

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

Scottish Parliament Debate

Immigration Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10323&i=94997#ScotParIOR>

Scottish Parliament Questions

Post-study Work Visas

John Mason: To ask the First Minister what discussions the Scottish Government has had with the United Kingdom Government regarding the possible reintroduction of the post-study work visa. (S4F-03177)

Reply from the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon): Since the publication of the Smith commission report, the Government has remained committed to working

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

with our UK counterparts to ensure that a post-study work route is reintroduced in Scotland. That has been raised with the UK Government at a number of meetings at ministerial and official level.

We are therefore deeply disappointed—and I have to say that I am rather angry—that without any real consultation the Secretary of State for Scotland recently indicated that the UK Government has no intention of reintroducing the post-study work visa for Scotland. I understand that the UK Minister for Security and Immigration intends to meet the cross-party post-study-work steering group and I expect and hope that the United Kingdom Government will take the concerns of the Scottish Government and the united voices of Scottish stakeholders fully on board. I believe that there is consensus in Parliament and out there in Scotland that the post-study work visa should be reintroduced. It is time that the UK Government got on and did it.

John Mason: I thank the First Minister for that answer. Does she agree that not only do the students themselves benefit from being able to work after their studies but the Scottish economy and Scottish society benefit from having those people living here?

Reply from the First Minister: I whole-heartedly agree with that. If we are going to invest in educating the best and the brightest people from all over the world, surely it makes sense to try to encourage them, once they graduate from university, to make a contribution to our economy—to give something back to economic and social life here in Scotland.

Of course, we know that people who come to Scotland from all parts of the world make a real and rich contribution to our society, just as Scots who go from here to other parts of the world do there. The UK Government's actions on this issue are short-sighted and wrong-headed and I urge it to change its mind. If there is any credence whatsoever to what we keep hearing about a respect agenda, the UK Government will recognise the consensus on the issue and do something about it.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10323&i=94991#ScotParIOR>

Post-study Work Visa

Mike MacKenzie: To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on the United Kingdom Government's decision to rule out a return to the post-study work visa. (S40-05275)

Reply from the Minister for Europe and International Development (Humza Yousaf): The Scottish Government was deeply disappointed by the UK Government statement that ruled out a return of the post-study work visa in Scotland. The statement ignored the consensus that exists among Scottish businesses, the education sector and every political party that is represented in this chamber that there is a clear need for the return of a post-study work visa. In our opinion, the statement also clearly went against the spirit of the Smith commission recommendations.

Mike MacKenzie: Given that the call for a return of the visa has been backed by businesses, colleges and universities and—as the minister just mentioned—has cross-party support in this Parliament, what discussions were held with Scottish stakeholders on the UK Government's decision?

Reply from Humza Yousaf: A lot of engagement has taken place with a multitude of stakeholders up and down the country. Most recently, at the end of last year, we held a workshop with more than 30 representatives from across academia, business, trade unions and other political parties. All of them were united in a consensus for the return of the post-study work visa.

It is worth saying that, during his appearance at the Scottish Affairs Committee

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

yesterday, the Secretary of State for Scotland sought to distance himself from his own written statement. He indicated that, if sensible proposals were put forward, the UK Government would consider them. We look forward to having that discussion with the UK Government and to meeting the UK immigration minister, who has agreed to meet the cross-party post-study work steering group, so I hope that we will be able to take the issue forward.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10321>

Refugees from Syria (Assistance)

Tavish Scott: To ask the Scottish Government what assistance it is providing to refugees from Syria and what further discussions it has had with the United Kingdom Government on this matter. (S4O-05277)

Reply from the Minister for Europe and International Development (Humza Yousaf): The refugee task force that the First Minister established in September 2015 brings together Scottish ministers, the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, the Scottish Refugee Council, the UK Government, local government and other stakeholders to co-ordinate Scotland's humanitarian and practical response to the refugee crisis. The task force has ensured that refugees have received the warmest welcome to Scotland. It is continuing its work to support the delivery of arrangements to help refugees settle into their new homes and communities and its work on integration. That effort will take not just days and weeks but a number of years. The Scottish Government is in regular dialogue with the UK Government about arrangements for the arrival of Syrian refugees in Scotland, and I spoke to the Home Office about the matter just last week.

Tavish Scott: I thank the minister for the sentiment of his answer. Does he share with me the concern that pupils from Aith junior high school in Shetland expressed to me last week—that the issue has fallen off the news agenda? We are not seeing the plight of Syrian refugees, particularly this winter, being covered by national or international television or other news outlets. Does he share the concern of pupils of that age that the moral imperative to act is still with us? What further proposals might he have in that regard? Does he consider that the comments of the Foreign Secretary on Radio Scotland this morning were very much at odds with the way in which many of us in Scotland feel?

Reply from Humza Yousaf: I have not seen a note of those remarks yet, but I will ensure that I do. I entirely agree with Tavish Scott and his constituents in Shetland that there is a danger that, following the disturbing images that we saw in the summer, the issues have come off our television screens and off people's radars. There is a hell of a lot more that the UK Government, the Scottish Government and local authorities can do. We think that the figure of 20,000 that the UK Government has announced should be a floor, not a ceiling.

A number of organisations, such as Save the Children, have raised the issue of unaccompanied children. I know that Tim Farron, the Liberal Democrat leader at UK level, has approached the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary on the issue. The Scottish Government would support that call, too.

On a more positive note, the response from all 32 local authorities has been incredible as they have expressed their willingness to get involved. As the Scottish Government, we have to harness the public attitude and desire to help the most vulnerable in the world.

Jamie McGrigor: Does the minister agree that we should be proud of the United Kingdom's efforts to help the most vulnerable refugees from Syria who are unable to leave the region, which include providing more than 19 million food rations and allocating £1.2 billion in aid?

Reply from Humza Yousaf: Yes. I commend the efforts of the UK Government,

Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

which is one of the largest donors in that region. I also commend the efforts that it is making in relation to the Syrian vulnerable persons relocation scheme.

We have had some differences. We believe that the UK Government should opt into the European Union's resettlement and relocation scheme for refugees who arrive via the Aegean Sea. We also think that we can take more refugees and that, as I said in my previous answer, we should consider unaccompanied children. However, that is not to discredit anything that the UK Government is doing. It should be applauded for its efforts in the region, and the Scottish Government stands ready to assist where we can.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10321&i=94964#ScotParIOR>

Smith Commission Agreement

Claire Baker: To ask the Scottish Government what (a) discussions it has had with the UK Government and (b) progress has been made to implement the recommendation in the Smith Commission Agreement that the Scottish and UK governments work together on issues relating to asylum seekers. (S4W-29290)

Reply from Alex Neil: In the period since the Smith Commission Agreement was published, the Scottish and UK Governments have sought to progress the recommendation on issues relating to asylum seekers through regular meetings. These have included discussions on the non-legislative proposals from the commission and a demonstration of the asylum process at the Home Office in Glasgow. This inter-government work with the UK Government on asylum issues is ongoing.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-29290&ResultsPerPage=10>

Scottish Parliament Motion

S4M-15342 Patricia Ferguson: Fair Treatment for Child Refugees—That the Parliament supports the amendment to the UK Government's Immigration Bill tabled by the Labour peer, Lord Alf Dubs, which, if passed, would allow an additional 3,000 children to be brought to the UK; notes that these 3,000 unaccompanied children would be in addition to the 20,000 refugees that the UK Government has agreed to accommodate over the next five years; considers that these children are vulnerable to exploitation, sexual violence, disease and cold; understands that 3,000 is the number calculated by Save the Children as Britain's fair share of the estimated 26,000 children who arrived in Europe last year without family; considers that Lord Dubs' own experience as a child refugee who travelled to the UK as part of the Kindertransport programme means that he is uniquely placed to advocate on behalf of these young people, and wishes him success with his amendment.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-15342&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Questions

Immigration: Interpreters

Andrew Rosindell [21152] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the cost to the public purse was of her Department's employment of interpreters for immigration purposes in 2014-15; and what the roles and responsibilities were of those

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

interpreters, beyond assisting with the processing of refugee applications.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The total spend on interpreters in 2014-15 was £749,746 for Border Force, £1,455,375 for Immigration Enforcement and £5,366,622 for UK Visas and Immigration (Asylum) for translation in asylum claims.

