

## Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

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

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## Immigration and Asylum

### UK Parliament Questions

#### Visas: Fees and Charges

**Michelle Thomson** [16687] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the average amount people spent on visa applications before being granted entry to the UK in the last year for which figures are available.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Home Office does not analyse the average amount people spend on visa applications before being granted entry to the UK. The Home Office provides a wide range of visa products and services and takes into account a range of factors when setting fees, so there is no typical fee amount.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-17/16687/>

#### Entry Clearances

**Baroness Hamwee** [HL3549] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many (1) parents of a minor, (2) siblings of a minor, and (3) other persons, were granted, on the basis of

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

exceptional compelling, compassionate circumstances outside the Immigration Rules, a family reunion visa for reunion with a family member in the UK with refugee leave or humanitarian protection, in each year from 2011 to date; and from which countries those persons have come.

**Reply from Lord Bates:** Family reunion applications are considered within the scope of the Immigration Rules. Under these Rules, only pre-existing families are eligible for family reunion i.e. spouse, civil partner, unmarried/same sex partner and minor children who formed part of the family unit at the time the sponsor (the person granted protection in the UK) fled to seek asylum.

Family reunion visas are available to help families that become fragmented. Family reunion is intended to allow family members who formed part of the family unit before the refugee fled their country of origin, to reunite in the UK.

The number of Family reunion visas issued and the country of application from 2011 to date can be found in the table [at the link] below. It is not possible to break down the data to the applicant's relationship with the individual that has already gained asylum in the UK.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-11-11/HL3549/>

### Health Professions: Migrant Workers

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Lord Hunt of Kings Heath** [HL3437] To ask Her Majesty's Government what discussions they have had with other EU member states concerning the impact on NHS patients of the introduction of the European Professional Card for healthcare professionals.

**Lord Hund of Kings Heath** [HL3438] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans are in place to evaluate the implementation of the European Professional Card for healthcare professionals in phase 1 before it is rolled out to other professions, including doctors, in the light of changes that implementation will make to the powers of UK regulators.

**Reply from Lord Prior of Brampton:** The aim of the European Professional Card (EPC) is to simplify and streamline the recognition of professional qualifications process for the applicant. Improving the freedom of movement of professionals will give the National Health Service greater access to a range of skills to the benefit of patients. For health and care professions, the EPC will be introduced for nurses, pharmacists and physiotherapists in 2016. It will not be introduced for doctors until 2018 at the earliest. The EPC will be introduced through an Implementing Act. The Department was involved in extensive negotiations with the European Commission and other Member States during the development of the Implementing Act and was successful in achieving a number of positive changes including increasing access to translations of documents, and ensuring that authorities can challenge the issuance of an EPC in another Member State under 'justifiable circumstances', which will be an important patient safety mechanism. We will continue to work with the health and care regulators and the Commission during the implementation process to mitigate any risks.

The United Kingdom was also successful in receiving a commitment from the Commission that they will undertake an early review to ensure that any issues are resolved before the EPC is rolled out to any additional professions.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-11-09/HL3437/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-11-09/HL3438/>

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

### Migrant Workers: English Language

**Imran Hussain** [16462] To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what assistance his Department is providing to help businesses to employ migrants with in-demand skills but poor English language skills.

**Reply from Nick Boles:** In our approach to skills, we aim to create a fair balance between the investment made by Government, the employer and the individual. We believe that non-native speakers of English, who choose to live in the UK, should be expected to invest in the improvement of their English, with some exceptions. Similarly, where employers seek to rely on non-English speaking labour, it is their responsibility to cover the cost of training employees.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-16/16462/>

### Refugees: English Language

**Imran Hussain** [16369] To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what steps his Department has taken to give refugees settled in the UK opportunities to improve their English language skills.

**Reply from Nick Boles:** Adults who are granted refugee status or humanitarian protection become eligible for skills funding through a provider's adult skills budget, as any other English resident and are not subject to the normal 3 year qualifying period. Refugees are therefore eligible for full-funding for English Speakers of Other Languages, if they are in receipt of certain work-related benefits and are mandated to undertake skills training to improve their English in order to find work. If they are on other state benefits and are unemployed, they may still be eligible for full funding at the discretion of the training provider. If they are not on benefits, they can be co-funded at the discretion of the provider.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-16/16369/>

### Refugees: English Language

**Imran Hussain** [16584] To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what assessment he has made of the effect of withdrawal of ESOL Plus mandated funding on the ability of refugees in the UK to access ESOL courses.

**Reply from Nick Boles:** The decision to withdraw the 2015/16 ESOL Plus (Mandation) funding was taken in the knowledge that providers could use their adult skills budget to continue to provide ESOL training for jobseekers and therefore mitigate any adverse impact. Our data showed that the numbers of claimants being referred to ESOL Plus (Mandation) provision was significantly lower than originally anticipated.

Adults who are granted refugee status or humanitarian protection become eligible for skills funding through the adult skills budget, as any other English resident and are not subject to the normal 3 year qualifying period.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-17/16584/>

### English Language: Education

**Imran Hussain** [16456] To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what assessment he has made of the effect on community cohesion of the withdrawal of ESOL Plus Mandation funding.

**Reply from Nick Boles:** We have not carried out a specific assessment in relation to community cohesion. The decision to withdraw the 2015/16 English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Plus (Mandation) funding was taken in the

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

knowledge that providers could use their adult skills budget to continue to provide ESOL training for jobseekers and therefore mitigate any adverse impact. Our data showed that the numbers of claimants being referred to ESOL Plus (Mandation) provision was significantly lower than originally anticipated.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-16/16456/>

### Employment: Refugees

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Imran Hussain** [16454] To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what assessment his Department has made on the effect of the withdrawal of ESOL plus mandation funding ESOL on employment prospects for refugees.

