

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

Contents

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

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

Please send information for inclusion in MEMO to MEMO@scojec.org and requests to be added to circulation to mail@bemis.org.uk

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Questions

Dungavel Detention Centre (Welfare)

Sandra White: To ask the Scottish Government what discussions it has had with the United Kingdom Government about the welfare of people held at the Dungavel detention centre in light of recent protests held there. (S4T-01048)

Reply from the Minister for Housing and Welfare (Margaret Burgess): The operation of Dungavel immigration removal centre is reserved and is the responsibility of the Home Office. However, following reports of a hunger strike at Dungavel, the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Communities and Pensioners' Rights wrote to the Home Secretary on 26 March 2015 to raise his concerns about the situation and a range of other issues, including indefinite detention, living conditions and the level of contact with immigration case work. A response was received from a Home Office official, as it was during the pre-election period. That response was not satisfactory, as it did not address the points that were raised.

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

The cabinet secretary therefore wrote again to the Home Secretary on 28 May to urge her to reconsider the issues. A response to that letter has not yet been received. The cabinet secretary will advise the member and other interested parties when a response is received and will pursue the matter further if necessary.

Sandra White: ... The minister will be aware that the Scottish Trades Union Congress and political and religious leaders have asked to meet detainees; in fact, they have written to Dungavel, as well. Although the manager was willing to facilitate that, the Home Office refused the request, which caused great concern—the minister raised that in her answer. Will the minister raise the fact—perhaps when she has looked at the reply when it has come—that those groups cannot gain access to the detainees in Dungavel, and will she pressurise the Home Office or whichever officer is available there to ensure that they gain access to the detainees?

Reply from Margaret Burgess: I very much agree with the member. The Scottish Government very much supports those groups getting access to the facilities at Dungavel and talking to those who are detained there. That was one of the issues that the cabinet secretary raised in his letter. He pointed out that the delegation had asked for permission to meet the detainees and urged that permission be granted for the visit. Permission was refused in the letter that he received back from the Home Office official, as the member rightly said. The official said that, under normal circumstances, access to immigration removal is limited to organisations exercising statutory duties, social and legal visitors, and other visitor groups. That is not satisfactory. In the letter of 28 May, the cabinet secretary again urged the Home Secretary to reconsider her decision and to allow permission to those groups to enter Dungavel.

Sandra White: That is very encouraging. The minister talks about statutory duties. To my mind, any group, religious or otherwise, that goes to look after the welfare of detainees is carrying out a statutory duty. I look forward to that answer.

The minister will probably be aware that the United Kingdom is the only country in the European Union that detains people indefinitely. Will her department therefore support the recommendation of the Westminster all-party parliamentary groups on refugees and migration that there should be a time limit of 28 days for anyone to be held in detention? Does she agree with the 500 people, myself included, who demonstrated on Saturday because Dungavel is no fit place to detain anyone?

Reply from Margaret Burgess: I very much agree that Dungavel is not a fit place to detain anyone, and I support the 500 people who demonstrated on Saturday. I appreciate that Sandra White has long campaigned against Dungavel.

The Scottish Government is deeply concerned about the indefinite length of time for which people can be detained in Dungavel, and we absolutely understand that that causes anxiety, stress, fear and health issues for people who are simply exercising their right to seek a place of safety in which they are free from persecution.

The Scottish Government supports the recent recommendation of the all-party parliamentary groups on refugees and migration that there should be a time limit of 28 days on the length of time that anyone can be held in immigration detention, and we believe that the presumption should be in favour of community-based resolutions and against detention. Again, the cabinet secretary raised that issue in his letter to the Home Secretary.

Linda Fabiani: As the minister said, representatives of the Scottish Parliament have been refused any information at all about Dungavel for many years, even though it sits in Scotland. Is she aware of any local service involvement, for example by NHS Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire Council or Police Scotland, in relation to the state of

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

health and wellbeing of those who are held at Dungavel?

Reply from Margaret Burgess: The member makes a very good point. She illustrates very clearly that we have a situation in Scotland that is not in the control or the power of the Scottish Government. Therefore, it is almost isolated with its own rules and regulations that are not those of the Government.