Responsibilities include but are not limited to enabling a full and accurate two way interpretation service whilst not impeding the progress of any formal interviews or encounters.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-05/21152/>

English Language: Education

Tulip Siddiq [21719] To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, how much the Skills Funding Agency has provided for ESOL Plus Mandation courses in each year since 2009-10.

Reply from Nick Boles: ESOL Plus (Mandation) funding was introduced in 2014 in order to support the English Language Requirement policy to mandate new Jobseeker's Allowance claimants with poor spoken English to ESOL training. ESOL Plus (Mandation) funding was additional to the Adult Skills Budget, which providers use to fund ESOL.

The Skills Funding Agency provided £30m in 2014-15 and £10m in 2015-16 of ESOL Plus (Mandation) funding.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-11/21719/>

English Language: Education

Greg Mulholland [23091] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, pursuant to the Prime Minister's announcement of 18 January 2016, Passive tolerance of separate communities must end, how the £20 million fund for English teaching for isolated women will be spent.

Reply from Marcus Jones: Our new £20 million community-based English language training offer will be informed by the findings of Louise Casey's Review into boosting opportunity and integration amongst isolated groups and the learning from the six community projects we have funded as part of our current integration programme. In particular, we will work with Louise Casey to identify the most isolated communities in England to make sure this programme is targeted at those women who need it most.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-19/23091/>

Immigration Controls

Peter Bone [20941] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what progress she has made on reducing net migration to the tens of thousands.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Uncontrolled mass immigration increases pressure on public services and can drive down wages. That is why our ambition remains to cut net migration to sustainable levels. We continue to work across government to reduce net migration outside of the EU and seek reform in Europe to reduce the pull factors behind EU migration. Building on the measures in the Immigration Act 2014, our new Immigration Bill will address illegal working, the availability of public services which help migrants remain here unlawfully and will extend our 'deport first appeal later' approach to ensure that even more illegal migrants are removed from the UK.

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-05/20941/>

Immigration Rules: Syria

Caroline Lucas [22386] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she plans to renew concessions to the immigration rules for Syrian nationals lawfully in the UK beyond 28 February 2016.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Government is currently considering whether to renew the concession for Syrian nationals in respect of the Immigration Rules. The Government continues to monitor the situation in Syria closely in order to ensure our response is appropriate.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-13/22386/>

Visas

Paul Blomfield [21728] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications in which (a) towns, (b) cities and (c) regions for Tier 2 (General) restricted Certificate of Sponsorship have been rejected on the grounds that the job is in an establishment which provides a take-away service in each of the last five years.

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

For the future, the Government intends that Tier 2 should be restricted to roles where there are genuine skills shortages or which require highly-specialised experts. We asked the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to advise on how to achieve this, but with sufficient flexibility to include high value roles and key public service workers. The MAC has now submitted its advice and the Government is considering the report carefully.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-11/21728/>

Visas

Alistair Carmichael [22686] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate her Department has made of the number of people in the UK on a tier 2 visa who will not have their visa renewed when new rules requiring them to be paid at least £35,000 per annum or the going rate in the relevant UK Border Agency Code of Practice, whichever is higher.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Government announced in 2012 that from 6 April 2016 Tier 2 visa holders who apply for settlement in the UK will be required to meet a minimum annual salary requirement of £35,000. PhD level roles and those in shortage will be exempt from the £35,000 threshold.

Applicants who are not paid the appropriate rate for their occupation, as set out in UK Visas and Immigration codes of practice, cannot be granted an initial Tier 2 visa. The appropriate rate test has applied to settlement applications since 2011. The Home Office published a full impact assessment on the changes to Tier 2 settlement rules when they were laid before Parliament on 15 March 2012. This is available on the gov.uk website at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/117957/impact-assessment-tier2.pdf

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-14/22686/>

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Visas: Migrant Workers

Phil Boswell [21619] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if the Government will adjust the points-based visa criteria to reflect differences in regional average income levels.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Salary requirements form part of the criteria for Tier 2 of the Points Based System for immigration – the skilled work route. For the future, the Government intends that employers should only bring in workers from outside Europe where they have genuine skills shortages or require highly-specialised experts. In June last year, we commissioned the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to advise on how to achieve this, but with sufficient flexibility to include high value roles and key public service workers.

Among other things, the MAC was asked to advise on minimum salary levels, and to consider the regional impact of all its recommendations. The MAC has now submitted its advice to the Home Secretary and is expected to publish the report shortly. We will consider the findings carefully.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-08/21619/>

Right of Abode

Alison Thewlis [22519] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will make it her policy to offer a discounted rate for dependents who apply for a Certificate of Entitlement for Right of Abode in the UK.

Reply from James Brokenshire: This Government has no plans to offer discounted rates for such dependants.

Income from application fees helps provide the resources necessary to operate the immigration system, with the remainder of funding provided through general taxation. The Government's aim is to reduce the overall contribution of funding that comes from general taxation.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-14/22519/>

Migrant Workers: Domestic Service

Jim Shannon [22508] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many domestic workers from overseas successfully applied for leave to remain in the UK in each of the last five years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The information requested on extensions of stay (leave to remain) is given in the table below. Corresponding data for 2015 will be published on 25 February 2016.

Domestic workers in Private Households (and dependants) granted an extension of stay			
Year	Main applicants	Dependants	Total
2010	6,645	608	7,253
2011	6,156	490	6,646
2012	3,737	311	4,048
2013	5,218	428	5,646
2014	4,025	384	4,409

Source: Immigration Statistics July-September 2015, Home Office, table ex_01.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/476907/extensions-q3-2015-tabs.ods

Information on grants of extensions of stay for overseas domestic workers in private households is published in the Extensions table ex_01 in the Home

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Office's Immigration Statistics release. The latest edition, Immigration Statistics: July to September 2015 is available from the Library of the House and on the GOV.UK statistics web pages at:

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

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-13/22508/>

Migrant Workers: Domestic Service

Jim Shannon [22507] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many domestic workers were deported in each of the last five years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: This question was interpreted as asking for information on enforced removals.

A deportation is defined as follows:

A person who is not a British citizen is liable for deportation from the United Kingdom if the Secretary of State deems their deportation to be conducive to the public good. A deportation order requires a person to leave the UK and prohibits them from re-entering for an indefinite period. The deportation order invalidates any leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom given before the order is made or while it is in force.

Deportations are a specific subset of published removal figures.

The table below shows the number of people who entered the UK as a domestic worker and were then deported from the UK in each of the last 5 years. These figures include both deportations and enforced removals.

Year	Number of domestic workers deported from the UK
2010	7
2011	11
2012	16
2013	20
2014	14

The figures quoted have been derived from management information and are therefore provisional and subject to change. This information has not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-13/22507/>

Immigrants

Tulip Siddiq [22366] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answers of 24 December 2015 to Questions 19956 and 19957, how many migrants granted leave to remain in the UK did not have No Recourse to public funds conditions imposed on them because of exceptional circumstances in (a) 2008, (b) 2009 and (c) 2010.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The number of cases in which leave to remain in the UK was granted that did not have No Recourse to Public Funds conditions imposed on them in the years 2008 to 2010 was as follows:

2008: 3,490, 2009: 7,795, 2010: 9,020

These figures have been provided by the Home Office database with figures rounded to the nearest 5, interpreting 'migrants' as 'lead cases' and excluding asylum applications.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-13/22366/>

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Refugees

Andrew Rosindell [21188] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many refugees who have been admitted to the UK since 2010 (a) have since returned to their country of origin and (b) her Department is in regular contact with.

Reply from James Brokenshire: If the Home Office grants refugee status to an applicant, we would not seek to remove them from the UK as a 'failed asylum seeker'. It has been assumed the question is about how many refugees who have settled in the UK, have since returned to their country of origin.

