (3) Racially or religiously aggravated common assault or beating - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

S.32(1)(b) & (4) Racially or religiously aggravated stalking with fear of violence - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

S.29(1)(a) & (2) Racially or religiously aggravated wounding or grievous bodily harm - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

S.29(1)(b) & (2) Racially or religiously aggravated assault occasioning actual bodily harm - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

S.30(1) & (2) Racially or religiously aggravated criminal damage - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

S.31(1)(a) & (4) Racially or religiously aggravated fear or provocation of violence – words or writing - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

S.31(1)(c) & (4) Racially or religiously aggravated harassment or alarm or distress – words or writing - Crime & Disorder Act 1998

S.20 Racially or religiously aggravated malicious wounding or GBH - Offences Against the Person Act 1861

S.47 Racially or religiously aggravated ABH - Offences Against the Person Act 1861

Racially or religiously aggravated common assault - Common Law

# Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

## UK Parliament Questions (continued)

S.4A Racially or religiously aggravated intentional harassment, alarm or distress - Public Order Act 1986

S.2 Racially or religiously aggravated offence of harassment - Protection from Harassment Act 1997

S.4 Racially or religiously aggravated putting people in fear of violence - Protection from Harassment Act 1997

S.1(1) Racially or religiously aggravated other criminal damage - Criminal Damage Act 1971

S.5 Racially or religiously aggravated harassment, alarm or distress - Public Order Act 1986 as amended by Crime & Disorder Act 1998

S.4 Racially or religiously aggravated putting people in fear of violence - Protection from Harassment Act 1997

S.4 Racially or religiously aggravated fear or provocation of violence - Public Order Act 1986 as amended by Crime & Disorder Act 1998

Source: Justice Statistics Analytical Services - Ministry of Justice.

PQ 220512 Table

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-01-13/220512/>

### Religious Hatred

**Dan Jarvis** [221306] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to reduce the incidence of hate crimes against religious minorities.

**Reply from Lynne Featherstone:** The UK Government takes all forms of hate crime very seriously. We deplore all religious and racially motivated attacks.

The Government's action plan on hate crime brings together the activities of government departments, who work with local agencies, voluntary organisations and the independent advisory group to meet three main objectives:

- preventing hate crime happening by challenging the attitudes and behaviours that foster hatred, and encouraging early intervention to reduce the risk of incidents escalating;
- increasing the reporting of hate crime that occurs by building victims' confidence to come forward and seek justice, and working with partners at national and local level to ensure the right support is available when they do;
- working with the agencies that make up the criminal justice system to improve the operational response to hate crime. We want a more effective end-to-end process, with agencies identifying hate crimes early, managing cases jointly and dealing with offenders robustly.

The progress report that was published in May last year provides both an overview of achievements and case study examples, which demonstrate how work is being carried out locally. It also highlights areas that have evolved since the action plan was launched, and what is being done to deal with risks that have emerged. The report has previously been placed in the House of Commons Library.

It is vital that the police engage effectively with communities and respond to increases in hate crime. Police forces in England, Wales and Northern Ireland were issued with guidance in 2014 on dealing with hate crimes, which includes advice on responding to incidents and how to monitor and deal with community tensions.

We are encouraging anyone who is a victim of a hate crime or subject to religion or race-related abuse or attack to report the incident to the police, so that the offenders can be dealt with appropriately.

We have also worked with organisations, including Show Racism the Red Card, the Anne Frank Trust and the Jewish Museum to raise awareness of prejudice

## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

with children and young people, to prevent hate crime from happening in the first place.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-01-20/221306/>

#### Religious Hatred

**Rehman Chishti** [220514] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what recent steps the Government has taken to tackle Islamophobia.