### English Language: Education

**Imran Hussain** [16461] To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what assessment he has made of the withdrawal of ESOL funding on levels of poverty.

**Reply from Pritti Patel:** We are committed to supporting those who are unemployed to finding and keeping employment. In doing so, we ensure that any learning provision is delivered in the context of local employment and labour market demand. Data shows that the numbers of learners in England previously being referred to ESOL Plus (Mandation) provision was significantly lower than originally anticipated and the ESOL Plus (Mandation) budget was underspent in 2014/15.

The decision to remove the specific English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Plus (Mandation) funding for 2015/16 enables providers, as independent organisations which manage their own budgets, to have the flexibility to use their adult skills budget more effectively to support jobseekers. They are able to continue to provide ESOL training for jobseekers where it is likely to result in the most effective labour market outcome, and jobseekers with poor English language skills can still be mandated to this training. All new claimants are screened for spoken English at their first interview and if below entry level 2, they are referred for a more detailed assessment and, if appropriate, training provision.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-16/16454/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-16/16461/>

### Refugees: Syria

**Kevin Brennan** [16513] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Syrian refugees have been admitted to the UK since September 2015 in each region; and how many she plans to admit by the end of 2016.

**Reply from Richard Harrington:** We will not be giving a running commentary on numbers. The refugees that we are bringing to the United Kingdom are very vulnerable people. Our prime concern is their safety and protection as they arrive in this country. We believe that one way to protect their privacy and ensure their recovery and integration is to limit the amount of information about them that we make publicly available. We want to ensure the understandable public interest in the scheme is not based on a running commentary on the numbers that have arrived.

Notwithstanding this, the Home Office is committed to publishing data in an orderly way as part of the regular quarterly Immigration Statistics, in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. The next set of figures will be in the

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

quarterly release on 26 November 2015 and will cover the period July-September 2015.

The programme is driven by need, and the number resettled in a particular period will depend on a range of factors. This includes the number of referrals we have received from UNHCR and the number of confirmed places we have received from local authorities that are suitable for the specific needs of those who have been accepted for resettlement. Rather than a monthly or yearly target we acknowledge that some months we will resettle more or less than others because it is based on the need in the region at that time and the progress of those people through the system. We cannot, therefore, state at this time how many confirmed places will be made available by the end of 2016.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-16/16513/>

### Refugees: Syria

**Hannah Bardell** [16916] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her policy is on accepting asylum claims from (a) Syrian refugees who have reached the UK travelling through other EU member states without claiming asylum in one of those states and (b) such refugees who reside with family members who have a right to reside in the UK.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** Asylum seekers should not travel through safe countries illegally and then choose where to claim asylum.

If we have evidence that a Syrian asylum seeker is the responsibility of another European country we can and will seek to return them there under the Dublin Regulation. Similarly, if we have evidence that the person claiming asylum in the UK has already been granted international protection by another European country we will also seek to remove them to the country that granted protection. When making a decision on whether to remove refugees under the Dublin Regulation full consideration is given to the right to family and private life under Article 8 of the ECHR.

The Dublin Regulation does contain family unity provisions which may result in the responsible State being that where an asylum seeker's close family members are legally present. The asylum seeker would, however, in the first instance need to make an asylum application in the country that they are in, in order for the provision to be considered.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-18/16916/>

### Refugees: Syria

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno** [HL3532] To ask Her Majesty's Government what mental health support they are offering to recently arrived Syrian refugees.

**Reply from Lord Bates:** The Syrian VPR scheme prioritises those who cannot be supported effectively in their region of origin.

Before accepting or rejecting a referral local authorities will be provided with information on medical needs and will think carefully about whether they have the infrastructure and support networks needed to ensure the appropriate care and integration of these refugees.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2015-11-10/HL3532/>

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

### Asylum: Applications

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Andrew Smith** [16090] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her Department's current service standard is for the time taken to process further submissions related to an asylum claim.

**Andrew Smith** [16091] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many decisions on further submissions related to asylum claims that are outstanding have been waiting for longer than (a) one year, (b) two years and (c) three years for a decision.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** There is not a formal service standard for deciding further submissions from failed asylum seekers. The Home Office is balancing resource between those failed asylum seekers with no leave to remain who have made further submissions on the one hand and, on the other, those who were granted a limited period of leave following the refusal of their application who have outstanding applications for Further Leave.

With regard to further submissions lodged by failed asylum seekers, there is dedicated resource in place to decide cases in the existing stock of further submissions and to also decide new submissions quickly, wherever possible within 5 days of their being lodged. With regard to cases in the stock of further submissions, the Home Office is prioritising cases where applicants are in receipt of asylum support and cases where the applicant may be removed from the United Kingdom in the eventuality their submission is refused. The Home Office will also give priority to further submissions case that have been outstanding for the longest period of time.

The figures in the below table relate to failed asylum seekers who had outstanding further submissions as of 30 June 2015:

Timescale (Years)	Total
1 - 2	2383
2 - 3	1426
3 or more	1267
Total	5076

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-13/16090/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-13/16091/>

### Asylum: Children

*The following seven questions all received the same answer*

**Sarah Champion** [16863] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many young people aged between 18 and 25 who applied for asylum as unaccompanied children were served with removal directions in each year from 2010 to 2014.

**Sarah Champion** [16864] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people who initially claimed asylum as unaccompanied children have applied to extend or vary their leave in each of the last five years.

**Sarah Champion** [16865] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied children have had their claims certified in each of the last five years.

**Sarah Champion** [16866] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many young people over 18 who applied for asylum as unaccompanied children in each year since 2010 have been (a) removed from the UK and (b) left voluntarily.