The Home Office does not hold information on the number of people who have settled and been granted refugee status in the UK, who have since returned to their country of origin. If refugees return to their country of origin the Home Office does not keep in regular contact.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-06/21188/>

Refugees: Syria

Catherine McKinnell [22422] To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what steps his Department is taking to ensure the target of 20,000 resettled Syrian refugees is met by the end of this Parliament.

Reply from Greg Hands: At the Spending Review we announced that over £460 million of the overseas aid budget will be used by 2019-20 to resettle 20,000 of the most vulnerable Syrian refugees, covering the full first year costs to ease the burden on local communities. The Spending Review also provided around a further £130 million by 2019-20 to local authorities to contribute to the costs of supporting refugees beyond their first year in the UK.

The Home Office will administer this scheme in partnership with other departments, international agencies, local authorities and the voluntary sector.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-13/22422/>

Asylum

Anne-Marie Trevelyan [21641] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people who have been granted asylum since 2000 have been (a) granted indefinite leave to remain after five years and (b) deported.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The term 'deportations' refers to a legal definition of a specific set of removals. Deportations are a specific subset of removals which are enforced either following a criminal conviction or when it is judged that a person's removal from the UK is conducive to the public good. The deportation order prohibits the person returning to the UK until such time as it may be revoked. Published information on those deported is not separately available. As such, the question has been interpreted as referring to enforced removals. In an enforced removal, it has been established that a person has breached UK immigration laws and / or has no valid leave to remain in the UK. They have declined to leave voluntarily and the Home Office enforces their departure from the UK.

The tables set out below provide a) asylum-related grants of settlement (indefinite leave to remain) from 2005 and b) the total number of enforced removals of people granted asylum at initial decision, from 2009 to 2014.

The figures on asylum-related grants of settlement (indefinite leave to remain) relate to grants of settlement following appropriate residence eligibility periods, to individuals previously granted refugee status, humanitarian protection or discretionary leave or exceptional leave to remain. This may include some

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

individuals who receiving asylum-related grants prior to 2000.

Information on asylum-related grants of settlement and persons removed or departed voluntarily from the UK are published in the Home Office's Immigration Statistics. The latest edition, Immigration Statistics: July to September 2015, is available from GOV.UK on the statistics web pages at:

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

Grants of Settlement:

<http://qna.files.parliament.uk/qna-attachments/443463/original/Table%20PQ%2021641%20Table%20a.xls>

Enforced Removals

<http://qna.files.parliament.uk/qna-attachments/443463/original/Insert%20table%20PQ%2021641%20Table%20b.xls>
[.xlsx](#)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-08/21641/>

Asylum

Anne-Marie Trevelyan [21642] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many asylum seekers have been granted leave to remain since 2000.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Home Office publishes data on asylum initial decisions in Table as_01 (Asylum data tables Volume 1) of the quarterly Immigration Statistics release. A total of 166,445 main applicants have been granted asylum or an alternative form of protection since January 2000. An annual breakdown of this total is provided in the attached table.

A copy of the latest release, Immigration Statistics April – June 2015, is available from

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

Annual breakdown of granted asylum/alternative

<http://qna.files.parliament.uk/qna-attachments/443464/original/Table%20-%2021642.xlsx>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-08/21642/>

Asylum: Scotland

Stuart C. McDonald [21170] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many refused asylum seekers with dependants have been supported in Scotland under section 95 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 for (a) up to two years, (b) more than two years and (c) more than four years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The table below shows the number of failed asylum seekers that have been supported under section 95 for the requested periods. This data defines refused asylum seekers as those who have been found to not require international protection and have received a final decision on their application.

Time on Support Count

Under 2 Years 251

Under 4 Years 120

Over 4 Years 13

Total = 384

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-06/21170/>

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Asylum

Stuart C. McDonald [21770] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many asylum decisions identified as critically flawed in her Department's Quality Audit in the last 12 months were (a) reconsidered by officials as a consequence of that finding, (b) overturned as a result of that reconsideration and (c) overturned on appeal.

Reply from James Brokenshire: In the twelve months to September 2015 a total of 29,246 asylum decisions were made. Over the same period, 4 asylum decisions were identified as critically flawed by the Department's Quality Audit team of which;

- a) all were reviewed as a result of the assessment,
- b) 3 were overturned as a result of that reconsideration and;
- c) none have to date been overturned at appeal.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-11/21770/>

Asylum

Stuart C. McDonald [21771] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many asylum decisions identified as seriously flawed in her Department's Quality Audit in the last 12 months were (a) reconsidered by officials as a consequence of that finding, (b) overturned as a result of that reconsideration and (c) overturned on appeal.

Reply from James Brokenshire: In the twelve months to September 2015, a total of 29,246 asylum decisions were made. Over the same period, 344 asylum decisions were identified as containing serious errors by the Department's Quality Audit team. Those cases which are identified as containing Serious Errors before the decision is served are required to be put right before service. The detailed breakdown requested for 'b' and 'c' is not available and to obtain this data is not economically viable.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-11/21771/>

Asylum: Scotland

Stuart C. McDonald [21172] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many refused asylum seekers have been supported in Scotland under section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 for (a) up to two years, (b) more than two years and (c) more than four years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The table below shows the number of failed asylum seekers that have been supported under section 4 for the requested periods. This data defines refused asylum seekers as those who have been found to not require international protection and have received a final decision on their application.

Time on Support Count
Under 2 Years 52
Under 4 Years 26
Over 4 Years 2
Total = 80

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-06/21172/>

Asylum

Stuart C. McDonald [21772] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many seriously or critically flawed decisions were identified in the Quality Audit of her Department's asylum decisions in the last 12 months.

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Reply from James Brokenshire: In the twelve months to September 2015 a total of 29,246 asylum decisions were made. Over the same period, 344 asylum decisions were identified by the Department's Quality Audit team as containing serious errors and 4 identified as critically flawed. The Home Office continues to review processes and procedures as part of its ongoing work to improve decision making.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-11/21772/>

Asylum: Finance

Stuart C. McDonald [21171] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many refused asylum seekers with dependants have been supported under section 95 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 for (a) up to two years, (b) more than two years and (c) more than four years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The table below shows the number of failed asylum seekers that have been supported under section 95 for the requested periods. This data defines refused asylum seekers as those who have been found to not require international protection and have received a final decision on their application.

Time On Support Count

Under 2 Years 1903

Under 4 Years 1283

Over 4 Years 249

Total = 3435

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-06/21171/>

Asylum: Finance

Stuart C. McDonald 21181] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many refused asylum seekers have been supported under section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 for (a) up to two years, (b) more than two years and (c) more than four years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The table below shows the number of failed asylum seekers that have been supported under section 4 for the requested periods. This data defines refused asylum seekers as those who have been found to not require international protection and have received a final decision on their application.

Time On Support Count

Under 2 Years 388

Under 4 Years 229

Over 4 Years 50

Total = 667

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-06/21181/>

Asylum and Human Trafficking: Children

Fiona Mactaggart [22649] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, when she last met the Home Secretary to discuss support for unaccompanied asylum seeking children and trafficked children; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Edward Timpson: The Government attaches high priority to ensuring that unaccompanied asylum seeking children and trafficked children who arrive in the UK are safe and well cared for. Responsibility for this rests with local

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

authorities.

On 15 December 2015, the Minister for Immigration and Ico-hosted a round table with key local authority representatives to discuss how this responsibility can be shared more evenly between local authorities, in order to relieve pressure on children's services in those areas with a disproportionately high number. We believe that sharing out this responsibility will benefit both the children involved and other children already in the care of those authorities. Ensuring that unaccompanied asylum seeking children are safe and well supported will remain of paramount importance for any new arrangements arising out of these discussions.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-14/22649/>

Detention Centres

Gavin Robinson [21317] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average duration of stay in an immigration holding or removal centre was in the last year.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The table below shows the latest available information on length of detention, in bands, as at the 30 September 2015. The Home Office publishes length of detention figures in bands as average figures can be skewed by the small number of people detained for longer periods.