**Reply from Stephen Williams:** This Government has done more than any other to tackle anti-Muslim hatred which includes:

setting up the first ever cross-government working group on anti-Muslim Hatred;

provided start-up funding to the Tell MAMA initiative to record incidents and support victims of anti-Muslim hatred;

establishing a UK Srebrenica Memorial Day which recognises the fatal consequences of hatred and division;

running social media workshops to build the capacity of community organisations to use social media effectively;

holding 8 integration roadshows with communities to find out what more Government can do to integrate communities and tackle anti-Muslim hatred;

following the attacks in Paris, the my rt. hon. Friend, the Secretary of State (Eric Pickles) and my hon. Friend, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, the Noble Lord Ahmad wrote on 16 January to mosques across England reassuring them of Government help if they experience anti-Muslim hatred;

the Department has also assured faith and community leaders of its support to their commendable efforts to foster mutual understanding and shared respect and is also in close contact with the Police who are reassuring communities and providing protective security advice and guidance.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-01-13/220514/>

#### Antisemitism

*The following three questions all received the same answer.*

**Alan Duncan** [221246] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the number of anti-Semitic assaults recorded in England since October 2014.

**Alan Duncan** [221247] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what statistical information her Department has used to establish the extent of, and any recent trends in, crimes against Jewish victims in England since October 2014.

**Alan Duncan** [221248] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many crimes of each category were perpetrated against Jewish people and recorded as being anti-Semitic in each police force area in each month since January 2014.

**Lynne Featherstone:** The Home Office does not hold the requested information. The Home Office do receive data on hate crimes recorded by the police in England and Wales for the five centrally monitored strands (race, religion, sexual orientation,

disability and gender identity) but these data cannot be broken down by religion of the victim. The most recently available data relate to the financial year 2013/14 and can be found at this link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/hate-crimes-england-and-wales-2013-to-2014>

The Association of Chief Police Officers also publishes data on hate crimes for England, Wales and Northern Ireland. These figures separate out the number of

# Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

## UK Parliament Questions (continued)

crimes that were anti-Semitic. Data for 2013/14 can be found at this link:

[http://www.report-it.org.uk/files/acpo\\_recorded\\_hate\\_crime\\_201314\\_as\\_posted.pdf](http://www.report-it.org.uk/files/acpo_recorded_hate_crime_201314_as_posted.pdf)

The Home Office uses a range of additional sources of information from stakeholders in assessing hate crime, including information on anti-Semitic hate crime from the Community Security Trust.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-01-19/221246/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-01-19/221247/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-01-19/221248/>

## News

### **Race attack shame of Glasgow schools**

<http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/race-attack-shame-of-glasgow-schools-194777n.116322199>

### **Former pupil: racist bullies ripped Hijab from my head**

<http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/former-pupil-racist-bullies-ripped-hijab-from-my-head-194744n.116323357>

### **Holocaust Memorial Day: Anne Frank Trust encourages pupils to discuss prejudice and discrimination**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/schools/holocaust-memorial-day-anne-frank-trust-encourages-pupils-to-discuss-prejudice-and-discrimination-9993726.html?origin=internalSearch>

### **Racism against Jews rings alarm bells**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/allan-massie-racism-against-jews-rings-alarm-bells-1-3667673>

### **Surge in hate crime against Jews in Glasgow is "unprecedented", according to religious leaders**

<http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/surge-in-hate-crime-against-jews-in-glasgow-is-unprecedented-according-195372n.116762147>

### **Redouble efforts to wipe out anti-Semitism - May**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/redouble-efforts-to-wipe-out-anti-semitism-may-1-3665210>

### **Theresa May says 'without its Jews Britain would not be Britain**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/theresa-may-says-without-its-jews-britain-would-not-be-britain-9986078.html?origin=internalSearch>

### **Theresa May pledges extra police patrols to counter antisemitism threat**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/jan/18/theresa-may-pledges-extra-police-patrols-counter-antisemitism-threat>

### **Anti-Semitism: the old disease has found new hosts**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/11365257/Anti-Semitism-the-old-disease-has-found-new-hosts.html>

# Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

## News (continued)

**UK politicians must beware of 'familiar antisemitic' attacks, Labour warns**

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2015/jan/21/uk-politicians-beware-familiar-antisemitic-attacks-labour>

**Antisemitism fears grow in UK's Jewish communities after Paris shootings**

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jan/19/antisemitism-fears-grow-uk-jewish-communities>

**Just how antisemitic is Britain?**

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/jan/19/antisemitic-britain-jewish-experience-1930s>