We have been told that health services are provided but are commissioned by the Home Office. There is no direct link with the Scottish Government; any commission of service is simply between the Home Office and the service provider. Linda Fabiani will probably be aware of that. It is a situation that is not satisfactory and I know that it is one that she has campaigned on for some time. We can raise the issue again with the Home Office, but we have not had a great deal of encouraging responses on it so far.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=9987&i=91680#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Motion

S4M-13356 Anne McTaggart: Refugee Festival Scotland—That the Parliament congratulates Carmen Pieraccini on joining forces with the Scottish Refugee Council to launch a refugee festival in Scotland; notes that the festival aims to celebrate the contributions that refugees make to life in Scotland; understands that, over three weeks, more than 20 nationalities and cultures will share their way of life with communities across Scotland; further notes that the festival also celebrates the role that Scotland plays in the international community in providing shelter and safety to people fleeing persecution and human rights abuses, and believes that this festival will play an important part in helping to shift the focus away from the differences to the similarities that everyone has.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-13356&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Questions

Immigrants: English Language

Richard Burden [1] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what consultation was conducted with stakeholders affected by the reforms for delivery of approved English language qualifications for settlement and citizenship effective from November 2015; how the decision was communicated to teaching providers and learners; and whether an impact assessment was undertaken.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The possibility of changes to the English language requirement for settlement and nationality was discussed as part of the SELT procurement process. Letters announcing the change to test arrangements have been sent to a range of organisations. As this change relates to the implementation of existing policy, no formal impact assessment was required.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-05-27/1/>

Asylum: Finance

The following four questions all received the same answer

Lord Roberts of Llandudno [HL63] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Bates on 19 March 2015 (HL5545), why those listed as receiving

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

support under section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 cannot be returned to their countries of origin.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno [HL65] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they have taken to ensure that shops and outlets that are part of the Azure card scheme do not refuse to serve customers using the card.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno [HL66] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to encourage more outlets, including local shops, to sign up to the Azure card scheme.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno [HL67] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether Azure card users can apply for travel assistance (1) for medical appointments, (2) for legal appointments, and (3) to reach the closest outlet that will accept the Azure card; and, if so, how such information is provided to users.

Reply from Lord Bates: Failed asylum seekers are provided with support under section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 if they are destitute and can show that there is a temporary legal or practical obstacle that prevents them from leaving the United Kingdom voluntarily. The precise reasons why they are temporarily unable to leave vary from case to case, but examples include where they are too sick to travel and because they have been granted permission to apply for a judicial review of a decision relating to their asylum claim.

All retail outlets that accept the Azure card receive information about the rules relating to card purchases. The Home Office is aware that there are some instances where card purchases are refused, but in the great majority of cases this is simply because the person had insufficient credit on the card to purchase the items they were seeking to obtain. Reports of where the card purchase has been refused for other reasons are investigated and the matter taken up with the particular retail outlet.

Card users can apply for travel tickets to attend essential medical appointments. The cost of travel to essential appointments with legal advisers is covered through legal aid. Accommodation is provided within walking distance of shops and other services.

Information and guidance about how to apply for travel assistance is published on the GOV.UK website and it is also provided by the voluntary sector organisations that assist Azure card users, including Migrant Help, which is funded by the Home Office to provide an advice service.

Any retail outlet that provides food and other essential living items and accepts visa transactions can apply to join the Azure card scheme and talks periodically take place with new outlets that have expressed an interest in joining the scheme. However, the card is currently accepted by Tesco, Asda, Sainsbury's, Morrison's, the Co-operative, Iceland, Boots, Mothercare, The British Red Cross, The Salvation Army and a few small independent retailers. The Home Office is therefore satisfied that the card is an effective way of ensuring that the persons are able to purchase food and other necessary items to cover their essential living needs.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-05-27/HL63/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-05-27/HL65/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-05-27/HL66/>

and

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-05-27/HL67/>

Asylum: Finance

Lord Roberts of Llandudno [HL64] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many people have received support under section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 for more than (1) one year, (2) 5 years, and (3) 10 years.