**Sarah Champion** [16867] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

many people aged between 18 and 25 who claimed asylum as unaccompanied children and had their claims certified have been removed from the UK in each of the last five years.

**Sarah Champion** [16868] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many young people over 18 who claimed asylum as unaccompanied children and had their claims certified have appealed out of country in each of the last five years; and how many such appeals were successful.

**Sarah Champion** [16869] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied children who have had their claims certified have been removed from the UK in the last five years.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The figures in the below table detail the number of former unaccompanied asylum seeking children aged between 18 and 25 who were served with Removal Directions in each year between 2010 and 2014.

Removal Directions Served	Number of Cases
2010	306
2011	478
2012	327
2013	330
2014	245

The figures in the below table detail the number of persons who initially claimed asylum as unaccompanied children and who applied to extend or vary their leave in each year between 2010 and 2015. The figure for 2015 is correct up to 30 June 2015.

Year	Applications to vary or extend leave
2010	688
2011	689
2012	653
2013	519
2014	836
2015	696
<b>Total</b>	<b>4081</b>

The figures in the below table detail the number of certified decisions made on cases involving unaccompanied asylum seeking children in the last 5 years. The figure for 2015 is correct up to 30 June 2015. In cases where a certification decision on an asylum and human rights claim was made, consideration would also have been given to whether it was appropriate to grant leave in accordance with the policy on asylum applications from unaccompanied asylum seeking children.

Certification Decision Made	No of Cases
2010	27
2011	9
2012	10
2013	18

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

2014	87
2015	85

The figures in the below table detail the number of former unaccompanied asylum seeking children who were either removed from the United Kingdom or departed voluntarily in each year between 2010 and 2015. The figure for 2015 is correct up to 30 June 2015.

Year of Asylum Application	Voluntary Departure	Enforced Removal
2010	40	65
2011	28	38
2012	15	35
2013	11	44
2014	0	15
2015	0	0

The figures in the below table detail the number of former unaccompanied asylum seeking children who had their asylum claim certified and were aged between 18 and 25 when they were removed from the United Kingdom in each year between 2010 and 2015.

Removals	No of Cases
2010	1
2011	5
2012	3
2013	5
2014	13
2015	22

In the last five years, there has only been one case in which a former unaccompanied asylum seeking child had their claim for asylum certified and later lodged an out of country appeal against this decision. In this case the out of country appeal was dismissed. The figures in the below table detail how many former unaccompanied asylum seeking children, whose claim for asylum was certified by the Home Office, have been removed from the United Kingdom in each of the last 5 years. The figure for 2015 is correct up to 30 June 2015.

Removals	No of Cases
2010	2
2011	7
2012	3
2013	6
2014	13
2015	22

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-18/16863/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-18/16864/>

and



## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-18/16865/>

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<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-18/16866/>

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<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-18/16867/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-18/16868/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-18/16869/>

### Immigrants: Detainees

**Paul Blomfield** [16676] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of people held in immigration detention are (a) foreign national offenders convicted of immigration related offences, (b) foreign national offenders convicted of other offences and (c) non-foreign nationals.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** At the end of June 2015, the proportion of people held in immigration detention who were foreign national offenders was 25% (884).

It is not possible to provide a break-down of foreign national offenders convicted of immigration offences and foreign national offenders convicted of non-immigration offences. Such data is not aggregated in national reporting systems, which would mean these questions could only be answered through a disproportionately expensive manual case search to collate the data.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-17/16676/>

### Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre: Visits

**Kate Osamor** [16436] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many hon. Members have had a request to visit Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre refused in the last 12 months; and on what grounds each such refusal was justified.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** One Hon. Member has had a request to visit Yarl's Wood immigration removal centre declined in the last twelve months.

As set out in the Detention Centre Rules 2001, visitors to immigration removal centres may only enter with the prior authorisation of the Secretary of State other than those for purposes specified under the Rules.

Requests to visit centres must be carefully considered and planned to preserve the privacy and dignity of the individuals who are detained.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-16/16436/>

### Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre: Mental Health Services

**Kate Osamor** [16875] To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what proportion of detainees held in Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre are receiving medication for mental health problems; and what proportion of those detainees have had their dosage increased since being held in detention.

**Reply from Alistair Burt:** Information on the number of detainees who are

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

prescribed a particular medicine or any changes in prescriptions is not collected centrally. It is essential that any person detained within the immigration detention estate receives medical attention appropriate to their clinical needs. Health professionals should assess and keep under review the medicines requirements for each individual to determine the best course of action for that patient, taking into account their views and preferences.

Health providers at Yarl's Wood have now established a Health and Wellbeing Group for detainees in recognition of the anxiety levels that many detainees exhibit when they arrive in the establishment. This group supports the detainees to feel less disempowered in their environment and, as such, can pre-empt the escalation of anxiety which when not acknowledged, can lead to more serious mental health presentations.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-18/16875/>

### **Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre: Self-harm**

**Kate Osamor** [16438] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of women detained in Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre in the last year have (a) attempted to or (b) inflicted harm upon themselves.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** Published statistics for the period July 2014 to June 2015 show that 1,501 women entered Yarl's Wood immigration removal centre as the first place of detention. Provisional management information for the same time period shows that there were 54 incidents of self-harm requiring medical treatment at Yarl's Wood that involved women.

These numbers do not necessarily equate to the number of detainees requiring medical treatment. An individual may have received medical treatment on more than one occasion, therefore a maximum of 54 women could have received medical treatment for self harm, the equivalent of 3.6% of the total female population that entered Yarl's Wood for the specified period.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-16/16438/>

### **Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre: Human Trafficking**

**Kate Osamor** [16552] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many detainees held in Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre (a) claim that they are victims of human trafficking and (b) have been identified by the National Referral Mechanism as victims of human trafficking.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** Individuals who have been identified as victims of trafficking by the competent authorities are normally considered suitable for detention in only very exceptional circumstances, which include cases where there is a risk of public harm. This data is not collected centrally and accurate figures are not available. Once a person is detained their continued detention remains under review by the Home Office at least at monthly intervals, and earlier in response to any change of circumstances that might have a material effect on their detention.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-17/16552/>

### **Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre: Legal Representation**

**Kate Osamor** [16576] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many women held in Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre have legal representation.