**Hate attacks on Jews soared 94% last year, police figures show**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/crime/11360772/Hate-attacks-on-Jews-soared-94-last-year-police-figures-show.html>

**BBC's Danny Cohen on rise of anti-Semitic attacks: 'Old abuse has found a new home on the internet'**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/tvandradio/bbc/11356022/BBCs-Danny-Cohen-on-rise-of-anti-Semitic-attacks-Old-abuse-has-found-a-new-home-on-the-internet.html>

**British Jews are thriving, but our concerns are serious**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/11353918/British-Jews-are-thriving-but-our-concerns-are-serious.html>

**British Jews are scared to go to the shops after Paris attacks, says former Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/british-jews-are-scared-to-go-to-the-shops-says-former-chief-rabbi-lord-sacks-9986294.html?origin=internalSearch>

**Security stepped up at Jewish primary school after pupils reveal they are being threatened in the streets**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2918810/Security-stepped-Jewish-primary-school-pupils-threatened.html>

**British Muslim school children suffering a backlash of abuse following Paris attacks**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/british-muslim-school-children-suffering-a-backlash-of-abuse-following-paris-attacks-9999393.html>

**'Islam must die' and swastika sprayed on walls of University of Birmingham and mosque**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/islam-must-die-and-swastika-graffiti-daubed-on-walls-of-university-of-birmingham-and-mosque-9987568.html?origin=internalSearch>

**'Don't ban gypsies from Green Belt, it contravenes their human rights'**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/11361542/Ministers-lose-automatic-ban-on-gypsies-building-on-Green-Belt.html>

**Eric Pickles illegally discriminating against Gypsies and Travellers, the High Court rules**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/eric-pickles-illegally-discriminating-against-gypsies-and-travellers-the-high-court-rules-9993154.html>



## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### News (continued)

**Argos branded racist for selling white dolls for £10 more than black and Asian ones**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/newsbysector/retailandconsumer/11361922/Argos-branded-racist-for-selling-white-dolls-for-10-more-than-black-and-Asian-ones.html>

**Bin the Bigotry**

<https://www.actiononsectarianism.info/home-news-slide/bin-the-bigotry-2>

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## Scottish Devolution

### Scottish Parliament Devolution (Further Powers) Committee

**Smith Agreement (Civic Organisations)**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9729&i=89112>

### UK Parliament Statement and Questions

#### Draft Scotland Clauses

**The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Scotland (David Mundell):** ... The draft clauses published today deliver a substantial package of new powers to the Scottish Parliament. We are publishing ahead of the Burns night deadline, demonstrating the Government's commitment to honouring the vow made to the people of Scotland during the referendum and meeting the timetable we set out during the referendum to deliver further powers to Scotland.

The referendum on independence on 18 September 2014 saw Scotland vote decisively to remain within our United Kingdom family of nations, retaining the strength, security and stability of being part of the UK. But the Scottish people did not vote for no change. During the referendum campaign, the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, made a joint commitment to deliver more powers to the Scottish Parliament.

The Smith commission, chaired by Lord Smith of Kelvin, was the result of that commitment. All five main parties in Scotland came to the table and reached agreement on the proposals for further devolution to Scotland within the United Kingdom. The Government welcomed the fact that this was the first time that all of Scotland's main parties had taken part in a process to decide the future of devolution. This landmark agreement was signed by all five parties. I am grateful to Lord Smith and the members of the commission for their work.

The commission's heads of agreement were published on 27 November and the Government committed to bring forward draft clauses to implement the agreement by Burns night, 25 January. This was a challenging timetable, but, by publishing a Command Paper and draft clauses today, I am pleased to say that the Government have delivered on their commitment in advance of that deadline.

The clauses published today will make it possible quickly to translate the Smith commission agreement into law at the beginning of the next Parliament. The draft clauses provide for an already powerful Scottish Parliament to become further empowered and more accountable to those who elect it. As a result, the Scottish Parliament will become one of the most powerful devolved Parliaments in the world. ...