People in detention by length of detention	
as at 30 September 2015:	
A: 3 days or less	373
B: 4 to 7 days	278
C: 8 to 14 days	418
D: 15 to 28 days	598
E: 29 days to less than 2 months	773
F: 2 months to less than 3 months	371
G: 3 months to less than 4 months	206
H: 4 months to less than 6 months	189
I: 6 months to less than 12 months	189
J: 12 months to less than 18 months	82
K: 18 months to less than 24 months	36
L: 24 months to less than 36 months	14
M: 36 months to less than 48 months	3
N: 48 months or more	1
Total	3,531

Published figures on people detained in the United Kingdom solely under Immigration Act powers include those held in short term holding facilities, pre departure accommodation and immigration removal centres. Figures exclude those held in police cells, Prison Service establishments, short term holding rooms at ports and airports (for less than 24 hours), and those recorded as detained under both criminal and immigration powers and their dependants. The period of detention starts when a person first enters the Home Office detention estate. If the person is then moved from a removal centre to a police cell or Prison Service establishment, this period of stay will be included if the detention is solely under Immigration Act powers.

The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on the number of people detained in the United Kingdom for immigration purposes, within the

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Immigration Statistics release on the GOV.UK website:

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

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-06/21317/>

Detention Centres

Gavin Robinson [21318] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the longest length of time is that a person has spent in an immigration holding or detention centre in the last five years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Information on the length of detention has been published since quarter 1 (January to March) 2010.

The longest time a person has been detained in the immigration estate - a foreign criminal who left detention and was returned to Algeria in Q1 2012 - was 2,319 days. The individual in this case had accumulated 14 convictions from 32 offences committed between 1998 and 2004, including - but not limited to - convictions for firearms/ shotguns/offensive weapons, drug offences, offences relating to police/courts/prisons and theft. He was continuously non-compliant with the Home Office and Algerian authorities, using a false identity and nationality, which frustrated attempts to obtain travel documentation to facilitate his deportation. His continued non-compliance, deception and a history of absconding led to detention being prolonged. This information does not include those held in prisons solely under Immigration Act powers.

The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on the number of people detained in the United Kingdom for immigration purposes, within the Immigration Statistics release on the GOV.UK website:

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

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-06/21318/>

Undocumented Migrants: Deportation

Andrew Rosindell [22903] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what procedures are in place to ensure that illegal migrants to the UK are returned to their country of origin; and whether people deemed by her Department to be illegal migrants are only able to appeal that decision from their country of origin.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Home Office continues to take action at every opportunity to prevent immigration abuse, pursue immigration offenders and increase compliance with immigration law including arresting and returning illegal migrants to their country of origin. The Immigration Act 2014 simplified the appeals system so that an appeal right only arises where a claim raising fundamental rights is refused, namely asylum, humanitarian protection and human rights claims. The Home Office has the power to require an appeal to be brought only once an individual has left the UK where the claim is clearly unfounded and where a person liable to deportation makes a human rights claim and it would not cause serious irreversible harm or otherwise breach human rights to require them to appeal from overseas.

The Immigration Bill seeks to extend the power to require an appeal to be brought from overseas to all human rights claims where an appeal from overseas would not cause serious irreversible harm or otherwise breach human rights. Similar provisions are set out in the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2006 which apply to EEA nationals and their family members.

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-18/22903/>

Immigrants: Deportation

Matthew Pennycook [21859] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many times limited removal directions have been used since the policy of giving such directions came into effect on 6 April 2015.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Immigration Act 2014 provides that where individuals are informed that they have no leave they are removable without the need for a further decision.

Following related process changes individuals being removed from the UK may receive a removal decision which provides limited information about their removal. In many cases the Home Office also provides further details to individuals out of courtesy – this may include details of the specific flight they will be removed on. Information on notice of removal is published in Chapter 60 of the Enforcement Instructions and Guidance, available on the gov.uk website.

Published data is available for the period 6 April – 30 September 2015. In that period, 26,159 removal decisions were served on individuals, but records do not show how many of these were full or limited notice.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-11/21859/>

Asylum: Deportation

Anne-Marie Trevelyan [21643] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many failed asylum seekers have been deported in each month since May 2010.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The term 'deportations' refers to a legal definition of a specific set of removals. Deportations are a specific subset of removals which are enforced either following a criminal conviction or when it is judged that a person's removal from the UK is conducive to the public good. The deportation order prohibits the person returning to the UK until such time as it may be revoked. Published information on those deported is not separately available. As such, the question has been interpreted as referring to enforced removals. In an enforced removal, it has been established that a person has breached UK immigration laws and / or has no valid leave to remain in the UK. They have declined to leave voluntarily and the Home Office enforces their departure from the UK.

The following table provides the total number of enforced removals of asylum cases, from Q1 2010 to Q3 2015.

In the year ending September 2015, there were 3,646 enforced removals of people who had previously sought asylum. The number of enforced asylum removals is influenced by a number of factors including the overall number of applications for asylum and changes in the nationality mix of those applying for asylum (i.e. an increase in those nationalities applying for asylum that are more likely to be granted will lead to fewer asylum removals).

The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on the number of persons removed or departed voluntarily from the UK within Immigration Statistics. The data on removals and voluntary departures by type are available in the latest release, Immigration Statistics: July to September 2015, table rv.01q from GOV.UK on the statistics web pages at:

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

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Enforced Removals:

<http://qna.files.parliament.uk/qna-attachments/443456/original/Table%20%20%2021643.xlsx>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-08/21643/>

Deportation

Christopher Chope [22459] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when the guidance on how to make a request for revocation of a deportation order will be republished; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The process of reviewing and revising the guidance is nearing completion, and I anticipate that an updated version will be made available in the Spring of 2016.

In the interim, current guidance covering various aspects of deportation order revocation can be found online as below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules/immigration-rules-part-13-deportation> - paragraphs 390-391 of the Immigration Rules set out the current rules for revocation of a deportation order, and how criminality impacts on this.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/chapter-13-criminality-guidance-in-article-8-echr-cases> - where family and/or private life considerations are relevant

to an application for revocation, this guidance explains how these are considered under Paragraphs 398-399D of the Immigration Rules.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-13/22459/>

Human Trafficking

Mark field [22061] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many prosecutions for human trafficking resulted in a conviction between 1 August 2015 and 1 January 2016; and how many orders made for victim compensation as a result of such convictions resulted in payments (a) by convicted traffickers and (b) at a cost to the public purse.

Reply from Mike Penning: Statistics for prosecutions and convictions for 2015, including those for offences defined as human trafficking, are planned for publication in May 2016.

Overall court proceedings data for offences defined as human trafficking in England and Wales from 2004 to 2014 are published here.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/criminal-justice-system-statistics-quarterly-december-2014>

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority cannot provide data on the compensation it has awarded to victims of a particular crime type. This is because it awards compensation in line with the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme tariff of injuries rather than the type of incident that led to those injuries.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-12/22061/>

New Publications

Migration Advisory Committee: Balancing migrant selectivity, investment in skills and impacts on UK productivity and competitiveness

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/493039/Tier_2_Report_Review_Version_for_Publishing_FINAL.pdf

Immigration and Asylum New Publications (continued)

Long-Term International Migration, International student migration - what do the statistics tell us?