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** All detainees at immigration removal centres are able to access legal advice through a duty solicitor scheme provided by the Legal Aid Agency.

Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons (HMCIP) inspected Yarl's Wood between 13 April and 1 May 2015 and reported that waiting times for duty advice surgeries were short.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-17/16576/>

### Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre: Staff

**Kate Osamor [16437]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of the officers employed at Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre are male.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** Management information shows that the proportion of male officers employed at Yarl's Wood immigration removal centre as of 17 November 2015 is 51%.

Deployment of staff to the accommodation units is reviewed on a daily basis by Serco, with the aim of two-thirds of staff on female units being female officers.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-16/16437/>

### Immigration Detention of Pregnant Women

**Caroline Spelman:** What discussions she has had with the Home Secretary on immigration detention of pregnant women. [902388]

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department (Karen Bradley):** Published Home Office policy states that pregnant women should not usually be detained unless there is a prospect of early safe removal. My right hon. Friend the Home Secretary asked Stephen Shaw, the former prisons and probation ombudsman for England and Wales, to review the detention of vulnerable individuals. His report and the Government response will be published before the Immigration Bill completes its passage through Parliament.

**Caroline Spelman:** I welcome the Minister's statement. In 2014, 99 pregnant women were detained at Yarl's Wood, and I understand that there are some remaining cases. Will the Minister use her good offices to expedite those cases?

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** I will make sure that the Home Office looks carefully at all the cases my right hon. Friend has raised. I repeat that pregnant women should not routinely be detained. The Home Office is currently considering Stephen Shaw's review on detainee welfare, and we will publish his report before the Immigration Bill completes its passage.

**Keith Vaz:** I agree with the right hon. Member for Meriden (Mrs Spelman). This is a big problem, but it is about the providers. What discussions will the Minister have with Serco, Mitie, G4S and other providers about the detention of pregnant women?

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** The Home Office has regular discussions with all providers to make sure that appropriate treatment is given to all vulnerable people held in detention. I repeat that the Stephen Shaw review will be published shortly.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm151126/debtext/151126-0001.htm#15112625000028>

### Children: Deportation

**Louise Haigh [13206]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many former unaccompanied asylum-seeking children were removed to (a) Afghanistan,

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

(b) Syria, (c) Libya, (d) Iraq, (e) Iran and (f) Albania in each year between 2007 and 2015; and if she will make a statement.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The table below provides the requested information:

Removed in Year	Afghanistan	Albania	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Iraq	Libya (Arab Republic)	Syrian Arab Republic	Grand Total
2007	46	214	3	16			279
2008	59	114	13	37			223
2009	98	57	8	47			210
2010	138	31	4	28		1	202
2011	180	23	1	22			226
2012	83	24	4	16	1		128
2013	113	31	3	23	1		171
2014	59	36	1	14	1		111
2015	15	46	3	2			66
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1616</b>

The above data was produced on 26 October 2015. The information relating to removals of former unaccompanied asylum seeking children in 2015 details removals up to 30 June 2015.

Removal of former unaccompanied asylum seeking children will only take place after their asylum claim has been finally determined, including any appeal hearing, and it has been established that there is no risk of persecution, or of a breach of the European Convention on Human Rights, upon return to their Home Country. After a former unaccompanied asylum seeking child is over eighteen years of age, and found not to be at risk upon return to their home country, their removal will be managed in line with our usual arrangements for the safe and secure return of failed asylum seekers who do not leave the UK voluntarily.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-10-23/13206/>

### Human Trafficking: Children

**Frank Field** [16880] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when she intends to lay before Parliament her report on the steps she will take in relation to the powers conferred by section 48 of the Modern Slavery Act on independent child trafficking advocates.

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** Section 48(7) of the Modern Slavery Act requires the Government to lay before Parliament a report setting out the steps it proposes to take in relation to independent child trafficking advocates within nine months of Royal Assent of the Modern Slavery Act. The Government will publish this report by 16 December, whilst Parliament is sitting.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2015-11-18/16880/>

## Press Release

**Scotland to work with UN on Syria peace initiative**

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Scotland-to-work-with-UN-on-Syria-peace-initiative-1fc7.aspx>

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

### **Refugee Crisis News: Scotland**

#### **Kezia Dugdale sends message of welcome to Syrian refugees**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/kezia-dugdale-sends-message-of-welcome-to-syrian-refugees-1-3961163>

#### **Kezia Dugdale sends message of welcome to Syrian refugees**

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/scotland/kezia-dugdale-sends-message-of-welcome-to-syrian-refugees-1.912869>

#### **Refugee Nourallah shares hopes of 'a better future' for his family since arriving in Scotland**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/refugee-nourallah-shares-hopes-a-6880475>

#### **Syrian refugee Dr Amer Masri feels safe in Scotland after fleeing 'apocalypse'**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14095355.Back home in Syria it was an apocalypse but here in Scotland I am safe /](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14095355.Back+home+in+Syria+it+was+an+apocalypse+but+here+in+Scotland+I+am+safe/)

#### **Syrian refugee finds peace in Scotland after years in camp**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article4621152.ece>

#### **From Aleppo to Paisley: the battle to make refugees feel welcome in Scotland**

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/nov/28/aleppo-to-paisley-make-refugees-welcome-in-scotland>

