

*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

### Scottish Parliament Questions

#### Refugees

**Alison McInnes:** To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S4O-04650 by Humza Yousaf on 30 September 2015 (Official Report, c. 12), whether it has set a deadline for COSLA to have collated information on the agreed capacity of local authorities to receive refugees. (S4W-27860)

**Reply from Humza Yousaf:** COSLA is undertaking collation of the information on the agreed capacity of local authorities to receive refugees. We are working closely with COSLA and the Home Office to determine the best options for resettlement of refugees.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-27860&ResultsPerPage=10>

## Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

### Refugees

**Alison McInnes:** To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S4O-04649 by Humza Yousaf on 30 September 2015 (Official Report, c. 10), whether the minister provided the (a) Foreign Secretary or (b) minister with responsibility for Syrian refugees with an estimate of the current capacity in Scotland to receive refugees and, if so, what that estimate was. (S4W-27861)

**Reply from Humza Yousaf:** The Minister for Europe and International Development did not provide the Foreign Secretary or the minister with responsibility for Syrian refugees with an estimate of the current capacity in Scotland to receive refugees. However, he informed both ministers that there had been an overwhelmingly positive response from local authorities in Scotland.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-27861&ResultsPerPage=10>

### Refugees

**Alison McInnes:** To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S4O-04649 by Humza Yousaf on 30 September 2015 (Official Report, c. 10), whether COSLA requested that the minister withhold from parliamentary answers any estimates from local authorities of the current capacity in Scotland to receive refugees. (S4W-27862)

**Reply from Humza Yousaf:** COSLA has not requested that the Minister for Europe and International Development withholds estimates from local authorities of the current capacity in Scotland to receive refugees from parliamentary answers.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-27862&ResultsPerPage=10>

### Refugees

**Alison McInnes:** To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S4O-04649 by Humza Yousaf on 30 September 2015 (Official Report, c. 10), whether its estimate of the number of refugees that could currently be accommodated in Scotland is (a) between 1,000 and 2,000, (b) between 2,000 and 3,000 (c) between 3,000 and 5,000 or (d) more than 5,000. (S4W-27863)

**Reply from Humza Yousaf:** The Scottish Government has not made any such estimate of the number of refugees that could currently be accommodated in Scotland. The number of refugees that could be accommodated would depend on the needs of individual refugees accepted for resettlement and the types of accommodation and support services available in different local authority areas.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-27863&ResultsPerPage=10>

## UK Parliament Debates

**Asylum Support (Amendment No. 3) Regulations 2015: *Motion to Annul***

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/151027-0002.htm#15102761000523>

**Asylum Support (Amendment No. 3) Regulations 2015: *Motion to Regret***

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/151027-0002.htm#15102761000524>

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Debates (continued)

### Syrian Refugees

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/151029-0002.htm#15102957000846>

## UK Parliament Ministerial Statement

### Immigration Rules

**The Minister for Immigration (James Brokenshire):** My right hon. Friend the Home Secretary is today laying before the House a statement of changes in immigration rules. The rules are being changed to make clear the circumstances in which we can withdraw refugee status and leave. The changes clarify terminology and make clear that refugee status can be withdrawn where evidence emerges that such status was obtained by deception or where it is clear that protection is no longer needed. It can also be withdrawn where someone commits a serious crime or is considered a danger to our national security such that they do not deserve our protection and all the benefits that come with that status.

Existing provisions on the revocation of refugee status are also being extended to include those who instigate or otherwise participate in acts covered by article 1F of the refugee convention, including those who engage in extremist activities that represent a threat to our national security.

New rules are being introduced to make asylum claims from EU nationals inadmissible unless exceptional circumstances apply. Such claims are currently processed through the asylum system, which includes an interview and detailed written decision. This goes beyond our international obligations and there is provision under EU law to treat claims from EU nationals as inadmissible on the basis that member states are deemed to be safe countries. We need to do all we can to dissuade abusive claims and considering claims from EU nationals uses resources that I believe are better focused on those who genuinely need protection.

There is no right of appeal against a decision to treat a claim from an EU national as inadmissible. Claims that meet the exceptional circumstances criteria will still be considered but the onus will be on the individual to set out the reasons why their case is exceptional. Human rights issues raised through the appropriate application process will still be considered in accordance with our obligations under the Human Rights Act.

I am also implementing the changes to the English language requirements for settlement and citizenship announced in March. These changes will ensure that the same security assurances apply to English language qualifications whenever they are used in the immigration and citizenship system.

The statement also makes changes to the immigration rules on skilled work routes, administrative review and on family and private life. [HCWS276]

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm151029/wmstext/151029m0001.htm#15102949000004>

## UK Parliament Questions

### Immigration: Applications

**Kate Osamor [11575]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will take steps to clarify the administrative requirements on applicants for indefinite leave to remain (a) in general and (b) in respect of whether the date on a letter from her Department on the date on which it is received by an applicant dictates the period within which the applicant must respond.

## Immigration and Asylum

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The administrative requirements to which applicants for indefinite leave to remain are subject are set out at <https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/settle-in-the-uk>. Once the applicant has navigated to the correct application form, detailed guidance relevant to the specific application is provided. This information is reviewed regularly, with a view to ensuring it is as clear as possible. Applicants may receive letters requesting further information. Two of these specify that the information must be submitted within a given number of working days of the date of the letter, while the third does not. This is now being clarified.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-13/11575/>

#### Visas: Overseas Students

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Daniel Zeichner** [12645] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies renewal applications for the 2015-16 academic year took longer than 18 weeks for a final decision to be made by the UK Visa and Immigration Service.