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/migration1/long-term-international-migration/student-migration---what-do-the-statistics-tell-us-/student-migration---what-do-the-statistics-tell-us.pdf>

News: Scottish Politics

MSPs hit out at UK Immigration Bill in Holyrood debate

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-35374149>

MSPs warned about institutionalised racism with immigration changes

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/msps-warned-about-institutionalised-racism-with-immigration-changes-1-4007602>

Sturgeon enters row over post study work visas

http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/14221457.Sturgeon_enters_row_over_post_study_work_visas/

UK government 'open to suggestions' on post-study work visas in Scotland

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-35355420>

Mundell signals climbdown on work visas for overseas graduates

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14213206.Mundell_signals_climbdown_on_work_visas_for_overseas_graduates/

David Mundell pledges to listen to post-study visa decision concerns

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/david-mundell-pledges-to-listen-to-post-study-visa-decision-concerns-1-4005361>

Constitutional row as UK Government plans to use Scots councils as frontline in its war against illegal immigrants

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14225379.Constitutional_row_as_UK_Government_plans_to_use_Scots_councils_as_frontline_in_its_war_against_illegal_immigrants/

Immigration bill 'treats devolved governments as second class'

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jan/21/immigration-bill-treats-devolved-governments-second-class>

News: UK Politics

Cameron faces fight over plan to place more refugees in UK

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/world/europe/article4669832.ece>

Cameron 'seriously considering' allowing thousands of unaccompanied refugee children into UK

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/cameron-seriously-considering-allowing-thousands-of-unaccompanied-migrant-children-into-uk-a6830561.html>

Britain 'poised to open door to thousands of migrant children'

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jan/23/britain-poised-open-door-migrant-children>

Immigration and Asylum News: UK Politics (continued)

Theresa May set to charge firms employing skilled migrants £1,000 levy
<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jan/19/theresa-may-to-charge-firms-employing-skilled-migrants-1000-levy>

Charge employers £1,000 for every non-EU migrant worker, say Government advisers
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/12107524/Charge-employers-1000-for-every-non-EU-migrant-worker-says-Migration-Advisory-Committee.html>

Companies should pay '£1,000 for every non-EU skilled worker'
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4669198.ece>

Home Office misspells 'language' in English test statement
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-35381365>

Migrants told to learn English language ... by a Home Office website that can't even spell the word
<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/migrants-told-learn-english-language-7225212#o4UDZt1KMM4JpiSU.97>

Home Office misspells 'language' in English tests announcement
<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jan/22/home-office-misspells-language-english-tests-announcement>

News: UK Government's English language policy

Muslim women's segregation in UK communities must end - Cameron
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-35338413>

David Cameron's Muslim women policy 'lazy and misguided'
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-35345903>

How much of a problem is speaking English for some Muslim women?
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-35342342>

Cameron slammed for linking extremism to poor English skills
<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/cameron-slammed-for-linking-extremism-to-poor-english-skills-1-4004710>

Cameron criticised over his migrant English language policy that could lead to Muslim women being deported
<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14213222.Cameron criticised over his migrant English language policy that could lead to Muslim women being deported/>

David Cameron: Muslim women 'must improve English or face deportation'
http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14212036.David_Cameron_Muslim_women_must_improve_English_or_face_deportation/

Migrant spouses who fail English test may have to leave UK, says Cameron
<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jan/18/pm-migrant-spouses-who-fail-english-test-may-have-to-leave-uk>

Immigration and Asylum

News: UK Government's English language policy (continued)

David Cameron says migrant families could be broken up and mothers deported if they fail new English test

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/david-cameron-says-migrant-families-could-be-broken-up-and-mothers-deported-if-they-fail-new-english-a6818631.html>

Muslim women face being deported from UK if they fail to learn English under new Tory plan

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/muslim-women-face-being-deported-7197526#9KaK2ZwFjhtueVTC.97>

Muslim women to be taught English in £20m plan to beat 'backward attitudes'

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jan/18/muslim-women-to-be-taught-english-in-20m-plan-to-beat-backward-attitudes>

Immigrants must improve English in two-and-a-half years or face deportation, says David Cameron

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/12104980/Muslim-immigrants-must-improve-English-or-face-deportation.html>

Cameron's demonisation of Muslim women makes them a target for hate crime

http://www.heraldscotland.com/opinion/columnists/14226359.Cameron_s_demonisation_of_Muslim_women_makes_them_a_target_for_hate_crime/

Cameron 'stigmatising Muslim women' with English language policy

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2016/jan/18/david-cameron-stigmatising-muslim-women-learn-english-language-policy>

'We're finally together as a family but if I don't pass, then it's all over'

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4672471.ece>

David Cameron will support Muslim women – but only when it suits his scaremongering narrative

<http://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2016/jan/21/davids-cameron-will-support-muslim-women-but-only-when-it-suits-his-scaremongering-narrative>

Cameron has alienated the very people he must ally with: Muslim women

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/jan/18/david-cameron-muslim-women-anti-women>

David Cameron needs to look beyond the veil

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/jan/19/cameron-veil-muslim-women-reckless-intervention>

Muslim fury at Cameron's 'hypocrisy'

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4668484.ece>

Women must integrate, Cameron tells Muslims

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4668052.ece>

David Cameron must not follow France by alienating Muslims

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/david-cameron/12110047/David-Cameron-must-not-follow-France-by-alienating-Muslims.html>

Immigration and Asylum

News: UK Government's English language policy (continued)

As a Muslim woman, I don't welcome David Cameron's proposals. They can only drive further isolation

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/as-a-muslim-woman-i-dont-welcome-camerons-proposals-they-can-only-drive-further-isolation-a6819966.html>

How can it be controversial for Cameron to suggest immigrants learn English?

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/12105674/How-can-it-be-controversial-for-David-Cameron-to-suggest-immigrants-learn-English.html>

Teach Muslim women English - for their sake, not ours

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/12106722/Teach-Muslim-women-English-for-their-sake-not-ours.html>

Cameron's Muslim proposals are dangerous, dog-whistling nonsense

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/12108257/Camerons-proposals-for-Muslim-women-are-dangerous-dog-whistling-nonsense.html>

How can we be cohesive if we can't converse?

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/11923045/If-integration-is-going-to-work-everyone-needs-to-speak-the-same-language.html>

As an English teacher of Muslim women I know that Cameron's plans are hypocritical and demonising

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/as-an-english-teacher-of-muslim-women-i-know-that-camerons-plans-are-hypocritical-and-demonising-a6822411.html>

It is crucial that Muslim women learn English as without it they and their daughters are kept captive

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3405763/YASMIN-ALIBHAI-BROWN-crucial-Muslim-women-learn-English-without-daughters-kept-captive.html>

Imams should learn English and protect young people from Isis's 'poisonous rhetoric'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/12110525/David-Cameron-Imams-should-learn-English-and-protect-young-people-from-Isis-poisonous-rhetoric.html>

Labour MP reveals it's 'perfectly possible' for people to get by in parts of Bradford without speaking a word of English

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3406320/Labour-MP-reveals-s-perfectly-possible-people-parts-Bradford-without-speaking-word-English.html>

News: Refugee crisis

'The floodgates would open': Fury over EU plans to make Britain accept 90,000 refugees a year as part of migrant quota 'that would make Calais even more of a magnet'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3409334/Calais-migrants-win-human-right-live-here.html>

Take in more Syrians and help reunite refugee families, human rights official urges UK

<http://www.theguardian.com/law/2016/jan/22/take-more-syrians-help-reunite-refugee-families-human-rights-body-urges-uk>

Immigration and Asylum

News: Refugee crisis (continued)

Shocking surge in number of lone children arriving in Scotland to claim asylum

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14226367.Shocking_surge_in_number_of_lone_children_arriving_in_Scotland_to_claim_asylum/

France presses for child refugees to reach UK

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4671379.ece>

Syria refugees from Calais arrive in UK after legal ruling

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-35379110>

Refugees in Calais landmark case arrive in Britain

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4671799.ece>

Calais jungle refugees "should be reunited with their families in UK"

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14213058.Calais_jungle_refugees_should_be_reunited_with_their_families_in_UK/

Syrian teenager's brother looking forward to reunion after legal victory

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jan/21/syrian-teenagers-brother-looking-forward-to-reunion-after-legal-victory>

Calais asylum seekers can come to Britain

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4670645.ece>

Four young Syrian refugees to be brought to Britain from 'intolerable' Calais Jungle thanks to European right to a family life

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3408704/Four-Syrian-refugees-Calais-camp-live-relatives-UK.html>

News: Other Immigration and Asylum

Refugees 'heaven sent' for Scots

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/scotland/article4670654.ece>

Migrant earnings threshold would leave firms struggling to fill key jobs, business chiefs warn

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/migrant-earnings-threshold-would-leave-firms-struggling-to-fill-key-jobs-business-chiefs-warn-a6821871.html>