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

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201415/cmhansrd/cm150122/debtext/150122-0001.htm#15012261000004>

## **Scottish Devolution** (continued) **Scottish Government Press Releases**

**Devolution plans must be the beginning not the end of empowering the parliament**  
<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Devolution-plans-must-be-the-beginning-not-the-end-of-empowering-the-parliament-14ae.aspx>

**Smith recommendations must be delivered in full**  
<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Smith-recommendations-must-be-delivered-in-full-14d2.aspx>

**Smith clauses give Westminster veto in key areas**  
<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Smith-clauses-give-Westminster-veto-in-key-areas-14d4.aspx>

**Demand for urgent rethink of 12 vetoes**  
<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Demand-for-urgent-rethink-of-12-vetoes-14e9.aspx>

## **UK Government Press Releases**

**Scottish Parliament new powers: David Cameron speech**  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/scottish-parliament-new-powers-david-cameron-speech>

**All-party promise of new powers for Scotland delivered**  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-party-promise-of-new-powers-for-scotland-delivered>

**More powers for Scotland - what happens next?**  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/more-powers-for-scotland-what-happens-next>

**5 reasons why Scotland is more powerful as part of the United Kingdom**  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/5-reasons-why-scotland-is-more-powerful-as-part-of-the-united-kingdom>

## **Scottish Parliament New Publication**

**Scottish Parliament Information Centre briefing: The Smith Commission's Welfare Proposals**  
[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S4/SB\\_15-07\\_The\\_Smith\\_Commission\\_Welfare\\_Proposals.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S4/SB_15-07_The_Smith_Commission_Welfare_Proposals.pdf)

## **UK Government New Publication**

**Scotland in the United Kingdom: An enduring settlement**  
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/397079/Scotland\\_EnduringSettlement\\_acc.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/397079/Scotland_EnduringSettlement_acc.pdf)

## **News**

**New Scottish Parliament powers plan published**  
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-30915457>

## Scottish Devolution

### News (continued)

#### **New powers for Holyrood: The main points**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/new-powers-for-holyrood-the-main-points-1-3669417>

#### **Six new powers destined for the Scottish Parliament**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-30931873>

#### **Nicola Sturgeon: Proposals fall short of PM's boast**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/nicola-sturgeon-proposals-fall-short-of-pm-s-boast-1-3669406>

#### **Michael Moore: The Smith Commission has delivered**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/michael-moore-the-smith-commission-has-delivered-1-3669408>

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## Other Scottish Parliament and Government

### Parliamentary Motions

**S4M-12148 Stewart Maxwell: Crackdown against Creationism**—That the Parliament congratulates South Lanarkshire Council on taking decisive action to prevent the teaching of creationism in schools by introducing new guidance; condemns any promotion of creationism in publicly funded schools, including the reported distribution of creationist books at Kirktonholme Primary School; believes that creationism should not be presented as a scientific theory and viable alternative to the established theory of evolution, and supports the Society of Biology and the Scottish Secular Society position in opposing the teaching of creationism in the classroom.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-12148&ResultsPerPage=10>

**S4M-12149 John Mason: Creationism and Evolution**—That the Parliament notes that South Lanarkshire Council has issued guidance concerning the appointment and input of chaplains and religious organisations in schools; understands that some people believe that God created the world in six days, some people believe that God created the world over a longer period of time and some people believe that the world came about without anyone creating it; considers that none of these positions can be proved or disproved by science and all are valid beliefs for people to hold, and further considers that children in Scotland's schools should be aware of all of these different belief systems.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-12149&ResultsPerPage=10>

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## Other UK Parliament and Government

### Press Release

#### **UK Government to fast-track Holyrood votes for 16 & 17 year olds**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-to-fast-track-holyrood-votes-for-16-17-year-olds>

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

**Men as Change Agents for Gender Equality: Report on Policy Seminar June 2014**

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/396933/Report\\_on\\_Men\\_as\\_Agents\\_for\\_Change\\_in\\_Gender\\_Equality.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/396933/Report_on_Men_as_Agents_for_Change_in_Gender_Equality.pdf)

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## New Publications

**Developing Successful Site Provision for Scotland's Gypsy/Traveller Communities**

[http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/publication\\_pdf/Successful%20Site%20Provision%20Scotland.pdf](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/publication_pdf/Successful%20Site%20Provision%20Scotland.pdf)