**Daniel Zeichner** [12646] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average time taken by UK Visa and Immigration Service was to process Confirmations of Acceptance for Studies renewal applications for the 2015-16 academic year.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The proportion of Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) renewal applications received between 1 September 2014 and 20 October 2015, where CAS may have been assigned for study during the academic year 2015-2016, which exceeded the service standard of 18 weeks was 60 out of a total of 2259 requests.

The average time to process Confirmations of Acceptance for Studies renewal applications received between 1 September 2014 and 20 October 2015, where CAS may have been assigned for study during the academic year 2015-2016, was 32 days.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-20/12645/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-20/12646/>

#### Overseas Students: Further Education

**Daniel Zeichner** [12647] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many further education colleges used the Confirmations of Acceptance for Studies allocation system in the (a) 2008-09 and (b) 2015-16 academic year.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** In the academic year 2008-2009, no Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies were used by further education colleges, as visa letters were issued by Tier 4 sponsors at that time.

In the academic year 2015-2016, 404 further education colleges have assigned Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies since 1 September 2015.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-20/12647/>

#### Migrant Workers: Nurses

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno** [HL2615] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will reconsider their proposal that nurses who are not United Kingdom citizens be

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

deported if they are not earning £35,000 per annum after five years in the United Kingdom.

**Reply from Lord Bates:** In 2012, the Government introduced new rules to break the link between coming to the UK to work and settling permanently. Under these rules, which take effect from 6 April 2016, non-EEA workers will need to earn at least £35,000 to remain permanently, in order to ensure that those who settle are those who make the greatest economic contribution to the United Kingdom. Those in PhD level occupations or whose roles are in shortage will be exempt from the £35,000 threshold. Workers who do not meet the settlement rules after six years will be expected to leave the UK when their visa expires.

On 15 October, the Home Secretary announced that nurses will be added to the Government's Shortage Occupation List on a temporary basis, pending a full review by the independent Migration Advisory Committee. This will ease pressure on the NHS at a time when the Government is introducing tough new controls on costly agency spending. It will help the NHS improve continuity of care for patients, invest in the frontline and maintain safe staffing levels.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-10-14/HL2615/>

### Refugees: Visas

**The Marquess of Lothian [HL2734]** To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they have considered making representations at international level for a system of humanitarian visas in the light of the current migrant crisis.

**Reply from Lord Bates:** There is no provision in our Immigration Rules for someone to be given permission to travel to the UK to seek asylum or humanitarian protection and Her Majesty's Government has no plans to make representations at international level for a system of humanitarian visas.

Instead, we are focusing our efforts on resettling vulnerable people in need of international protection from the region, including 20,000 Syrians by the end of the Parliament. This provides refugees with a direct and safe route to the UK and uses established UNHCR processes. This is in addition to the £1.12 billion in humanitarian aid provided by the UK for those most in need in the region – more than any other country in the world except the United States.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-10-19/HL2734/>

### Syrian Refugees

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to ensure that they meet the Prime Minister's objective that 1,000 Syrian refugees should be brought to Britain by Christmas.

**Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Bates):** My Lords, the Government have said that we want to see 1,000 Syrian refugees brought to the UK by Christmas. We are working closely with local authorities, international delivery partners—chiefly the UNHCR—and the voluntary sector, putting in place the plans and structures that will deliver this.

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno:** My Lords, I thank the Minister for his Answer and the Prime Minister for his initiative. I also wish Tim Farron a good visit to Lesbos today. If they are coming under present regulations, does that mean that they will not be able to work for their first 12 months in this country? Does it mean that they will receive a subsistence allowance of £36 a week? Or is it a different regime?

**Reply from Lord Bates:** It is a different regime. The whole point is that these people will be taken from the region, pre-cleared and identified as eligible for

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

leave to remain in the UK. When they get here, they will have the status not of asylum seekers but of people who have leave to remain. They will have access to the benefit system and the labour market.

**Lord Dubs:** What sort of help are the Government going to give local authorities and voluntary organisations to provide the support that newly arrived asylum seekers would need? I speak from some experience from when I was with the Refugee Council, where we ran through a similar programme on behalf of Bosnians. They do need that sort of help.

**Reply from Lord Bates:** The noble Lord is absolutely right that they need that sort of help. We have said that, for the first year, all the costs for people on this scheme, particularly those associated with housing, healthcare, social care and welfare will be reimbursed to the local authority from the overseas aid budget, under its rules. A discussion about year 2 onwards is going on between the Minister for Syrian refugees and local authorities which volunteered to be part of the scheme. ...

**The Lord Bishop of Bristol:** My Lords, I detect a kind of frustration at the moment around the fact that a good many people are very happy to help and willing to give homes to these refugees but find the process of working that out a little opaque and, frankly, at times overbureaucratic, while recognising that there need to be some bureaucratic safeguards. Will my noble friend comment on what the Government propose to do to make the process transparent and easily accessible to those who want to give genuine care to those in great need?