Reply from Lord Bates: As of 28 May the number of people who have been in receipt of asylum support can be found in the table below:

Years in receipt of Support - Number of people

Between 1 and 5 years - 3,330

Between 5 and 10 years - 295

More than 10 Years - 0

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-05-27/HL64/>

Asylum: Employment

Lord Roberts of Llandudno [HL68] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to reduce the time asylum seekers wait to take up employment.

Reply from Lord Bates: We have no plans to reduce the time asylum seekers have to wait to take up employment.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-05-27/HL68/>

Migration: Trafficking

Lord Alton of Liverpool: To ask Her Majesty's Government what progress they and their international partners have made in deterring the trafficking of migrants and creating safe havens in North Africa and the Middle East.

Reply from the Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Baroness Anelay of St Johns): My Lords, since the extraordinary European Council in April, EU member states have agreed to establish a military CSDP operation to disrupt trafficking and smuggling networks. That is a considerable achievement, but we also need to address the root causes of that migration, so we are taking forward initiatives in source and transit countries. The regional development and protection programme in the Middle East is one model that we may be able to develop further.

Lord Alton of Liverpool: My Lords, I am grateful to the noble Baroness for that reply. Does not the news that HMS "Bulwark" rescued 741 migrants on Saturday, that more than 4,200 migrants, including young children, were rescued on Friday, that more dead bodies were added to the 1,800 corpses recovered this year, and that new people-smuggling routes are being opened to Greece, underline the scale of this human catastrophe? Against that backdrop, do the Government support the creation of safe havens? Do they support last week's calls from the European Union for relocation and resettlement plans, and how do we justify the pitiful 187 places provided in the United Kingdom against Germany's 30,000 places and Lebanon's 1.2 million? Are we any nearer to ending the causes of this exodus from hellholes such as Libya and Syria, to which the noble Baroness referred a moment ago?

Reply from Baroness Anelay of St Johns: ... There has to be no doubt that this is a human catastrophe, caused by those who are making billions out of illegal trafficking and smuggling individuals. It is important that the policies that we adopt deal, first, with the humanitarian approach, which is what "HMS Bulwark" is involved in — and, secondly, breaks that link between travelling on the boat to get

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

here and the certainty of getting settled. If we can do that, we can break the smugglers' grip on these people, for whose lives they care nothing. That is the link that we must break. So it is important to provide some humanitarian way in which to give hope to those who are travelling that they can go back, or have safety where they are in north Africa, but let them understand that there will not be settlement here. As I said on Thursday, if we offer settlement to 1,000 people, what do you say to the 1,001st person? Do you say, "No, our door is closed."? ...

Lord Marlesford: My Lords, does my noble friend agree that it is more efficient and practical to assess the claims of would-be migrants, whether on the grounds of asylum, refugee status, economic migration or merely, understandably, that of wanting a better life, before they arrive in Europe? Assessing claims and then removing those who have no valid claim is almost impossible once they have arrived in Europe, which therefore means that those who have the greatest claim do not get permission to stay. Would it not therefore be better that those who are rightly rescued from peril on the sea are returned to the mainland from which they came?

Reply from Baroness Anelay of St Johns: My Lords, it is a matter of fact that asylum claims may only be processed and granted once people have reached the United Kingdom. That is how our legislation lies. There is a danger that if one has processing areas—I hate the word "processing", but noble Lords know what I mean—for asylum across the north African shore, say, those areas would act as a magnet in persuading people to go there. The most important thing is to disrupt the smuggling and trafficking networks to get at this business model which has no moral authority.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/150601-0001.htm#1506015000376>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Stuart McDonald (72) Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre – That this House commends the protestors who gathered at Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre on 30 May 2015 to call for the closure of the centre; and agrees that the Government must pursue alternatives to detention with a view to achieving the closure of Dungavel House and other immigration removal centres.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2015-16/72>

Press Releases

Cross party steering group on post study work visa

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Cross-party-steering-group-on-post-study-work-visa-199f.aspx>

Court of Justice of the European Union: Member States may require third-country nationals with long-term resident status to pass a civic integration examination