**Co-producing Knowledge with below the radar communities: Factionalism, Commodification or Partnership? A Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Case Study**

<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/generic/tsrc/documents/tsrc/discussion-papers/2015/GTR-discussion-paper-g-ryder-research-co-production-case-study.pdf>

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## Other News

**Call to improve provision of sites for travellers**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-30871732>

**Traveller site creation urged**

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/scotland/traveller-site-creation-urged-1.794699>

**Traveller site creation urged**

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/traveller-site-creation-urged.116396209>

**Dundee launches electoral registration app for mobiles**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-tayside-central-30881933>

**Taxpayers must not fund halal abattoir, say vets**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/life/food/article4333133.ece>

**Fury over plans to use taxpayers' money to fund halal abattoir that refuses to stun its animals before killing them**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2924541/Fury-plans-use-taxpayers-money-fund-halal-abattoir-refuses-stun-animals-killing-them.html>

**Doctor 'performed FGM on new mother in hospital'**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-30886077>

**'Female genital mutilation in NHS hospital'**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/health/female-genital-mutilation-in-nhs-hospital-1-3666386>

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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>

Health and Sport Committee, Stage 1 evidence session

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=9736&i=89211>

#### **Community Empowerment Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/77926.aspx>

#### **Criminal Justice Bill**

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

#### **Human Trafficking and Exploitation Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/84356.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>

#### **\*\* Counter-Terrorism and Security Bill 2014-15**

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

Committee Stage, House of Lords

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201415/ldhansrd/text/150120-0001.htm#15012050000506>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201415/ldhansrd/text/150120-0003.htm#15012072000265>

Proposed amendments

[http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2014-2015/0075/amend/ml075-I\(Rev\).htm](http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2014-2015/0075/amend/ml075-I(Rev).htm)

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2014-2015/0075/amend/su075-I-rev-a.htm>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2014-2015/0075/amend/ml075-II.htm>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2014-2015/0075/amend/su075-II-a.htm>

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

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

## Bills in Progress

### UK Parliament (continued)

#### 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!*

**Connecting Scotland - how the Scottish Government and its agencies engage internationally** (closing date 30 January 2015)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/84816.aspx>

\*\* **Constitutional implications of draft Scotland clauses** (closing date 19 February 2015)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/political-and-constitutional-reform-committee/inquiries/parliament-2010/draft-scotland-clauses-inquiry/>

**Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Bill** (closing date 24 February 2015)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/85581.aspx>

\*\* **Educational attainment gap** (closing date 7 March 2015)

<http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ParentsSurvey>

\*\* **Age and Social Isolation** (closing date 13 March 2015)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/85810.aspx>

\*\* **Proposed Bill Relating to Burial and Cremation and Other Related Matters in Scotland** (closing date 24 April 2015)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0046/00468846.pdf>

**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>

**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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## Funding Opportunities

\*\* new or updated this week

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

### **Postcode Community Trust Community Grants Programme**

*closing date for applications: 30 January 2015*

Grants of between £500 and £20,000 for charities and community groups that support environmental protection, community development, engagement in sport, advancement of health, promotion of human rights and prevention of poverty. For information see <http://www.postcodecommunitytrust.org.uk/community-grants.htm>

### **SCVO Digital Challenge Fund**

*Closing date for applications: 13 February 2015*

Grants of between £200 and £10,000 to enable groups and organisations to digitise content, build digital networks and improve the digital skills of their members, so that they can continue to thrive in the digital world. For information see <http://digital.scvo.org.uk/challenge/>

### **Volunteering Support Grant**

*Closing date for applications: 27 February 2015*

The Volunteering Support Grant offers funding to third sector organisations to create new or enhanced volunteering projects, increasing the diversity of volunteers, especially those from disadvantaged groups, and improving opportunities, skills and personal development through volunteering.