**Reply from Lord Bates:** I recognise, of course, that the right reverend Prelate is absolutely right that many people have been touched by the needs of people fleeing the violence in the region. Of course, many of the people that we are particularly looking at have been victims of torture and violence, have acute medical needs and are some of the most vulnerable and the offers that have been made may not be appropriate in those cases. However, Richard Harrington, the Minister with responsibility for Syrian refugees, is working to compile a register of churches, faith groups and charities which want to make that generous offer of assistance. We want to make sure that it is as easy as possible for people to take advantage of that. ...

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/151027-0001.htm#15102747000444>

### Refugees: Syria

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### Refugees: Syria

**Emma Lewell-Buck** [10409] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether funding allocated to local authorities for resettling Syrian refugees will be ring-fenced for that purpose.

**Emma Lewell-Buck** [10410] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether funding allocated to local authorities for resettling Syrian refugees will be restricted to one year.

**Reply from Richard Harrington:** The first 12 months of a refugee's resettlement costs are fully funded by central government using the overseas aid budget. To ensure that local authorities can plan ahead and continue to respond to the overwhelmingly generous response of the British people, we will also provide additional funding to assist with costs incurred after year one.

We will be working closely with local government to develop the process for drawing down the funding, including to those councils offering help under the scheme.

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-16/10409/>  
and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-09-16/10410/>

### Refugees: Syria

**Ian Lucas** [10875] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what criteria she will use to determine where in the UK refugees from Syria will be placed.

**Reply from Richard Harrington:** The UK has been operating resettlement schemes for many years and we already have established and effective networks to accommodate and support resettled people.

Our existing dispersal policy, which has been in place since 1999, is aimed at ensuring an equitable distribution of refugees across the country so that no individual local authority bears a disproportionate share of the burden.

That is why we will be talking to local authorities and other partners to ensure that capacity can be identified and the impact on those taking new cases can be managed in a fair and controlled way.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-09/10875/>

### Refugees: Syria

**Steve McCabe** [11936] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what priority is being given to abandoned and orphaned children in the selection of Syrian refugees likely to be offered a new home in the UK.

**Reply from Richard Harrington:** The Syrian VPR is based on need. It prioritises those who cannot be supported effectively in their region of origin. We work closely with the UNHCR to identify cases that they deem in need of resettlement and we will continue this work to ensure we deliver our commitment to provide refuge to 20,000 Syrians.

The UNHCR identifies people in need of resettlement based on the following criteria: women and girls at risk; survivors of violence and/or torture; refugees with legal and/or physical protection needs; refugees with medical needs or disabilities; children and adolescents at risk; persons at risk due to their sexual orientation or gender identity; and refugees with family links in resettlement countries.

We are not expecting the refugees arriving in the first months of the scheme to include unaccompanied children.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-14/11936/>

### Refugees: Syria

**Baroness Hamwee** [HL2670] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Scheme resettlement programme for Syrian refugees will affect the acceptance of and support for refugees from (1) Syria, and (2) other countries, whose applications are not within the programme.

**Reply from Lord Bates:** Asylum applications received from Syrian nationals who have not been brought to the UK as recognised refugees under the scheme will be processed in the normal manner. If they are found to have a genuine fear of persecution they will be granted asylum in the UK.

The UK will also deal with asylum applications from nationals of other countries in the normal way and the VPR scheme will not affect acceptance or support of those who are recognised as refugees here.

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

The VPR scheme, furthermore, does not impact on the Gateway or Mandate refugee schemes and the UK will continue to run these schemes together.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-10-15/HL2670/>

### Asylum: Syria

**Julian Sturdy** [12505] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if the Government will prioritise Christian, Shia Muslim and Yazidi refugees, who have been targeted by ISIL, when considering asylum cases.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** All asylum and human rights claims are carefully considered on their individual merits in accordance with the UK's obligations under the 1951 United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the European Convention on Human Rights.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-20/12505/>

### Asylum

**Lord Rogan** [HL2647] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they have any plans to locate asylum seekers in Wales, Scotland, or Northern Ireland; and if so, what discussions have taken place with the devolved administrations about the matter especially in relation to (1) the number of asylum seekers to be located, (2) the timetable for implementation, and (3) what monies will be provided from the Treasury to fund the locations.

**Reply from Lord Bates:** The Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, introduced the policy of national dispersal and was designed to introduce an equitable distribution across the country such that no one area was overburdened by the obligation of supporting asylum seekers. In accordance with that Act a number of local authorities across the UK, including those within the devolved administrations, have volunteered to participate in accommodating asylum seekers. As part of the dispersal policy established in 2000, an advisory cluster limit was set by the Home Office at 1 asylum seeker for every 200 of the settled population.

We are aware that there has been an increase in the demand for accommodation from asylum seekers due to increased intake. We are currently working closely with accommodation providers and local authorities to widen existing dispersal areas.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-10-14/HL2647/>

### Asylum: Voluntary Work

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno** [HL2614] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Bates on 5 October (HL2365), what criteria they use to distinguish between volunteering and voluntary work.

**Reply from Lord Bates:** The legal distinction between an employee and a volunteer is complex given the differences between the types of voluntary work and volunteering activities that individuals can be involved in. The principal difference is that volunteering must not amount to unpaid work or job substitution. In particular: there should be no payment, other than reasonable travel and meals expenditure actually incurred (not an allowance for the same); there should be no contractual obligations on the volunteer; the volunteer is helping a registered voluntary or charitable organisation (or organisation that raises funds for either); the volunteering is for a public sector organisation; and the volunteering is not a

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

substitute for employment (i.e. fulfilling a role that a salaried worker would normally fulfil).