<http://curia.europa.eu/jcms/upload/docs/application/pdf/2015-06/cp150061en.pdf>

Immigration and Asylum (continued) **New Publications**

**Severe labour exploitation: workers moving within or into the European Union
Report**

http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2015-severe-labour-exploitation_en.pdf

Annexes on criminal law provisions and inspection authorities

http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2015-severe-labour-exploitation-annexes_en.pdf

News

Research project: Intimate Migrations – lesbian, gay and bisexual migrants in Scotland

<http://intimatemigrations.net/>

There are no golden doors for the huddled masses of asylum seekers arriving in Scotland

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/real-life/sunday-mail-opinion-no-golden-5794475>

David Cameron to lead new immigration taskforce

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-32967579>

Cameron sidelines May and assumes leading role in cutting migration

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4457764.ece>

SNP urge action over Mediterranean refugee crisis

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/snp-urge-action-over-mediterranean-refugee-crisis-1-3791703>

'Holyrood will be able to attract EU migrants to Scotland by setting immigration policy that blocks Tory curbs on their rights'

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/scottish-politics/holyrood-will-be-able-to-attract-eu-migrants-to-scotland-by-setting-immig.127927526>

Scots 'need new powers' to help migrants

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article4461209.ece>

Brain tumour immigrant held after operation cancelled

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-tyne-33011785>

Migrant surge as job curb ends

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4460047.ece>

UK economy will remain a magnet

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4459854.ece>

EU migrants can be barred from claiming benefits in first three months, Advocate-General says

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/11651290/EU-migrants-can-be-barrd-from-claiming-benefits-in-first-three-months-Advocate-General-says.html>

Reopen your heart, Britain, and close Yarl's Wood

<http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/comment/regulars/guestcolumn/article1565292.ece>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Hundreds protest to demand closure of Yarl's Wood immigration centre

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/jun/06/hundreds-protest-at-yarls-wood-demand-closure>

People-traffickers drive number of stowaways arriving in UK to double

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/11652965/People-traffickers-drive-number-of-stowaways-arriving-in-UK-to-double.html>

Hundred Border Force 'unable to cope' with the influx of migrants, says former immigration chief

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/11656584/Border-Force-unable-to-cope-with-the-influx-of-migrants-says-former-immigration-chief.html>

BBC under investigation by Ofcom for airing child's comments about 'getting foreigners out'

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/bbc-under-investigation-by-ofcom-for-airing-childs-comments-about-getting-foreigners-out-10289205.html>

Britain is a 'magnet for migrants' as number of foreigners with right to work hits 820,000 including 220% rise in Romanians

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3110649/Britain-magnet-migrants-number-foreigners-right-work-hits-820-000-including-220-rise-Romanians.html>

They fled to Scotland... now refugees fear IS will target their families

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/they-fled-to-scotland-now-refugees-fear-is-will-target-their-families.1433675336>

Scotland "willing to take fair share of refugees"

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/2728_scotland_willing_to_take_fair_share_of_refugees

[TOP](#)

Community Relations

News

A story about an elderly Jewish lady and her Muslim neighbours who cared

<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/features/a-story-about-an-elderly-jewish-lady-and-her-muslim-neighbours-who-cared-10294684.html?origin=internalSearch>

Suburbia – the new melting pot

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/jun/07/diversity-ethnic-minorities-integration-britain-society>

[TOP](#)

Equality

New Publication

Ensuring Roma children achieve in education

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/430866/Overcoming_barriers - ensuring that Roma children are fully engaged and achieving in education.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/430866/Overcoming_barriers_-_ensuring_that_Roma_children_are_fully_engaged_and_achieving_in_education.pdf)

News

Kick It Out welcomes Football League's Rooney Rule proposals

<http://www.theguardian.com/football/2015/jun/05/kick-it-out-football-league-rooney-rule-nfl-bame-greg-clarke>

[TOP](#)

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Motion

S4M-13353 Mark McDonald: Bucksburn Pupils Show Racism the Red Card—That the Parliament congratulates Ryan Broad and Nathan Stockdale, pupils at Bucksburn Academy, on becoming finalists in the 2015 creative competition for Show Racism the Red Card; notes that the competition has been running for 11 years and had over 1,100 entries this year from across Scotland; further understands that the entries had to promote an anti-racism and anti-sectarian message; further notes that the pupils were invited to attend an awards ceremony at Hampden Park where they achieved third place; believes that the competition improves pupils understanding of racism and sectarianism, and hopes that the number of entrants will continue to grow in future and promote the aim of a world free of racism and sectarianism.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-13353&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Question

Football: Harassment

Yasmin Qureshi [414] To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, what steps he is taking to monitor numbers of incidents of football fans using derogatory terms for disabled people (a) at matches and (b) when travelling to and from matches.