#### **Anti-racism march in Glasgow welcome refugees**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-34945231>

#### **No Racism: Refugees Welcome Here**

<http://www.stuc.org.uk/news/1207/stuc-2015-st-andrew-s-day-march-and-rally-no-racism-refugees-welcome-here>

#### **Hundreds march to send message: refugees welcome in Scotland**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14110777.Hundreds march to send message refugees welcome in Scotland/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14110777.Hundreds+march+to+send+message+refugees+welcome+in+Scotland/)

#### **Anti-racism march takes place in Glasgow to send out national welcome message to refugees in Scotland**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/anti-racism-march-takes-place-6917535>

#### **Anti-racism march in Glasgow welcomes refugees**

[http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/14110229.VIDEO Anti racism march in Glasgow welcomes refugees/](http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/14110229.VIDEO+Anti+racism+march+in+Glasgow+welcomes+refugees/)

#### **Isle of Bute gets ready to welcome refugee families before Christmas**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14109613.Isle of Bute gets ready to welcome refugee families before Christmas/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14109613.Isle+of+Bute+gets+ready+to+welcome+refugee+families+before+Christmas/)

#### **From camps in Lebanon to island life: residents of Bute prepare to welcome refugees**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14110784.From camps in Lebanon to island life residents of Bute prepare to welcome refugees/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14110784.From+camps+in+Lebanon+to+island+life+residents+of+Bute+prepare+to+welcome+refugees/)

#### **Bute prepares for the strangers on its shore**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article4626522.ece>

## Immigration and Asylum (continued)

### Refugee Crisis News: UK and World

**£130,00 to cover refugee healthcare**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article4625402.ece>

**Syrian refugees: UK urged to show more compassion**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-34929055>

**University of Leicester offers free English language lessons to displaced refugees**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/university-of-leicester-offers-free-english-language-lessons-to-displaced-refugees-a6751531.html>

**UK immigration: Immigrants came to George Osborne's rescue – but he can't admit it**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comment/uk-immigration-immigrants-came-to-george-osborne-s-rescue-but-he-can-t-admit-it-a6750721.html>

**'Jungle' migrant camp plans for tiny rural village**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/12022759/Jungle-migrant-camp-plans-for-tiny-rural-village.html>

**Migrant crisis: 'EU cannot take any more refugees'**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-34904931>

**Refugee crisis could trigger 'mini-Schengen' warns Eurogroup chief**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/eu/12021328/PICANDPUB-Refugee-crisis-could-trigger-mini-Schengen-warns-Eurogroup-chief.html>

### Immigration Statistics News

**Net migration to UK hits record 336,000, statistics show**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-34931725>

**Immigration to UK reaches new record high**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/immigration-to-uk-reaches-new-record-high-1-3960038>

**Net migration to Britain hits new high of 336,000**

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/nov/26/net-migration-britain-new-high-ons-immigration>

**UK immigration: Estimated net migration increases to 336,000 for last year, ONS figures show**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/uk-immigration-estimated-net-migration-increases-to-336000-for-last-year-ons-figures-show-a6749491.html>

**Number of Romanian and Bulgarian migrants rises 70 per cent**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4624456.ece>

**How 50,000 migrants came to UK from Romania and Bulgaria in just one year: Figure up by 19,000 in a year after were given right to work freely in Britain**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3335689/How-50-000-migrants-came-UK-Romania-Bulgaria-just-one-year-Figure-19-000-year-given-right-work-freely-Britain.html>

## Immigration and Asylum (continued)

### Other News

#### Crackdown on €20m sham marriage trade

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/irishnews/article4623781.ece>

#### How do you prove you are gay? A culture of disbelief is traumatising asylum seekers

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/nov/24/gay-asylum-seekers-sexuality-home-office>

#### Activists 'glued to gates' at Heathrow immigration removal centre

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/nov/25/activists-glued-to-gates-at-heathrow-immigration-removal-centre>

#### Refugee crisis: 'Would you rather' quiz makes people consider horrific choices faced by asylum seekers

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/refugee-crisis-would-you-rather-quiz-makes-people-consider-horrific-choices-faced-by-asylum-seekers-a6750371.html>

#### Companies make case for immigrants but Britain is set on scaring them off

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/comment/companies-make-case-for-immigrants-but-britain-is-set-on-scaring-them-off-a6750866.html>

#### Hitting PM's migration target 'would harm economy'

[http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk\\_news/National/article1638840.ece](http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/National/article1638840.ece)

#### Scots saved us after we went through hell

[http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk\\_news/scotland/article1639296.ece](http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/scotland/article1639296.ece)

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## Community Relations

### UK Parliament Debate

#### Counterterrorism: Communities

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/151126-0002.htm#15112639000455>

### UK Parliament Questions

#### Religion: Advertisements

**The Lord Bishop of Chelmsford:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the freedom of religious and non-religious organisations to express their beliefs in the public sphere, in the light of the decision by Digital Cinema Media not to accept advertisements from the Church of England.

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Communities and Local Government (Baroness Williams of Trafford):** My Lords, freedom of expression, including freedom of the media, is fundamental to democratic society. Open discussion of faith issues has the benefit of bringing communities together, thereby giving rise to greater understanding among faith groups. In this case, the decision not to accept the advertisement was by an

## Community Relations

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

independent media organisation. The Government made clear that they do not agree with that decision and urged the cinema to look again.