<http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/funding-and-support/volunteering-development-grants/volunteering-support-grant/>

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## Events/Conferences/Training

\*\* new or updated this week

**\*\* this week!**

### **Discrimination Law in 2015**

26 January 2015 in Glasgow

Equalities and Human Rights Commission conference to explore recent changes in employment law and equal opportunities, and their practical implications. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/lm5cgyd>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Essentials of Asylum**

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)

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

#### **Bringing women together with different religions, faiths and personal beliefs**

28 January 2015 in Glasgow (10.00 – 4.00)

The issues of religious, faith and personal beliefs can be complex, challenging, inspiring and often confusing. This Open Space event will bring women together with different faiths, religions and personal beliefs to address some of these issues in a safe and respectful environment. For information contact 0141 550 7557; to book see [http://www.wisewomen.org.uk/gwvsn\\_form1.html](http://www.wisewomen.org.uk/gwvsn_form1.html)

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

#### **As Seen Through These Eyes: A Holocaust Memorial Day Event**

30 January 2015 at the St Mungo Museum of Religious Life in Glasgow (12.30 – 2.30)

Film, followed by presentations from Ela Weissberger who used art as a means of survival in Theresienstadt, Marian Grant, credits her love of art with saving her life in the death camps, and Morag Reid, who will speak about Jane Haining. The event is free but please book in advance. For information contact [mungobookings@glasgowlife.org.uk](mailto:mungobookings@glasgowlife.org.uk) / 0141 276 1625.

#### **Supporting Refugee Women**

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>

#### **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>.

#### **Domestic Abuse and BME Women, Children, and Young People**

18 (9.30-4.30pm) & 19 (9.30-12.30pm) Feb 2015 in Edinburgh

25 (9.30-4.30pm) & 26 (9.30-12.30pm) March 2015 in Edinburgh

15 (9.30-4.30pm) & 16 (9.30-12.30pm) April 2015 in Edinburgh

13 (9.30-4.30pm) & 14 (9.30-12.30pm) May 2015 in Edinburgh

10 (9.30-4.30pm) & 11 (9.30-12.30pm) June 2015 in Edinburgh

15 (9.30-4.30pm) & 16 (9.30-12.30pm) July 2015 in Edinburgh

Shakti Women's Aid course to raise awareness and understanding of issues facing minority ethnic women, children and young people affected by domestic abuse. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/jwxqq3> or contact Ola or Mridul 0131 475 2399 / [info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk](mailto:info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk)

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

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)



## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

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>

### **\*\*Scotland, People, and Language**

20 February 2015 in Glasgow (9.00 – 1.00)

BEMIS/Gathered Together event to share experiences of actively promoting language diversity, and working with people whose first language is not English. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/qehrbu9>, or register for the event at <http://tinyurl.com/oscbmen>

### **\*\* Migration Matters Scotland**

26 February 2015 in Edinburgh 19.30 – 4.30)

COSLA event to outline learning from local engagement activities and facilitate migrant and council dialogue, showcase the new migration policy database resource, and test user preferences for the updated migration policy toolkit. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/nmv4or3>

### **\*\* Introduction to Politics in Scotland**

9 March 2015 in Glasgow (10.00 – 4.30)

CRER training course to improve understanding of Scotland's political landscape at local, Scottish and UK government level. For information see <http://www.crer.org.uk/81-front-page-articles/499-introduction-to-politics-in-scotland> or contact Nadia Rafiq [nadia@crer.org.uk](mailto:nadia@crer.org.uk)

### **\*\* Introduction to Equality in Scotland**

17 March 2015 in Glasgow (10.00 – 4.30)

CRER training course will help participants to understand key equality concepts and explore how the law protects people from discrimination. For information see <http://www.crer.org.uk/81-front-page-articles/500-introduction-to-equality-in-scotland> or contact Nadia Rafiq [nadia@crer.org.uk](mailto:nadia@crer.org.uk)

### **Working with Interpreters**

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>

### **\*\* Women in Employment: Advancing Equal Opportunities**

24 March 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 1.00)

BEMIS conference in partnership with STUC, Scottish Refugee Council, Scottish Women's Convention and GRAMNet. For more information see <http://bemis.org.uk/events/> or contact [events@bemis.org.uk](mailto:events@bemis.org.uk)

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## Useful Links

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

## Useful Links (continued)

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

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

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

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

**One Scotland** <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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