Reply from Tracey Crouch: The 'Kick It Out' app continues to make it easy for fans to report instances of discrimination during, before or after a game. Of the 184 incidents reported to Kick It Out last season by 28 December, 118 (64%) involved alleged racist abuse, while 17% involved complaints about anti-Semitism. Kick It Out also received 15 complaints of abuse involving sexual orientation, 7 about disability, and 13 relating to sexism. The FA's Inclusion Advisory Board, chaired by Heather Rabbatts, scrutinise these statistics, and those reported directly to the FA quarterly, and report to me every 6 months, which I will monitor for positive and negative trends.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-05-28/414/>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination (continued) **News**

Top historian criticises sectarianism experts as pressure mounts on Scottish Government over parades

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/top-historian-criticises-sectarianism-experts-as-pressure-mounts-on-scottish-governme.128140519>

Central paradox at heart of disappointing report on sectarianism

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/comment/columnists/central-paradox-at-heart-of-disappointing-report-on-sectarianism.128095678>

Workplace sectarianism to be tackled at major conference

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/workplace-sectarianism-to-be-tackled-at-major-conference.127705046>

Intolerance is tearing the fabric of our society

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/opinion/columnists/article4459666.ece>

Tony Blair appointed as head of European body fighting antisemitism

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2015/jun/04/tony-blair-appointed-head-of-european-body-antisemitism>

Tony Blair unveils new role tackling anti-Semitism

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/tony-blair/11650450/Tony-Blair-unveils-new-role-tackling-religious-extremism.html>

Tony Blair takes on new role fighting anti-Semitism as chairman of European Council on Tolerance and Reconciliation

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/people/tony-blair-takes-on-new-role-fighting-antisemitism-as-chairman-of-european-council-on-tolerance-and-reconciliation-10295960.html?origin=internalSearch>

Blair gets a new job: Former PM set to take up new role as head of group fighting racism and anti-Semitism across Europe

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3110331/Blair-gets-new-job-Former-PM-set-new-role-head-group-fighting-racism-anti-Semitism-Europe.html>

Met chief admits institutional racism claims have 'some justification'

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/jun/05/met-chief-admits-institutional-racism-claims-have-some-justification>

Oxford Union condemns itself as racist over cocktail poster

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/2015/jun/01/oxford-union-racist-colonial-cocktail-poster>

Oxford Union passes motion calling itself 'institutionally racist'

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/oxford-union-passes-motion-calling-itself-institutionally-racist-10290367.html>

Bury Church of England School faces appeal on 'proxy racism' charges

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/bury-church-of-england-school-faces-appeal-on-proxy-racism-charges-10302454.html>

[**TOP**](#)

Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Equal Opportunities Committee

Inquiry into Age and Social Isolation: evidence session

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=9993&i=91748#ScotParlOR>

Press Releases

Scotland Bill changes proposed

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Scotland-Bill-changes-proposed-19ab.aspx>

Local policing summit announced

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Local-policing-summit-announced-198e.aspx>

First Minister meets SCoJeC

<https://firstminister.gov.scot/first-minister-meets-scojec/>

[TOP](#)

Other UK Parliament and Government

Press Release

5 things you might not know about Scotland's new powers

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/5-things-you-might-not-know-about-scotlands-new-powers>

[TOP](#)

New Publications

European Commission study on information to consumers on the stunning of animals

http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/welfare/slaughter/docs/fci-stunning_report.pdf

Q&A: European Commission study on information to consumers on the stunning of animals

http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/welfare/slaughter/fci-stunning_qas_en.htm

Evaluating Youth Social Action

<http://behaviouralinsights.co.uk/sites/default/files/Evaluating%20Youth%20Social%20Action%20Interim%20Report%200.pdf>

[TOP](#)

Other News

Move to tackle alarming suicide rates among Polish in Scotland

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/move-to-tackle-alarming-suicide-rates-among-polish-in-scotland.128049882>

[TOP](#)

Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

**** Assisted Suicide Bill**

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

Correction to last week's MEMO:

The Bill was defeated by 82 votes to 36 with no abstentions.