**The Lord Bishop of Chelmsford:** On these Benches, we very much welcome the support from the Minister and, indeed, from No. 10 and other Ministers—and, indeed, from Richard Dawkins and Stephen Fry, who are not usually people who support the Church of England. But perhaps I might press the Minister to go further. Does she agree that advertisements are about beliefs and lifestyles, and then they sell the product? Therefore, others should also be free to speak about ideas in the marketplace of ideas. Digital Cinema Media, by banning this advertisement, has narrowed the opportunities for beliefs and values to be spoken about in the public square, which risks undermining some of the values and freedoms that most of us spend the rest of our time seeking to promote—not least the freedom to be offended.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** I totally agree with the right reverend Prelate on that point, and the Government wholeheartedly support the freedom of expression and support faith and faith institutions in this country. The Government greatly value the vital role that religious individuals and organisations have in our society, and the part that they play in national life and public service. We also value the vital role that the Church of England and many Christian organisations and individual Christians have in our society, and the part that they play in national life, inspiring a great number of people to get involved in public service and providing help to those in need.

**Lord Hunt of Kings Heath:** My Lords, I very much take the Minister's point, but is her Answer specifically directed at the special position of the Church of England, as the established church, or is she saying that she thinks that any religion—say, the Church of Scientology—or any political party should be permitted to advertise in the way that the Church of England wants to do? It is very important that we understand about whether a precedent is being set here.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** My Lords, I, and the Government, believe in the freedom of expression, and the freedom actually to not believe at all, as well as to believe in a variety of different religions.

**Lord Pearson of Rannoch:** My Lords, does the Minister think that Digital Cinema Media, or any other media outlet in this country, would have dared to ban footage advancing the religion of Islam?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** I think that is a very good question. As I have said before, the freedom of religious expression should be apparent throughout society, and we should not be offended by religion. ...

**Lord Singh of Wimbledon:** Is the Minister aware that Christianity and other religions carry the potential to seriously destabilise society by talking about putting others before self, whereas the prevailing marketing culture says, "Me and mine"? It also does things like talking about forgiveness and reconciliation, which could seriously jeopardise jobs in the prison industry.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** My Lords, if there is a choice, I think I would go with the former. It is often shown that giving to others makes you far happier than thinking about me, me, me.

**Baroness Harris of Richmond:** My Lords, will the Minister tell the House whether there were any representations from the Church of England to other faiths before it made the decision to launch this campaign? ...

**Baroness Williams of Trafford:** I have absolutely no idea. ...

**Baroness O'Neill of Bengarve:** My Lords, does the Minister accept that there is not and cannot be a right not to be offended? Offence is in the eye of the beholder, and the right to freedom of expression and the right to manifest religion or belief cannot be curtailed by a supposed right not to be offended.



## Community Relations

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The noble Baroness is absolutely right.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/151125-0001.htm#15112550000991>

## News

**Mitzvah Day unites Jewish and Muslim leaders in kitchen**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/nov/22/mitzvah-day-jewish-muslim-leaders-kitchen>

**Thousands unite against racial hatred**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4626362.ece>

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## Equality

### Scottish Parliament Equal Opportunities Committee

**Inquiry into Race, Ethnicity and Employment**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10223&i=94139#ScotParIOR>

### Press Releases

**Inclusive employment**

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Inclusive-employment-1fb3.aspx>

**Non-renewal of contract, in a public establishment, of a social assistant refusing to remove her veil was not contrary to the European Convention on Human Rights**

<http://tinyurl.com/osre7rq>

### New Publication

**Equality, human rights and access to civil law justice: a literature review**

[http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/files/news/Equality\\_human\\_rights\\_and\\_access\\_to\\_civil\\_law\\_justice\\_0.pdf](http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/files/news/Equality_human_rights_and_access_to_civil_law_justice_0.pdf)

## News

**Muslim female governor 'chose to sit apart from men'**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/education-34921582>

**Muslim school's female governor forced out of sight**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/education/article4622977.ece>

#### Introducing FRA's Local Engagement for Roma Inclusion project

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2015/introducing-fras-local-engagement-roma-inclusion-project>

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## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### Scottish Parliament Question

#### Hate crimes

**Elaine Murray:** To ask the Scottish Government what statistics it compiles regarding the incidence of hate crimes. (S4W-28399)

**Reply from Paul Wheelhouse:** The Scottish Government currently produces official statistics on the number of racist incidents recorded by the police in Scotland, including information on any crimes associated with those incidents. The 2013-14 bulletin was published on 24 November 2015. These can be accessed at the link below:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/PubRacistIncidents>.

We are currently considering whether to replace the racist incidents publication with a new and broader product on police recorded hate crime (which would include a race element). We will work with Police Scotland as it develops its hate crime data and will inform users as this work develops. The Scottish Government also runs the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS), which asks victims of crime for their perception on the motivation behind the incident. The latest results from the 2012-13 SCJS estimate that 7% of crime may have been motivated by either the victims ethnicity, religion, sectarianism, gender, disability, sexual orientation or age. The survey's results can be accessed below:

<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2014/03/9823>.

Whilst not directly covering hate crime, the Scottish Household Survey (also run by the Scottish Government) includes information on the proportion of adults who have experienced discrimination or harassment. This can be accessed at the link below: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/08/3720/4>.

The Scottish Government also produces official statistics on the number of offences with an aggravator recorded, which includes hate crime information by race, religion, sexual orientation, disability and transgender identity. The latest figures were published as an additional dataset to the Criminal Proceedings in Scotland, 2013-14 statistical bulletin and can be accessed here:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/Datasets/DatasetsCrimProc/offagg1314>.

In addition to the above, the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) publishes official statistics on the number of hate crime charges reported to the COPFS in Scotland. This includes hate crime information by race, religion, sexual orientation, disability and transgender identity. These can be accessed at the link below:

<http://www.crownoffice.gov.uk/publications/equality-and-diversity>.