Although it is Home Office policy to support asylum seekers volunteering for charities or public sector organisations; we make it clear that it is the responsibility of any organisation considering recruiting volunteers to ensure that such activity does not constitute voluntary work or employment. Further guidance is available on gov.uk: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/handling-applications-for-permission-to-take-employment-instruction>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-10-14/HL2614/>

### Immigrants: Deportation

**Greg Mulholland** [13172] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the number of times a removal direction was issued for people applying to remain in the UK while they were awaiting a court hearing in each of the last five years.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The information requested is not readily available and could only be provided at disproportionate cost.

However, more generally, under section 78 of the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002, a person may not be removed from, or required to leave, the United Kingdom whilst an in-country appeal is pending, although this does not prevent the giving of a direction for the person's removal, the making of a deportation order, or the taking of any other interim or preparatory action.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-23/13172/>

## UK Parliament Petition

### Refugee crisis

***The petition of residents of Kingston upon Hull***, Declares that there is a global refugee crisis; notes that the UK is not offering proportional asylum in comparison with European counterparts; further declares that the petitioners believe that the UK should not allow refugees who have risked their lives to escape horrendous conflict and violence to be left living in dire, unsafe and inhumane conditions in Europe; and that Britain must do its fair share to help.

The petitioners therefore request that the House of Commons calls on the Government urgently to increase its support for asylum seekers and refugees in Europe.

And the petitioners remain, etc.—[Presented by **Diana Johnson** ...] [P001542]

**Observations from the Minister for Immigration (James Brokenshire):** The Government accept they have a moral responsibility to assist those who are suffering as a result of conflict in the world. We are proud of the UK's tradition of providing protection to genuine refugees but it is also important that we maintain a clear distinction between asylum and illegal migration for economic reasons.

The Government's priorities are to continue to provide humanitarian aid to those most in need in crisis regions and to actively seek an end to conflicts that displace people from their homes. We believe this approach is the best way to ensure that the UK's help has the greatest impact for the majority of refugees who remain in the region and for the countries that are hosting them.

The UK has already committed over £1 billion in humanitarian aid to the Syrian crisis—more than any other EU country in the world except the United States. Furthermore, we are one of only a few EU countries to fulfil a commitment to provide 0.7 per cent of Gross

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Petition (continued)

National Income (GNI) to international aid.

By the end of June 2015, UK support had delivered over 20 million food rations, each of which feeds one person for one month, shelter for over 416,000 people, relief items for 4.6 million people, resulted in over 7.2 million instances when people benefited from sanitation and hygiene activities, provided access to clean water for 1.6 million people in Syria and over 980,000 people in neighbouring countries (peak month), and over 2.5 million medical consultations in Syria and the region. ...

**To continue reading the lengthy response see**

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm151030/petntext/151030p0001.htm#15103038000024>

## New Publication

**House of Commons Home Affairs Committee Report: The work of the Immigration Directorates**

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmselect/cmhaff/512/512.pdf>

## News: Immigration Controls

**Scams bedevil visa scheme**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4600066.ece>

**May's foreign student curb**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4600031.ece>

**Restricting skilled-worker visas 'will hurt start-ups'**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/business/industries/media/article4598020.ece>

## News: Refugees

**Scotland must rise to refugee challenge**

<http://beta.scotsman.com/news/leader-scotland-must-rise-to-refugee-challenge-1-3933906>

**Syria refugees: MPs worried by UK 'capacity to manage'**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-34666386>

**Sponsors to bring Syrians to Britain**

[http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk\\_news/National/article1627258.ece](http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/National/article1627258.ece)

**Refugee families' new lives in Glasgow shown in photos**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13896995.Refugee\\_families\\_new\\_lives\\_in\\_Glasgow\\_shown\\_in\\_photos/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13896995.Refugee_families_new_lives_in_Glasgow_shown_in_photos/)

**Photos capturing refugee families' new lives in Glasgow go on display**

[http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/13897072.Photos\\_capturing\\_refugee\\_families\\_new\\_lives\\_in\\_Glasgow\\_go\\_on\\_display/](http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/13897072.Photos_capturing_refugee_families_new_lives_in_Glasgow_go_on_display/)

**Too little being done to prepare for influx of Syrian refugees, say MPs**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/oct/30/too-little-being-done-to-prepare-for-influx-of-syrian-refugees-say-mps>

## Immigration and Asylum News: Refugees (continued)

**Public should be able to take refugees into their homes**

<http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/tfn-news/public-should-be-backed-in-taking-refugees-into-the-homes>

**Syrian refugee who's now started a new life in Glasgow has message for Scots: 'Thank you for saving us from the dictators'**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/local-news/syrian-refugee-whos-now-started-6711304>

**At 13 I found sanctuary in Britain, now we're failing refugee children**

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/oct/26/britain-failing-refugee-children-asylum-seekers>

**Jane is incredible and talented. And UK asylum rules are forcing her to beg**

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/oct/29/britain-asylum-rules-mothers-beg>

## News: Statistics

**Migration to drive 90% of Scotland's population rise over next decade**

<http://beta.scotsman.com/news/migration-to-drive-90-of-scotland-s-population-rise-over-next-decade-1-3932994>

**Scotland needs more immigrants to support our ageing population**

<http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/article1627550.ece>

**Migrants to outstrip Scottish births by nine to one**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13925002.Migrants\\_to\\_outstrip\\_Scottish\\_births\\_by\\_nine\\_to\\_one/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/13925002.Migrants_to_outstrip_Scottish_births_by_nine_to_one/)