Community Empowerment Bill

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

Community Justice Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/88702.aspx>

Criminal Justice Bill

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

Education Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/87330.aspx>

Human Trafficking and Exploitation Bill

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

**** Transplantation (Authorisation of Removal of Organs etc.) Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/89893.aspx>

Bill as introduced

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/\(1\)Transplantation%20\(Authorisation%20of%20Removal%20of%20Organs%20etc.\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/b72s4-introd.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/(1)Transplantation%20(Authorisation%20of%20Removal%20of%20Organs%20etc.)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/b72s4-introd.pdf)

Explanatory Notes

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/\(1\)Transplantation%20\(Authorisation%20of%20Removal%20of%20Organs%20etc.\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/b72s4-introd-en.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/(1)Transplantation%20(Authorisation%20of%20Removal%20of%20Organs%20etc.)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/b72s4-introd-en.pdf)

Policy Memorandum

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/\(1\)Transplantation%20\(Authorisation%20of%20Removal%20of%20Organs%20etc.\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/b72s4-introd-pm.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/(1)Transplantation%20(Authorisation%20of%20Removal%20of%20Organs%20etc.)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/b72s4-introd-pm.pdf)

Delegated Powers Memorandum

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/\(1\)Transplantation%20\(Authorisation%20of%20Removal%20of%20Organs%20etc.\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/Delegated_Powers_Memorandum.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/(1)Transplantation%20(Authorisation%20of%20Removal%20of%20Organs%20etc.)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/Delegated_Powers_Memorandum.pdf)

Bills in Progress UK Parliament

**** Scotland Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2015-16/scotland.html>

Briefing Paper

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-7205/CBP-7205.pdf>

[TOP](#)

Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

The economic impact of the Tier 1 (Entrepreneur) route (closing date 12 June 2015)
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/416129/Call_for_Evidence_Tier_1_Entrepreneurs.pdf

Race, ethnicity and employment (closing date 1 July 2015)
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/89097.aspx>

Proposals for a Lobbying Transparency Bill (closing date 24 July 2015)
<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0047/00477580.pdf>

Community Justice Bill (closing date 12 August 2015)
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/89658.aspx>

EU Blue Card: recruitment of highly qualified third-country nationals (closing date 21 August 2015)
http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-is-new/public-consultation/2015/consulting_0029_en.htm

What's Changed about Being Jewish in Scotland? (no closing date given)
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JewishinScotland2015>

Discrimination in Football Survey (no closing date given)
http://efemico.eu/main_files/FARacismSurvey/FARacismSurvey.html

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>

[TOP](#)

Job Opportunities

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

[TOP](#)

Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Refugee Festival Scotland

3 to 21 June 2015, Scotland-wide

The theme for Refugee Festival Scotland 2015 is 'Celebrate'. The festival celebrates not only the contribution refugees make to the vibrancy of our communities and cultural life,

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

but also Scotland as a place that offers protection to people fleeing conflict and persecution where can rebuild their lives in safety: something we can all be proud of. For information about events during the festival see the full programme <http://tinyurl.com/qbr26t9> or contact the Scottish Refugee Council 0141 248 9799 / info@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

**** this week!**

Educator training – Equalities and Parental Involvement

9 June 2015 in Leith (4.30 – 6.30)

Gathered Together (Cruinn Còmhla) training for education professionals to enable them to improve engagement with all parents, particularly those from ethnic minorities. For information see <http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/event/equalities-and-parental-involvement/> or contact mail@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047