Since 2010-11 the Scottish Government has also provided detailed further analysis of the COPFS data on religiously aggravated offending (section 74 of the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003) and, since 2011-12, the hate-crime related charges reported under the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act 2012. The most recent reports are here:

## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination Scottish Parliament Question (continued)

<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/06/9065> and; <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/06/7911>.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-28399&ResultsPerPage=10>

## UK Parliament Questions

### Anti-Semitic Hate Crimes

**Michael Fabricant:** What steps the Crown Prosecution Service is taking to improve the conviction rate for anti-Semitic hate crimes; and if he will make a statement. [902352]

**Reply from the Solicitor General (Robert Buckland):** New CPS legal guidance for prosecutors on anti-Semitic hate crimes was published in May, and in addition the CPS is implementing its religiously aggravated and anti-Semitic crime action plan, which seeks to raise awareness of these cases and to improve the reporting of such hate crimes. This has been welcomed by the all-party group against antisemitism.

**Michael Fabricant:** My hon. and learned Friend will be aware that the incidence of anti-Semitic hate crime is going up, particularly in Muslim areas, unfortunately. Can he expand a little further on his earlier answer about the role of the CPS in educating the police on these matters?

**Reply from the Solicitor General:** I pay tribute to my hon. Friend for the consistent work that he has done over the years to highlight that obscene crime. I am sad to say that there are spikes in that type of offending when particular political events occur. The CPS is aware of it, as are the police, and that type of hate crime was very much on the agenda of the national training conference at Ryton.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm151126/debtext/151126-0001.htm#15112625000019>

## Press Releases

### Racist Incident statistics released

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Racist-Incident-statistics-released-1f97.aspx>

### Racist Incidents Recorded by the Police in Scotland, 2013-14

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Racist-Incidents-Recorded-by-the-Police-in-Scotland-2013-14-1f96.aspx>

## New Publications

### Racist Incidents Recorded by the Police in Scotland, 2013-14

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0048/00489644.pdf>

### Antisemitic Discourse in Britain 2014

<https://cst.org.uk/public/data/file/5/2/Antisemitic%20Discourse%20Report%202014.pdf>

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

### **Rise in 'white British' racism incidents in Scotland**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-34911619>

### **Hate crime warning after rise in racist incidents**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/hate-crime-warning-after-rise-in-racist-incidents-1-3957744>

### **More than 4,800 racist incidents recorded by Police Scotland**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14099654.More\\_than\\_4\\_800\\_racist\\_incidents\\_recorded\\_by\\_Police\\_Scotland/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14099654.More_than_4_800_racist_incidents_recorded_by_Police_Scotland/)

### **Over 4,800 racist incidents recorded by Police Scotland**

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/scotland/over-4-800-racist-incidents-recorded-by-police-scotland-1.912139>

### **Racist incidents recorded in Scotland rise by 4% with 'white British' people the most common victim**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/racist-incidents-recorded-scotland-rise-6890334>

### **Police Scotland report a rise of almost 4% in racist incidents - and the increase of victims are "white British"**

[http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/14099380.Police\\_Scotland\\_report\\_a\\_rise\\_of\\_almost\\_4\\_in\\_racist\\_incidents\\_and\\_the\\_increase\\_of\\_victims\\_are\\_white\\_British/](http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/14099380.Police_Scotland_report_a_rise_of_almost_4_in_racist_incidents_and_the_increase_of_victims_are_white_British/)

### **Referendum 'marred by anti-English backlash'**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article4623078.ece>

### **Scottish university staff accused of anti-Jewish discrimination**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/education/14096083.Scottish\\_university\\_staff\\_accused\\_of\\_anti\\_Jewish\\_discrimination/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/education/14096083.Scottish_university_staff_accused_of_anti_Jewish_discrimination/)

### **Islamophobia plays right into the hands of Isis**

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/nov/25/islamophobia-isis-muslim-islamic-state-paris>

### **'Islam is demonic' graffiti sprayed on Newport mosque**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-34919160>

### **Finsbury Park Mosque arson attempt a hate crime, say police**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-london-34953096>

### **Women targeted as hate crime against British Muslims soars following terrorist atrocity**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/paris-attacks-british-muslims-face-300-spike-in-racial-attacks-in-week-following-terror-a6744376.html>

### **Train passengers stand up against racial abuse of Muslim woman**

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/nov/24/train-passengers-stand-up-against-racial-abuse-muslim-woman-newcastle-metro>

### **Muslim woman thanks "Geordie angels" for defending her against racist bully**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4622856.ece>

## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### News (continued)

**Muslim woman thanks train passengers who defended her from racist abuse**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/12014568/Muslim-woman-thanks-train-passengers-who-defended-her-from-racist-abuse.html>

**British Muslim verbally abused on a train thanks the commuters who rushed to her aid and says her religion wouldn't even condone 'killing an ant'**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-3333357/British-Muslim-verbally-abused-train-thanks-commuters-rushed-aid-says-religion-wouldn-t-condone-killing-ant.html>

**Muslim woman thanks 'Geordie angels' who defended her from racist abuse on Newcastle Metro**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/muslim-woman-thanks-geordie-angels-who-defended-her-from-racist-abuse-on-newcastle-metro-a6746591.html>

**Wearing a headscarf makes me nervous now**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4626357.ece>

**Actor Omar Raza racially assaulted 'after Paris attacks'**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-34895866>

**Racist mob beat actor up on Glasgow street**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article4621140.ece>

**Celtic director Lord Livingston reveals racist abuse he has received from fans**

[http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/14097406.Celtic\\_director\\_Lord\\_Livingston\\_reveals\\_racist\\_abuse\\_he\\_has\\_received\\_from\\_fans/](http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/14097406.Celtic_director_Lord_Livingston_reveals_racist_abuse_he_has_received_from_fans/)