**UK population expected to rise by almost 10 million in 25 years**

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/oct/29/uk-population-expected-to-rise-by-almost-10-million-in-25-years>

**UK population set to rocket by 10million in just 25 years as high birthrates and migration make Britain Europe's most populated nation**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3296082/UK-population-set-rocket-10million-just-25-years-high-birthrates-migration-make-Britain-Europe-s-populated-nation.html>

**UK population to rise by 10m by 2039 because of migration**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4599474.ece>

**Britain's population set to rocket by 10 million over next 25 years**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/11963896/Britains-population-set-to-rocket-by-10-million-over-next-25-years.html>

**Paul Nuttall MEP: Can overcrowded Britain really cope with millions more people?**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/11962373/Can-overcrowded-Britain-really-cope-with-millions-more-people.html>

**Another 4m of us? Great, if you want the neighbours for dinner**

<http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/comment/columns/rodliddle/article1627465.ece>

## Immigration and Asylum (continued)

### News: Misc

**Ditch your accent in school, presenter tells migrant pupils**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4600983.ece>

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## Community Relations

### UK Parliament Early Day Motion

**Angela Crawley (591) Black History Month** – That this House recognises October as Black History Month; celebrates the vital role that black and minority ethnic people have played in the history of this country; believes that the continued learning and understanding of black and minority ethnic history promotes integration and respect in communities; appreciates the work of community groups and organisations in the promotion of minority ethnic groups in civil society; applauds the record number of black and minority ethnic hon. Members in this Parliament; and calls on the House to consider the rich contributions to culture and science in this country by people of African, Caribbean, Middle Eastern and Asian descent.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2015-16/591>

### News

**Charity worker tells how she has built bridges between Edinburgh's gypsy travelling community and the outside world**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/charity-worker-tells-how-built-6730964>

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## Equality

### UK Parliament Questions

#### Police: Equality

**Tim Farron** [12085] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to encourage diversity in the police service.

**Reply from Mike Penning:** It is vital that the police reflect the communities they serve and the Government is determined to improve BME representation in all 43 forces in England and Wales.

Decisions on when and how to recruit individuals are for the chief officer of a police force. It is important that they use equalities legislation, including positive action provisions, to make better progress in terms of recruitment of under-represented groups.

My Rt Hon. Friend, the Home Secretary announced on 22 October the publication of data showing the gender and ethnicity of police officers by force area. This will make it easier for the public to access the data they need to see how representative their force is compared to the local population. It is clear that the current representation of women and officers from minority ethnic backgrounds in the officer ranks is not good enough and the Home Secretary has challenged

## Equality

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

forces to do more.

The Government's reforms have already made improvements. For example, we set up the College of Policing, which has embarked on a major programme of work, BME Progression 2018, looking at recruitment, retention and progression of black and minority ethnic officers, including the development of an evidence base of successful approaches used by forces.

As part of this programme the College recently published Positive Action Practical Advice, which advises forces on the use of lawful positive action to support the recruitment, retention and progression of officers from under-represented groups, and it has published case studies from forces showing what can be done.

We have also developed innovative schemes such as Direct Entry and Police Now. These are increasing the number of BME recruits to the police, showing that you can achieve better representation while attracting the best and the brightest into policing.

Of the nine direct entry superintendents who began their superintendent training on November 2014 four (44%) are women and two (22%) are from an ethnic minority background. This is significantly more representative than the current make up of the superintendent rank which is comprised of 17% women and 4% ethnic minority.

Police Now, implemented in the Metropolitan Police, appointed 69 people to start their training, up from an anticipated 50 owing to the high calibre of applicants. Of these, 43% are women and 9% are from a BME background, compared to the national BME proportion of 5.5%.

With the joint leadership of the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and the Commissioner, the Metropolitan Police also introduced its London residency criteria for recruits in August 2014. Recent Metropolitan police figures show that in the three months from June to August 2015, 26% of new Metropolitan police recruits came from a black or minority background, more than double the 12% recruited in the same quarter of 2014, and the 12% of Metropolitan police officers currently from a black and minority ethnic background.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-15/12085/>

#### **Police: Ethnic Groups and Females**

**Margaret Ferrier** [12720] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to increase the number of (a) women and (b) people from ethnic minorities in the police forces.

**Reply from Mike Penning:** It is vital that the police reflect the communities they serve and the Government is determined to improve BME representation in all 43 forces in England and Wales.

Decisions on when and how to recruit individuals are for the chief officer of a police force. It is important that they use equalities legislation, including positive action provisions, to make better progress in terms of recruitment of under-represented groups.

The Home Secretary announced on 22 October the publication of data showing the gender and ethnicity of police officers by force area. This represents an important step in making it easier for the public to access the data they need to see how representative their force is compared to the local population. It is clear that the current representation of women and officers from minority ethnic backgrounds in the officer ranks is not good enough and the Home Secretary has challenged forces to do more.

The Government's reforms have already made improvements, for example we set

## Equality

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

up the College of Policing which has embarked on a major programme of work, BME Progression 2018, looking at recruitment, retention and progression of black and minority ethnic officers, including the development of an evidence base of successful approaches used by forces.