UK 'using misleading information' to return Eritrean asylum seekers

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jan/22/uk-using-misleading-information-return-eritrean-asylum-seekers-home-office-guidance>

£34,000 a night bill at 'hotel' for illegal migrants

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4668635.ece>

Asylum centre costs more than world's most exclusive hotels

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/12106353/Asylum-centre-costs-more-than-worlds-most-exclusive-hotels.html>

Immigration and Asylum

Other News (continued)

Pricier than the Ritz – the £150,000 a night deportation centre that held just 14 families: Five-star facilities branded a 'scandalous' waste of money as accommodation has full staff of 80 even when it is empty

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3405696/Pricier-Ritz-150-000-night-deportation-centre-held-just-14-families-Five-star-facilities-branded-scandalous-waste-money-accommodation-staff-80-empty.html>

Home Office officials to make 'red door policy' inquiry trip to Middlesbrough

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jan/20/home-office-officials-red-door-policy-inquiry-middlesbrough>

'I chose the colour of peace': the asylum seeker who repainted his red front door

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jan/20/asylum-seeker-repainted-red-front-door-colour-peace>

Asylum seekers in Middlesbrough suffering abuse after front doors were painted red to identify them will have doors repainted

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-investigation-launched-after-asylum-seekers-in-middlesbrough-claim-doors-were-painted-a6822211.html>

Middlesbrough: Visiting the asylum seekers suffering racist abuse after being housed in properties with identical red doors

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/middlesbrough-visiting-the-asylum-seekers-suffering-racist-abuse-after-being-housed-in-properties-a6824126.html>

Those red front doors show a startling lack of empathy for asylum seekers

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/jan/20/asylum-seekers-middlesbrough-red-front-doors>

Company which housed asylum seekers in houses with red doors which made them targets for racists and jobs were warned to change four years ago

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3407885/Asylum-seekers-forced-live-houses-red-doors.html>

Apartheid of the asylum seekers on British streets

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/uk/article4669721.ece>

Asylum seekers 'betrayed by red doors'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/12109453/Red-front-doors-on-asylum-seeker-homes-in-Middlesbrough-mark-them-out-to-race-hate-yobs.html>

EU nurses face English language checks

<http://www.bbc.com/news/health-35341354>

How Labour turned London into a foreign city: Fewer than half the capital's population are white British, gangsters from Somalia terrorise the suburbs and even the tramps are immigrants, reveals astonishing new book

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/columnists/article-3412616/How-Labour-turned-London-foreign-city.html>

Immigration and Asylum

Other News (continued)

Hospitals and schools 'exploit foreigners to undercut UK staff': Damning report says workers are paid 'significantly less' than British employees

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3407572/Hospitals-schools-exploit-foreigners-undercut-UK-staff-Damning-report-says-workers-paid-significantly-British-employees.html>

London children whose first language isn't English are doing better at school than native speakers

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/children-whose-first-language-isn-t-english-are-doing-better-at-school-than-native-speakers-a6827631.html>

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Community Relations

Scottish Parliament Motion

S4M-15409 Neil Findlay: BEMIS and Burns—That the Parliament recognises and champions the BEMIS Celebrates Burns event that is to take place in the Old Fruitmarket in Glasgow as part of the finale of the Celtic Connections festival; notes that it is taking place on what it considers to be the culturally appropriate date of Burns Night; believes that it will be a diverse community celebration and a unique partnership between BEMIS and the world-renowned festival; considers that this exemplifies Scotland's approach to celebrating diversity and promoting active citizenship; understands that the event will mark the culmination of the BEMIS-led programme to celebrate Scotland's living traditions, which encompasses over 65 community-based, diverse, multicultural events under the guise of the Scottish Government-funded 2015 Year of Food and Drink and Winter Festivals period; congratulates the 65 participating organisations from across 16 self-identified ethnic minority communities that assisted, using a small grants fund of £37,000 that was administered by BEMIS; understands that they facilitated events to champion the country's past, present and future using their unique global cultural characteristics; believes that BEMIS and its partners are committed to celebrating cultural diversity and promoting active citizenship and that, through programmes that acknowledge and value the intangible cultural heritage of Scotland's diverse citizens, everyone can appreciate that people are combined by their humanity and enhanced by their diversity; wishes everyone a happy Burns Night, and hopes that those attending the BEMIS event will enjoy an evening of diverse Scottish food and outstanding global musicianship.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4M-15409&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Angela Crawley (980) BEMIS celebrates Burns – That this House supports the BEMIS Celebrates Burns finale celebration at the Celtic Connections Festival in Glasgow's Old Fruitmarket on Robert Burns Day; champions this diverse community celebration as a unique partnership between BEMIS and the world-renowned Celtic Connections Music Festival; considers that this event marks the culmination of the BEMIS-led programme to celebrate Scotland's living traditions, encompassing the more than 65 local, diverse, multicultural community events included in the Scottish Government-funded 2015 Year of

Community Relations

UK Parliament Early Day Motion (continued)

Food and Drink and Winter Festivals period; congratulates the 65 participating organisations from across 16 self-identified ethnic minority communities who, assisted by a Scottish Government small grants fund of £37,000 administered by BEMIS, facilitated events to champion Scotland's past, present and future incorporating their unique global cultural characteristics; acknowledges that BEMIS Scotland and partners are committed to celebrating cultural diversity and promoting active citizenship; and recognises that programmes which acknowledge and value the intangible cultural heritage of our diverse citizens show an appreciation of the UK's diverse society.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2015-16/980>

News

Glasgow leading the way in welcoming Roma population

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/14220077.Glasgow_leading_the_way_in_welcoming_Roma_population/

3 charts that show being Muslim has nothing to do with how 'British' you feel

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/3-charts-that-show-being-muslim-has-nothing-to-do-with-how-british-you-feel-a6822486.html>

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Equality

Scottish Parliament Questions

Ethnic Diversity

Ken Macintosh: To ask the Scottish Government what measures it is taking to help improve the ethnic diversity of Police Scotland. (S4W-29262)

Reply from Michael Matheson: Equality and diversity within Police Scotland is a matter for the Chief Constable and the Scottish Police Authority.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-29262&ResultsPerPage=10>

Public Appointments

Jackie Baillie: To ask the Scottish Government what progress it is making in meeting the target of ensuring that ministerial public appointments are more diverse and reflective of the population, as set out in its Equality Outcomes and Mainstreaming Report 2015. (S4W-29308)

Reply from Alex Neil: The following table sets out the comparison between the figures for the year to December 2014 compared to the figures for the year to January 2013:

Regulated appointments	Year to 31 Jan 2013		Year to 31 Dec 2014	
	%		%	
	Applicants	Appointed	Applicants	Appointed
Women	30.5	39.2	38.2	45.8
Disabled people	14.1	12.4	10.4	7.5
Minority ethnic people**	4.9	6.2	4.7	*
Age under 50	21.2	22.7	29.8	24.9
LGB	2.6	6.2.4.0	*	

Equality Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

Christian	50	Not known	49.9	50.8
Non-Christian	3.9	Not known	3.5	•

*Values for less than five have been suppressed to decrease the risk of disclosure of information about individuals. **'Minority ethnic' covers the non-white broad ethnic groups: African, Caribbean or Black; Asian, Asian Scottish and Asian British; mixed or multiple ethnic group; other ethnic group.