**Police to talk to Celtic FC director Lord Livingston over 'criminally racist abuse' he received from fans**

[http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/14101498.Police\\_to\\_talk\\_to\\_Celtic\\_FC\\_director\\_Lord\\_Livingston\\_over\\_criminally\\_racist\\_abuse\\_he\\_received\\_from\\_fans/](http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/14101498.Police_to_talk_to_Celtic_FC_director_Lord_Livingston_over_criminally_racist_abuse_he_received_from_fans/)

**Officer who guarded Tony Blair wins discrimination battle**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14103303.Officer\\_who\\_guarded\\_Tony\\_Blair\\_wins\\_discrimination\\_battle/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14103303.Officer_who_guarded_Tony_Blair_wins_discrimination_battle/)

**KidZania children's show rejects racism claims over 'scary' black puppet**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2015/nov/27/kidzania-childrens-show-rejects-racism-claims-over-scary-black-puppet>

**KidZania children's show suspended after racism claims**

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/nov/26/kidzania-childrens-show-suspended-after-racism-claims>

**Church of Scotland supports anti-bigotry football campaign**

<http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/tfn-news/church-of-scotland-moderator-shows-his-support-for-charity-campaign>

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## Other UK Parliament and Government

### New Publications

#### **Female genital mutilation: resource pack**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/female-genital-mutilation-resource-pack/female-genital-mutilation-resource-pack>

#### **FGM case studies:**

##### **Interpreting, awareness-raising and advice**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fgm-case-studies/interpreting-awareness-raising-and-advice>

##### **Taking a multi-agency approach**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fgm-case-studies/taking-a-multi-agency-approach>

##### **Positive working between midwife and GP**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fgm-case-studies/positive-working-between-midwife-and-gp>

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## Other News

#### **Call to help addicts from BME communities in Glasgow**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14107700.Call to help addicts from BME communities in Glasgow/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14107700.Call_to_help_addicts_from_BME_communities_in_Glasgow/)

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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>

#### **Community Justice Bill**

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

#### **\*\* Criminal Justice Bill**

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

#### Supplementary Financial Memorandum

[http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_Bills/Criminal%20Justice%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/SPBill35AFMS042015.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_Bills/Criminal%20Justice%20(Scotland)%20Bill/SPBill35AFMS042015.pdf)

#### Proposed amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/94392.aspx>

## Bills in Progress Scottish Parliament (continued)

### **\*\* Education Bill**

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

Proposed amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/94270.aspx>

and

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/94311.aspx>

and

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/94352.aspx>

### **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>

Stage 1 evidence session, Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10224&i=94142#ScotParlOR>

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

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

Stage 1 evidence session, Health and Sport Committee

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10227&i=94154#ScotParlOR>

## Bills in Progress 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>

Proposed amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2015-2016/0074/amend/psc0742711a.1-7.html>

### **\*\* Scotland Act 1998 (Amendment) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2015-16/scotlandact1998amendment.html>

First Reading, House of Commons

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm151125/debtext/151125-0002.htm#15112551000001>

## Bills in Progress

### UK Parliament (continued)

#### **\*\* Scotland Bill**

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

Select Committee on the Constitution Report

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldselect/ldconst/59/59.pdf>

Second Reading, House of Lords

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/151124-0001.htm#15112445000250>

Proposed amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2015-2016/0073/amend/am073-b.htm>

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

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

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## Consultations

**\*\* new or updated this week**

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

**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)

**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>

**Race equality in the UK** (closing date 18 December 2015)

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/projects-and-publications/europe/cerd.html>

**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>

**Primary care for new migrants** (no closing date given)

<https://newmigrantsinprimarycare.wordpress.com/survey/>

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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

### **\*\* Healthier Scotland Engagement Fund**

**closing date 11 December 2015**

Grants of up to £500 (or exceptionally up to £1,000) to help small voluntary organisations and community groups run an event or engagement activity to gather views about the future of health and social care services in Scotland from people who would not normally participate in a consultation of this nature. For information see

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

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## Events/Conferences/Training

\*\* new or updated this week

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

#### **Scottish Interfaith Week**

22-30 November 2015

Full programme of events

<http://www.interfaithscotland.org/app/download/22335310/Scottish+Interfaith+Week+2015+Programme.pdf>

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

#### **Female Genital Mutilation Seminar**

1 December 2015 in Glenrothes (2.00 – 4.00)

Multi-agency seminar aimed at professionals to raise awareness of issues surrounding FGM, including prevalence, consequences, legal aspects, and implications for practice.

For information contact Lynda Dargie [lynda.dargie@fife.gov.uk](mailto:lynda.dargie@fife.gov.uk)

#### **Equality in procurement for minority ethnic businesses**

7 December 2015 in Glasgow (9.30 – 12.30)

West of Scotland Regional Equality Council event to raise awareness on public sector procurement, tendering processes and advantageous methods of engaging with public sector bodies. For information contact Bushra Iqbal [biqbal@wsrec.co.uk](mailto:biqbal@wsrec.co.uk) / 0141 337 6626

#### **Inclusion Fundamentals**

9 December 2015 in Kirkcaldy (9.30 – 4.00)

Fife Centre for Equalities seminar on the basics for understanding and meeting the diverse needs of people of different protected characteristics. For information see

<http://www.fivevoluntaryaction.org.uk/news.asp?id=6569>

#### **Discrimination Law in 2016**

25 January 2016 in Edinburgh (9.55 – 4.00)

Equality and Human Rights Commission conference to provide an updated overview of discrimination cases in the UK through presentations from experts in the field. Fee £75 but free places may be available to voluntary organisations and individuals on

## Events/Training/Conferences (continued)

application. For information see [http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/16i\\_ehrc.pdf](http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/16i_ehrc.pdf) or contact Kyle Mulholland 0141 228 5925 / [equalityactscotland@equalityhumanrights.com](mailto:equalityactscotland@equalityhumanrights.com)

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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/>

**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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