We have worked with the College to develop its Reverse Mentoring programme, which seeks to give police leaders an insight into the direct lived experience of officers from under-represented groups. I am grateful to the five Chief Constables who have signed their force up to the programme. We also worked with the College to produce its Positive Action Practical Advice, which advises forces on the use of lawful positive action to support the recruitment, retention and progression of officers from under-represented groups.

Under this Government innovative schemes such as Direct Entry and Police Now are increasing the number of BME recruits to the police, showing that you can achieve better representation whilst attracting the best and the brightest into policing.

Of the nine direct entry superintendents who began their superintendent training on November 2014 four (44%) are women and two (22%) are from an ethnic minority background. This is significantly more representative than the current make up of the superintendent rank which is comprised of 17% women and 4% ethnic minority.

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<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-21/12720/>

## New Publications

### Is Britain Fairer?

[http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/uploads/IBF/Final-reports/EHRC\\_IBF\\_MainReport\\_acc.pdf](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/uploads/IBF/Final-reports/EHRC_IBF_MainReport_acc.pdf)

### Employment is more challenging for Muslim women

[http://www.mcb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/BMINBriefing5\\_Oct2015.pdf](http://www.mcb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/BMINBriefing5_Oct2015.pdf)

## News

### Ucas to enforce 'name-blind' applications to tackle racial bias

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/2015/oct/26/ucas-name-blind-university-applications-racial-bias>

### Hiding my name won't create equality in the job market

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/oct/27/cameron-young-black-girl-job-market-discrimination>

### Poor white boys are bottom of the class

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/education/article4600074.ece>

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# Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

## UK Parliament Questions

### Religious Hatred: Islam

**Greg Mulholland** [12623] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will commission independent research into the causes of Islamophobia.

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** A key part of our new Countering Extremism Strategy, published this week, outlines how we will engage with and protect Muslim communities from Islamophobia and anti-Muslim hatred.

We have access to a wide range of research on Islamophobia from academics, non-government organisations and from the Extremism Analysis Unit.

We have announced a new Cross-Government Hate Crime Action Plan. As part of this we are engaging with partner organisations to establish the plan's priority focus areas including future research requirement.

The Government also recognises the risk of Islamophobia in the UK as well as the increasing number of attacks aimed at the Muslim Community. To address this the PM has announced that from next year all police forces will be required to record Anti-Muslim hate crime as a distinct category when it is reported.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-20/12623/>

### Religious Hatred: Islam

**Greg Mulholland** [12724] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what assessment he has made of the effectiveness of the Government's Anti-Muslim Hatred Working Group.

**Reply from Marcus Jones:** The Government set up the first Anti-Muslim Hatred working group in 2012 and we are proud of its achievements. We are committed to tackling anti-Muslim hatred and see the group as an important role in advising Ministers.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-21/12724/>

### Castes: Discrimination

**Lord Lester of Herne Hill** [HL2681] To ask Her Majesty's Government on what date they intend to issue the public consultation on how best to prohibit caste discrimination.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The previous government's proposal to issue a public consultation, as a preliminary to legislation, was made before the court judgments in the *Tirkey v Chandhok* case changed the law on caste discrimination. Any continuing requirement for a consultation of this sort needs to be re-considered accordingly.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-10-15/HL2681/>

### Hate Crime

**Fiona Bruce** [12771] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the oral contribution of the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department, Official Report, columns 11-12, whether her Department's planned proposals on tackling hate speech and extremism will affect Christian ministers' ability to preach biblical values in non-religious locations.

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** Nothing that the Government is doing or planning to do to tackle hate speech and extremism will affect Christian ministers' ability to preach biblical values in non-religious locations. Our work will protect the freedom to exchange religious ideas – a fundamental part of our thriving democracy –

## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination UK Parliament Questions (continued)

against the extremists and hate preachers who shut down debate and condemn anyone who disagrees with them.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-21/12771/>

### New Publication

**equality : online – Discrimination Law**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RQdAP-U8NTE>

### News

**Racism in Scotland since the Stephen Lawrence Report**

<http://beta.scotsman.com/news/racism-in-scotland-since-the-stephen-lawrence-report-1-3932653>

**Nil by Mouth ‘Pause B4U Post’**

<https://www.actiononsectarianism.info/nil-by-mouth-pause-b4u-post>

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## Other UK Parliament and Government

### Parliamentary Questions

#### **Female Genital Mutilation: Telephone Services**

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Colleen Fletcher** [12881] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what training 101 call-handlers receive on (a) female genital mutilation (FGM) and (b) information governance relating to the handling of information about FGM.

**Colleen Fletcher** [12924] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what account she has taken of the introduction of a dedicated specialist police line for professionals to report highly sensitive information about cases of known FGM under the Serious Crime Act 2015.

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** A mandatory reporting duty for regulated health and social care professionals and teachers will come into force at the end of October. We recently published guidance to support its introduction.

The guidance sets out that reports can be made using the 101 service. The Government has opted to recommend the use of an existing cost effective, simple and clear reporting route for professionals rather than introduce a dedicated specialist police line. Calls to 101 are answered by trained police officers and staff in the control room of the local police force. All 101 call handlers are fully trained to handle all calls received and specific call-handling instructions on FGM will be issued to them by the National Policing Lead before the duty comes into force. Upon receipt of a report, the police will record the information and initiate a multi-agency response in line with local safeguarding arrangements. Police forces have responsibilities regarding the management of information, including a statutory responsibility to comply with the Data Protection Act 1998.