The 'Delivering Diversity' section (pp. 35-41) of the 2014-15 Annual Report of the Commissioner for Ethical Standards in Public Life in Scotland sets out further analysis of the figures and a commentary on progress. It is available here: <http://www.ethicalstandards.org.uk/publications/publication/770/cespls-annual-report-201415> Figures for the 12 month period from 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2015 are currently being collated and analysed; a progress report will be available by the end of February 2016 on the Appointed for Scotland website: www.appointed-for-scotland.org

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-29308&ResultsPerPage=10>

SQA Timetable

Liam McArthur: To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on reviewing whether the SQA exam timetable should be revised to accommodate Ramadan. (S4W-29229)

Reply from Alasdair Allan: The SQA exam timetable this year starts on Wednesday 4 May 2016, and concludes on Friday 3 June 2016. It therefore falls outside Ramadan. The SQA consults with a representation of stakeholder groups regarding the timing of exams in order to be as sensitive as possible to any issues of this kind.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-29229&ResultsPerPage=10>

New Publication

Is Scotland Fairer?

http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/uploads/Scotland/Scotland_Report_s/EHRC_ISF_Report.pdf

News

Equality report warns some sections of society are being left behind

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/scotland/equality-report-warns-some-sections-of-society-are-being-left-behind-1.920672>

Oliver Letwin: Britain needs more black cabinet ministers

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/conservative/12114834/Oliver-Letwin-Britain-needs-more-black-cabinet-ministers.html>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Questions

Hate Crime

Ken Macintosh: To ask the Scottish Government what procedures are in place to assist victims of hate crimes in monitoring the progress of their case. (S4W-29261)

Reply from Frank Mulholland QC: All victims have a right to request and be told about progress of a case following the coming into force of the Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Act 2014. The recently published Victims' Code for Scotland and Standards of Service for Victims and Witnesses, agreed and published by the agencies involved in the criminal justice system, set out what victims can expect and who to contact for further information about the case. Victims are entitled to information about their case from Police Scotland, the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) and the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service. Information can be requested throughout criminal investigation and proceedings. In certain categories of cases the COPFS Victim and Information Advice (VIA) service will proactively keep victims advised without the victim having to request such information. One of these categories is all cases involving hate crime. In addition the COPFS VIA service can facilitate referral to other agencies for specialist support and counselling as required.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-29261&ResultsPerPage=10>

Racist Incidents Recorded by the Police in Scotland

John Finnie: To ask the Scottish Government, following publication of its statistical bulletin, *Racist Incidents Recorded by the Police in Scotland, 2013-14*, whether it considers the merging of victim and complainer to be the most appropriate way of recording racist incidents and whether it will consider recording them separately in future. (S4W-29230)

Reply from Michael Matheson: The *Racist Incidents Recorded by the Police in Scotland* publication series has always followed the definition outlined by Sir William MacPherson in his 1999 report on the Stephen Lawrence inquiry. This is that a racist incident is any incident which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person. As such, victims/complainers of racist incidents may not necessarily be the person at whom the racially aggravated behaviour was targeted, and as the statistics currently stand the two cannot be distinguished. The 2013-14 publication included information for users of these statistics on plans to scope out with Police Scotland the possibility of replacing the Racist Incidents Recorded by the Police in Scotland statistical series with a new and broader statistical product on police recorded hate crime (which would include a race element). This work will include investigation of whether any new product will have the ability to distinguish between victims and complainers of racist incidents (where the two are different people). Statistical users can be kept informed of developments in this area through registering with ScotStat: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/scotstat>

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-29230&ResultsPerPage=10>

Institutional Racism

Ken Macintosh: To ask the Scottish Government what steps it is taking to eliminate unconscious bias and institutional racism in Police Scotland. (S4W-29263)

Reply from Michael Matheson: Equality and diversity within Police Scotland is a matter for the Chief Constable and the Scottish Police Authority.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-29263&ResultsPerPage=10>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Drew Smith: To ask the Scottish Government what input it had to the 2015 UK state party report to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; whether it consulted minority ethnic communities in relation to such input, and whether it will publish its submission. (S4W-29207)

Reply from Alex Neil: The UK Government is responsible for providing the state party report to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The Scottish Government provided an update to the UK Government in relation to the race equality work being carried out. It did not formally consult on this update. However the input was informed by its on-going work around race equality, including dialogue with communities, and drew on the relevant available data and information. The Scottish Government has no plans to publish its contribution to the UK report. The Scottish Government has focused on an extensive programme of engagement throughout 2015 as part of developing a new race equality framework for Scotland. The race equality framework document will be published in 2016.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S4W-29207&ResultsPerPage=10>

Scottish Parliament Public Petitions Committee

Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act 2012 (Review) (PE1593)

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10312&i=94882#ScotParIOR>

UK Parliament Debate

Holocaust Memorial Day

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm160121/debtext/160121-0003.htm#1601213200001>

New Publication

House of Commons Education Committee: Holocaust education

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmselect/cmeduc/480/480.pdf>

News

SNP councillor accused of sending racist texts to female Muslim colleague is reported to council watchdog

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/snp-councillor-accused-sending-racist-7203607>

SNP race row No2: Holyrood candidate accused of racism by Muslim party colleague during explosive meeting

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/snp-race-row-no2-holyrood-7222951#3iMkk2VhZJXqwXuU.97>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

News (continued)

Tying of pig's head to Islamic school gates treated as hate crime

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jan/21/pigs-head-islamic-school-madani-academy-hampshire-police>

Pigs' heads dumped outside Islamic school

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/crime/12110465/Pigs-heads-dumped-outside-Islamic-school-Arrest-after-Blackburn-attack.html>

Bigoted yob scrawled sick racist abuse in the snow

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/14211730.Bigoted_yob_scrawled_sick_racist_abuse_in_the_SNOW/

Maureen Sier: The best antidote to genocide

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/maureen-sier-the-best-antidote-to-genocide-1-4009626>

Refugees' short film marks Holocaust Memorial Day

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/2807_refugees_short_film_marks_holocaust_memorial_day

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Other UK Parliament and Government

Debate

Donald Trump

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm160118/halltext/160118h0001.htm#160118600001>

Parliamentary Questions

Marriage of Convenience

Gregory Campbell [21871] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of trends in the numbers of sham (a) marriages and (b) civil partnerships since March 2015.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Since the marriage referral scheme commenced on 2nd March 2015, the number of marriages considered to be a sham has reduced slightly although these numbers are too small to indicate any trend.

Referrals under Section 24 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 and allegations have remained stable since March.

From the data extract it is not possible to determine if a notification under the scheme relates to a Civil Partnership or a Marriage as the referrals are identical.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-01-11/21871/>

Marriage: Children

The following two questions both received the same answer

The Lord Bishop of St Albans [HL4871] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether

Other UK Parliament and Government Parliamentary Questions (continued)

they plan to collect data on the number of underage girls who marry overseas and subsequently return to the UK.

Forced Marriage

The Lord Bishop of St Albans [HL4872] To ask Her Majesty's Government on how many cases the Forced Marriage Unit provided advice or support in (1) 2014, and (2) 2015.

Reply from Lord Bates: The UK is a world-leader in the fight to stamp out the brutal practice of forced marriage, with our Forced Marriage Unit (FMU) leading efforts to combat it both at home and abroad.

In 2014, the FMU gave advice or support related to a possible forced marriage in 1,267 cases. Of those cases, 11% involved victims below 16 years (where the age was known), and 77% involved an overseas element (meaning the victim was at risk of, or had been taken, overseas). To provide a further breakdown of this information would incur a disproportionate cost.