**** this week!**

Parent Council training - Equalities and Engagement

9 June 2015 in Leith (7.00 – 9.00)

11 June 2015 in Glenrothes (6.00 – 8.00)

16 June 2015 in Glasgow (6.00 – 8.00)

Gathered Together (Cruinn Còmhla) training for Parent Councils to enable them to engage with all the parents in their school, particularly parents from ethnic minorities. We will explore in detail equalities practice and practical steps that Parent Councils can take to promote greater participation. For information contact mail@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047 or see <http://tinyurl.com/qzd4x7a> (Leith), <http://tinyurl.com/o99sg5j> (Glenrothes), or <http://tinyurl.com/ozbjqok> (Glasgow)

**** this week!**

Khat in your community

10 June 2015 in Glasgow (10.00 – 1.00)

Fast Forward event to discuss community support opportunities and peer education approaches to tackling khat issues, alcohol and many other topics. For more information see <http://fastforward.org.uk/news/general/khat-in-your-community.html> or contact 0131 554 4300 / admin@fastforward.org.uk

**** this week!**

Diversity in Dunbartonshire

10 June 2015 in Whitecrook (11.30 – 3.00)

Isaro Social Integration Network event to celebrate the richness and vibrancy of West Dunbartonshire's communities and Scotland as a place of sanctuary for those fleeing conflict and persecutions. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/nt4os4e>

**** this week!**

Refugee Lives in Scotland: Oral Histories from the last 30 years

10 June 2015 in Glasgow (3.00 – 5.00)

To mark their 30th anniversary Scottish Refugee Council and University of Glasgow History Department begin a joint project collecting oral histories of refugees' lives in Scotland. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/nbgoazo> or contact 0141 248 9799 / info@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk /

**** this week!**

Lest We Forget: World War 1 - Refugees Then and Now

10 June 2015 in Glasgow (6.30 – 7.45)

Scottish Refugee Council event bringing together refugees and local people to discover

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

and document the heritage of the arrival, reception and experiences of Belgium refugees in Scotland during the First World War, and explore how people living in Scotland today see its legacy and impact. For information see <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lest-we-forget-world-war-1-refugees-then-and-now-tickets-16432278387>

**** this week!**

Don't Lock My Only Home

13 June 2015 in Glasgow (1.00 – 4.00)

Scottish Asylum Seekers Residents Association event to highlight some of the housing challenges asylum seekers face. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/orgbylq> or contact liviammy@yahoo.com / 07474 939 390

Domestic Abuse and BME Women, Children and Young People:

16th (9.30-4.30) & 17th (9.30-12.30) June 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://shaktiedinburgh.co.uk/events-training/> or contact Ola or Mridul 0131 475 2399 / info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk

**** Reunited in Glasgow: integration experiences of refugee families**

16 June 2015 in Glasgow (10.00 – 1.00)

British Red Cross event to present research on key integration challenges of families who have arrived in Glasgow on Family Reunion visas over the last year. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/qy9tsr6> or contact GONeill@redcross.org.uk / 0141 331 4170 / 077 2094 1013

Engaging With Westminster

18 June 2015 in Glasgow (1.00 – 4.00)

Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights workshop to increase awareness, understanding and active involvement with the UK Parliament. For information contact Nadia Rafiq 0141 418 6530 / nadia@crer.org.uk

**** Rights, Dignity, Protection & Schools**

19 June 2015 in Glasgow (10.00 – 12.00)

Glasgow Refugee, Asylum and Migration Network event for teachers and other education professionals to discuss working with unaccompanied young asylum seekers and refugees in schools and colleges, and share experiences, strategies, ideas and resources. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/qjv2jch>

Clore Social Fellowship Programme

Closing date for applications 25 June 2015

12 month full time or 24 month part time programme including, amongst other things, residential courses, coaching and mentoring, and a practice-based research project. General fellowships and specialist fellowships in migrant communities, gender equality, youth work, older people, and other areas. For information see <http://cloresocialleadership.org.uk/Fellowship-Programme>

[TOP](#)

Useful Links

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

Useful Links (continued)

Scottish Government <http://www.gov.scot/>

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

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

Volunteer Development Scotland www.vds.org.uk

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

Central Registered Body for Scotland (CRBS) 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

[TOP](#)



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



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



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/>

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