The College of Policing will also shortly update its Authorised Professional

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

Practice Guidance on FGM with information and advice on the mandatory reporting duty.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-21/12881/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-21/12924/>

### Forced Marriage

**Andrew Rosindell** [12451] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to prevent young people from being forced in to arranged marriages overseas.

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** The UK is a world-leader in the fight to stamp out forced marriage, with our Forced Marriage Unit (FMU) leading efforts to combat this brutal practice. The FMU can provide support and assistance to anyone in the UK at risk, and to British nationals overseas. The Unit works with our High Commissions and embassies overseas to assist with protection and repatriation of vulnerable victims.

- To date, over 800 Forced Marriage Protection Orders have been made to prevent people from being forced into a marriage and to assist in repatriating victims;
- In 2014, the FMU gave advice or support related to a possible forced marriage in 1,267 cases.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-19/12451/>

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## New Publication

**Scottish Human Rights Commission Annual Report 2014-15**

[http://scottishhumanrights.com/application/resources/documents/SHRC\\_Annual\\_Report\\_2015\\_FINAL%20APPROVED.pdf](http://scottishhumanrights.com/application/resources/documents/SHRC_Annual_Report_2015_FINAL%20APPROVED.pdf)

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## Other News

**AGM Randeree Scholarship – Developing Leadership Capability in the British Muslim Community**

<http://www.mcb.org.uk/agm-randeree-scholarship-developing-leadership-capability-in-the-british-muslim-community/>

**FGM: Legal duty to inform police comes into force**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-34681057>

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## **Bills in Progress**

\*\* new or updated this week

### **Scottish Parliament**

#### **\*\* Burial and Cremation Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/92664.aspx>

Scottish Parliament Information Centre Briefing

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S4/SB\\_15-70\\_Burial\\_and\\_Cremation\\_Scotland\\_Bill.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S4/SB_15-70_Burial_and_Cremation_Scotland_Bill.pdf)

#### **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>

Stage 1 debate

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10161&i=93729#ScotParIOR>

#### **Higher Education Governance (Scotland) Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/90125.aspx>

#### **\*\* Lobbying Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/93324.aspx>

Bill as introduced

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_Bills/Lobbying%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/SPBill82S042015.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Lobbying%20(Scotland)%20Bill/SPBill82S042015.pdf)

Explanatory Notes

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_Bills/Lobbying%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/SPBill82ENS042015.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Lobbying%20(Scotland)%20Bill/SPBill82ENS042015.pdf)

Policy Memorandum

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_Bills/Lobbying%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/SPBill82PMS042015.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Lobbying%20(Scotland)%20Bill/SPBill82PMS042015.pdf)

Equality Impact Assessment

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0048/00488168.pdf>

Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0048/00488260.pdf>

Privacy Impact Assessment

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0048/00488254.pdf>

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

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

## Bills in Progress (continued)

### UK Parliament

#### **Child Victims of Human Trafficking (Central Government Responsibility) Bill**

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

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

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

#### **\*\* Immigration Bill**

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

Committee Stage, House of Commons

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmpublic/immigration/151027/am/151027s01.htm>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmpublic/immigration/151027/pm/151027s01.htm>

Proposed amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2015-2016/0074/amend/pbc0742910m.1-7.html>

Factsheet – Appeals

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/461703/Appeals.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/461703/Appeals.pdf)

#### **Scotland Bill**

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

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

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

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## Consultations

\*\* new or updated this week

**Human Rights Inquiry** (closing date 18 November 2015)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/92604.aspx>

**Tomorrow's BBC** (closing date 5 November 2015)

<https://consultations.external.bbc.co.uk/bbc/future-ideas>

**Shaping the work of your Human Rights Commission** (closing date 20 November 2015)

<http://scottishhumanrights.com/application/resources/documents/SP%20Consultation%20Document.docx>

**Introduction of diversity succession planning for board appointments** (closing date 29 November 2015)

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0048/00486751.pdf>

**Burial and Cremation Bill** (Closing date 4 December 2015)

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_LocalGovernmentandRegenerationCommittee/Inquiries/CfE.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_LocalGovernmentandRegenerationCommittee/Inquiries/CfE.pdf)

## Consultations (continued)

**Charity Trustee Guidance** (closing date 18 December 2015)

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/about/our-work/consultations/open-consultations>

**\*\* Equality and Human Rights Commission 2016 - 2019 Strategic Plan** (closing date 18 December 2015)

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/about-us/our-work/ehrc-consultations/2016-2019-strategic-plan-consultation?wssl=1>

**Scotland's Census 2021 – Topic Consultation** (closing date 15 January 2016)

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0048/00487152.pdf>

**Hate Crime Reporting in Scotland** (no closing date given)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/amina-hatecrime>

**Experiences and opinions about having been a volunteer** (no closing date given)

<http://survey.bupnet.de/index.php/survey/index/sid/738838/newtest/Y/lang/en>

**Experience and practice about working with young volunteers** (no closing date given)

<http://survey.bupnet.de/index.php/survey/index/sid/454824/newtest/Y/lang/en>

**Creating A Fairer Scotland: What Matters To You?** (no closing date given)

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0047/00479666.pdf>

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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

**Fairer Scotland Engagement Fund**

**Deadline for applications extended to 16 November 2015**

Voluntary Action Fund grants to help small voluntary organisations and community groups in Scotland with income under £25,000 to run an event or engagement activity to gather views on how we can create a Fairer Scotland. Grants of up to £300 (or exceptionally up to £500 for a larger event) are available to support an event or engagement activity with a group of five or more people to discuss how we can create a Scotland where people are healthier, happier and treated with respect, and where opportunities, wealth and power are spread more equally.