FMU data is published on an annual basis, and figures for 2015 are due for publication shortly.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-01-11/HL4871/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-01-11/HL4872/>

News

Morgan launches anti-extremism drive

<http://www.bbc.com/news/education-35343679>

Government ramps up its drive against extremism in schools

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/12107334/Nicky-Morgan-launches-educate-against-hate-website-as-Government-ramps-up-its-drive-against-extremism-in-schools.html>

Schools can decide whether to ban full-face veils, says Morgan

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/2016/jan/19/schools-can-decide-whether-to-ban-full-face-veils-says-morgan>

David Cameron backs bans on Muslim face veils as Tories plan crackdown on gender segregation

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/immigration/12106833/David-Cameron-I-will-back-schools-and-courts-which-ban-face-veils.html>

I'll back schools and courts that want to ban veil, says Cameron: 'People should be able to wear what they like, but they must follow our rules'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3405783/I-ll-schools-courts-want-ban-veil-says-Cameron.html>

Head of Ofsted, Sir Michael Wilshaw, backs the banning of Muslim girls' veils in schools to ensure 'equality for women'

<http://www.independent.co.uk/student/news/head-of-ofsted-sir-michael-wilshaw-backs-the-banning-of-muslim-girls-veils-in-schools-to-ensure-a6821536.html>

Other UK Parliament and Government

News (continued)

'The numbers are small': Muslim groups play down issue of veils in schools

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/2016/jan/19/muslim-groups-play-down-issue-veils-niqabs-schools>

Only Muslim women can reform Islam

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/12108937/Three-cheers-for-David-Camerons-plan-to-ban-the-face-veil.html>

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New Publications

Career Education: A World of Possibilities

http://www.npfs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/NPFS_world_of_possibilities_1509_E.pdf

National Improvement Framework: Sharing Information for Better Learning

http://www.npfs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/NPFS_NIF_E-1.pdf

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Other News

Charity watchdog slams Glasgow Central Mosque elders amid concerns of funding for ultra-orthodox group

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14213225.Charity_watchdog_slams_Glasgow_Central_Mosque_elders_amid_concerns_of_funding_for_ultra_orthodox_group/

The new generation of liberal Scottish Muslims taking control of Scotland's biggest mosque

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14213213.Analysis_the_new_generation_of_liberal_Scottish_Muslims_taking_control_of_Scotland_s_biggest_mosque/

Glasgow Mosque called in charity watchdog to clean up 'mess' left by former leaders

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14215719.Glasgow_Mosque_called_in_charity_watchdog_to_clean_up_mess_left_by_former_leaders/

The diverse origins of Britain's Muslims

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-33715473>

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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>

Bills in Progress

Scottish Parliament (continued)

**** Community Justice Bill**

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

Stage 2 consideration of amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10322&i=94954#ScotParlOR>

**** Education Bill**

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

Scottish Parliament Information Centre Briefing

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S4/SB_16-05_Education_Scotland_Bill-Stage_3.pdf

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

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

Proposed amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/BusinessBulletin/95756.aspx>

Lobbying Bill

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

Transplantation (Authorisation of Removal of Organs etc.) Bill

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

Bills in Progress

UK Parliament

Asylum (Unaccompanied Children Displaced by Conflict)

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

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/lbill/2015-2016/0079/amend/ml079-II.htm>

Committee Stage, House of Lords

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/160118-0001.htm#1601184000412>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/160118-0002.htm#1601187000144>

and

Bills in Progress

UK Parliament (continued)

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/160118-0003.htm#16011818000472>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/160120-0001.htm#16012032000941>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/160120-0003.htm#16012049000161>

Proposed amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2015-2016/0079/amend/su079-II-a.htm>

Scotland Act 1998 (Amendment) Bill

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

** Scotland Bill

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

Committee Stage, House of Lords

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/160119-0001.htm#16011943000454>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201516/ldhansrd/text/160119-0003.htm#16011959000191>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

What are your priorities for your police service? A Review of Our Strategic Police Priorities (closing date 12 February 2016)

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0049/00490401.pdf>

Overseas visitors and migrants: extending charges for NHS services (closing date 7 March 2016)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/overseas-visitors-and-migrants-extending-charges-for-nhs-services>

Tackling migrant smuggling: is the EU legislation fit for purpose? (closing date 6 April 2016)

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-is-new/public-consultation/2015/consulting_0031_en.htm

Fife Third Sector Equality and Diversity Mapping Exercise (no closing date given)

<http://files.ctctcdn.com/1b154e99301/feb61f61-2119-499f-9591-cfe96044bd63.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>

Consultations (continued)

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://fairer.scot/get-in-touch/>

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

Action grants to support transnational projects to prevent and combat racism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance
closing date: 2 February 2016

Applications should focus on best practices to prevent and combat racism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance, training and capacity building for strengthening criminal responses to hate crime and hate speech, and empowering and supporting victims of hate crime and hate speech.

For full information see

http://ec.europa.eu/justice/grants1/calls/2015_action_grants/just_2015_rrac_ag_en.htm

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Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

** **this week!**

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 application. For information see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/16i_ehrc.pdf or contact Kyle Mulholland 0141 228 5925 / equalityactscotland@equalityhumanrights.com

** **this week!**

Against a Tide of Evil: Why does 'never again' happen again and again?

25 January 2016 in Glasgow (5.30 – 8.00)

Interfaith Scotland lecture for Holocaust Memorial Day by Professor Mukesh Kapila, former head of the UN in Sudan. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/h8bxvlt> or contact 0141 420 6982 / admin@interfaithscotland.org

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** this week!**

GRAMNet film: Karski and the Lords of Humanity

27 January 2016 in Glasgow (6.00)

Glasgow Refugee, Asylum and Migration Network / BEMIS film showing for Holocaust Memorial Day of a partially animated documentary about Jan Karski, who risked his life to try to prevent the Holocaust. For information see <http://bemis.org.uk/event/gramnet-film-series-jan-2016/>

**** Parent focus group – anti-bullying approach**

27 January in Edinburgh (6.30-8.30)

Focus group to hear views of parents about the revised national anti-bullying strategy. For information see <http://www.npfs.org.uk/2016/01/08/parent-focus-group-anti-bullying-approach/> or contact Gillian Myers enquiries@npfs.org.uk / 0131 313 8842

New Scots: Working with Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Wednesday 3 February 2016 in Glasgow

Thursday 17 March 2016 in Glasgow

Wednesday 25 May 2016 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide an introduction to the issues and legal systems affecting people seeking safety in Scotland. For information contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7951.

Conference: Services for Ethnic Minorities in Scotland

9 February 2016 in Perth (11.00-3.00)

PKAVS conference to launch their research report to identify existing services and gaps in provision for ethnic minority communities in Scotland, and share examples of good practice and case studies. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/hve7shj> or contact Nicholas Morris nicholas.morris@pkavs.org.uk

The Gathering: Celebrating Charities

17-18 February 2016 in Glasgow

Third Sector event to highlight the range of work taking place across the third sector in Scotland. For information see <http://gatherscotland.org.uk/>

A Human (Rights) response to refugees in Scotland

17 February 2016 in Glasgow (1.30-2.30)

Discussion about how the Scottish Government, local government, the wider public sector and Scottish civil society respond in a practical sense to challenges of welcoming and supporting the planned 2,000 refugees coming to Scotland over the next few years. For information see <http://gatherscotland.org.uk/events/a-human-rights-response-to-refugees-in-scotland/> or contact David Fagan 07813 335 181 / david.fagan@gcu.ac.uk

Refugee integration and the social security system

17 February 2016 in Glasgow (3.00-4.00)

Asylum seekers and refugees bring a wealth of talent, skills and knowledge which enriches Scottish society. However, we know from findings released by Scottish Refugee Council last year that refugees face multiple barriers to successful integration in Scotland. Scottish Refugee Council and Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations discussion about what organisations need to know, and what lies ahead for refugee integration and the social security system in Scotland. For information see <http://gatherscotland.org.uk/events/refugee-integration-and-the-social-security-system/> or contact Alan Young 0141 559 5017 / allan.young@scvo.org.uk

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Your Scottish Parliament: Your Voice

23 February 2016 at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh (10.00-12.30)

24 March 2016 at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh (10.00-12.30)

Scottish Parliament workshops providing an opportunity to learn more about how the Parliament works and how to make your voice heard. For information see <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/gettinginvolved/95009.aspx> or contact your SP@scottish.parliament.uk

Working with Interpreters

Tuesday 22 March 2016 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide an understanding of how to communicate clearly and effectively with people when working with interpreters. For information contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7951.

Facilitating events with Interpreters

Tuesday 22 March 2016 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council training to provide an understanding of how to communicate clearly and effectively when facilitating events with interpreters. For information contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7951.

Engaging Hard to Reach Groups

Thursday 21 April 2016 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council training about engaging with hard to reach groups For information contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7951.

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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/>

Useful Links (continued)

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

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

Volunteer Development Scotland www.vds.org.uk

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

Central Registered Body for Scotland (CRBS) www.volunteerscotland.net/disclosure-services

Disclosure Scotland <http://www.disclosurescotland.co.uk/>

BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/>

BBC Democracy Live http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/bbc_parliament/default.stm

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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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