<http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/funding-and-support/fairer-scotland-engagement-fund>

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**\*\* this week!**

**Fundraising Information Event**

3 November 2015 in Glasgow (6.00 – 8.00)

Scottish Refugee Council event to share ideas for organising events or challenges to raise funds to support their work with refugees in Scotland. For information contact [funding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:funding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) or see

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/events/2786\\_fundraising\\_information\\_event](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/events/2786_fundraising_information_event)

**\*\* this week!**

**Ethnic Minority Parent Workshops: Mother tongue – at home and school**

4 November 2015 in Glasgow (10.30 – 12.30)

5 November 2015 in Edinburgh (10.30 – 12.30)

BEMIS / Gathered Together Gathered Together workshops to help parents understand and be more involved in their children's education and what happens in schools. For information see <http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/ethnic-minority-parent-workshops/> or contact [gtevents@bemis.org.uk](mailto:gtevents@bemis.org.uk) / 0141 548 8047.

**\*\* this week!**

**Scotland Welcomes Refugees**

4 November 2015 in Glasgow (11.00)

Positive Action in Housing AGM and conference to explore pioneering and practical grassroots initiatives designed to welcome those from refugee communities to this country. For information contact 0141 353 2220 / [home@paih.org](mailto:home@paih.org)

**\*\* this week!**

**The Third Sector - Assessing The Risks, Creating Solutions**

5 November 2015 in Edinburgh (8.30 – 12.30)

Conference looking at at some of the key areas of legal risk facing organisations in Scotland's third sector. For information see <http://www.burnesspaul.com/seminars/third-sector-assessing-risks-creating-solutions> or contact Elaine Creamer on 0131 473 6181 / [elaine.creamer@burnesspaul.com](mailto:elaine.creamer@burnesspaul.com)

**\*\* this week!**

5 November 2015 in Dundee (5.30 – 9.00)

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-dundee-tickets-18178566582>

10 November 2015 in Inverclyde (5.30 – 9.00)

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-inverclyde-tickets-18178573603>

17 November 2015 in Glasgow (5.30 – 9.00)

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fairer-scotland-planning-event-glasgow-tickets-18178575609>

Voluntary Action Fund events to hear, discuss, prioritise, and take action on ideas to create a Fairer Scotland, and make people's lives better. This is your chance to think about and prioritise ideas that will help make Scotland a fairer place to live and make a real impact on Scotland's future. For information see the relevant weblink above.

**\*\* this week!**

**Organising an activity to mark Holocaust Memorial Day**

6 November 2015 in Glasgow (1.00 – 4.00)

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust workshop for people interested in organising an activity to mark Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January 2016. For information contact 020 7785 7029 / [enquiries@hmd.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@hmd.org.uk) or see <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hmdt-workshop-glasgow-tickets-17792785701?ref=ebtn>

## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

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

#### **Organising an activity to mark Holocaust Memorial Day: young people**

7 November 2015 in Glasgow (12.00 – 3.00)

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust Youth Champions workshop for people aged 14 to 24 who are interested in organising an activity to mark Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January 2016. For information contact 020 7785 7029 / [enquiries@hmd.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@hmd.org.uk) or see <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hmdt-youth-workshop-glasgow-tickets-17792908067?ref=ebtn>

#### **\*\* Equalities and Citizenship in the Current International, National and Local Context Conference**

11 November 2015 in Kirkcaldy (10.00 – 2.00)

FRAE Fife conference to discuss the impact of international, national events, UK and the Scottish Government's approach to implementation of equality policies. For information see <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/equalities-and-citizenship-in-the-current-international-national-and-local-context-conference-tickets-19165377159>

#### **Ethnic Minority Parent Workshops: Children's Rights in Scotland**

11 November 2015 in Glasgow (10.30 – 12.30)

12 November 2015 in Edinburgh (10.30 – 12.30)

BEMIS / Gathered Together Gathered Together workshops to help parents understand and be more involved in their children's education and what happens in schools. For information see <http://gatheredtogether.bemis.org.uk/ethnic-minority-parent-workshops/> or contact [gtevents@bemis.org.uk](mailto:gtevents@bemis.org.uk) / 0141 548 8047.

#### **BEMIS at Skills Scotland**

18 November 2015 in Glasgow (5.15)

BEMIS information session about supporting children with their career and learning choices. For information contact Liz McConnell [liz.mcconnell@bemis.org.uk](mailto:liz.mcconnell@bemis.org.uk) or Patricia Crook [patricia.crook@sds.co.uk](mailto:patricia.crook@sds.co.uk) or see <http://bemis.org.uk/events/1158-2/>

#### **A 'Scottish Approach' to race equality?**

18 November 2015 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 5.30)

Event to stock of approaches to race equality in Scotland and look forwards as a new Framework for Race Equality in Scotland is developed. For information see

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/news/625/273/A-Scottish-Approach-to-race-equality.html>

or contact Nasar Meer [nasar.meer@strath.ac.uk](mailto:nasar.meer@strath.ac.uk)

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## Useful Links

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

**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/>

## Useful Links (continued)

**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/>



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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