

## 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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**The current session of the UK Parliament has ended. The new session will begin on 18 May 2016 with the State Opening of Parliament and Queen's Speech.**

## Immigration and Asylum

### UK Parliament Ministerial Statement followed by Q&A

#### EU Migrants: National Insurance Numbers

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-05-12/debates/16051229000004/EUMigrantsNationalInsuranceNumbers>

### UK Parliament Questions

#### Immigration controls: EU Nationals

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Anne Main [36487]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many

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people from other EU countries were refused entry to the UK in each of the years between 1990 and 2005.

**Anne Main** [36490] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people from non-EU countries were refused entry to the UK in each of the years between 1990 and 2005.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The table below provides the total number of nationals of EU and non-EU member states that have been initially refused entry to the UK since 2004. Information prior to 2004 is not available.

Year	Total EU refusals (3,4)	Total non-EU refusals
2004	6,342	32,049
2005	635	29,375

Notes:

- 1) Information prior to 2004 is not available.
- 2) Passengers initially refused entry relates to non-asylum cases dealt with at ports of entry.
- 3) Bulgaria and Romania joined the EU on 1 January 2007.
- 4) Croatia joined the EU on 1 July 2013.

Figures for 2014 and 2015 are provisional.

The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on the number of passengers initially refused entry by country of nationality within Immigration Statistics. The data are available in the latest release, Immigration Statistics: October to December 2015, table ad.04 from GOV.UK on the 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/2016-05-04/36487/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-04/36490/>

### Immigration: EU Nationals

**Viscount Waverley** [HL8054] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether it is their intention that, in the event of the UK leaving the EU, citizens of EU member states who had previously settled in the UK would be entitled automatically to remain; and if not, what contingency plans they are making to defend any legal challenges or claims for compensation under the European Convention on Human Rights that might arise from individuals who are subject to removal.

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** As set out in the Government's White Paper: 'The process for withdrawing from the European Union', published on 29 February, the withdrawal process is unprecedented. No country has ever used Article 50 – it is untested. There is a great deal of uncertainty about how it would work.

UK citizens get the right to live and work in the other 27 member states from our membership of the EU. If the UK voted to leave the EU, the Government would do all it could to secure a positive outcome for the country, but there would be no requirement under EU law for these rights to be maintained.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-04-27/HL8054/>

### Entry Clearances: Migrant Workers

*The following three questions all received the same answer*

**Stuart McDonald** [36235] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what other migration routes or visas are available to a Tier 2 worker earning under £35,000

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

other than visas requiring participation in full-time education or marriage.

### Visas: Skilled Workers

**Stuart McDonald** [36238] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate her Department has made of the number of Tier 2 skilled workers leaving the UK (a) voluntarily or (b) otherwise involuntarily as a result of the new £35,000 income requirement for settlement.

**Stuart McDonald** [36236] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department plans to take to enforce the new £35,000 settlement threshold for Tier 2 skilled workers.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** 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. The impact assessment is available on the gov.uk website at:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/117957/impact-assessment-tier2.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/117957/impact-assessment-tier2.pdf)

Alternative routes available for Tier 2 workers unable to meet the minimum earnings threshold would depend on their individual circumstances. For the most part, economic migrants who wish to change their basis of stay in the UK are expected to leave and re-apply for an alternative visa from their home country. However, in-country switching is permitted in some categories, for example into Tier 1 routes aimed at high value migrants.

Tier 2 migrants who apply for settlement and do not meet the requirements will be refused. Those who do not qualify for an alternative route and have reached the maximum period of limited leave allowed under Tier 2 should make plans to leave the United Kingdom. Any migrant who has over stayed the validity of their visa or otherwise failed to regularise their stay in the UK may be removed if they refuse or fail to leave of their own volition. They may also be liable to prosecution under the Immigration Act 1971.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-03/36235/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-03/36236/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-03/36238/>

### Immigration: Public Services

**Lord Vinson:** To ask Her Majesty's Government, in the light of net immigration continuing at over 300,000 people per year, and the latest Office for National Statistics projections indicating an increase in the United Kingdom population, including births, of 500,000 per year for the next six years, what plans they have to limit immigration and to build more hospitals, schools, housing and prisons to meet an increase in demand.

**Reply from the Advocate-General for Scotland (Lord Keen of Elie):** My Lords, the Government recognise that mass immigration can increase population pressures. That is why we are seeking to reduce net migration to a sustainable level, from the hundreds of thousands to the tens of thousands. The Government are committed to a significant programme of investment in our public services. Taken together, these steps and future measures will ensure that there is adequate provision.

**Lord Vinson:** I thank the Minister for his somewhat sanguine reply. Would he also agree, though, that the million or so refugees whom Angela Merkel has accepted will soon have

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

the right to come here, and the Turks could be next, adding to the overload on our hospitals, schools and houses, greatly to the detriment of our existing population? Is he also surprised that the effect of uncontrolled immigration from the EU on the stability of our nation and on the welfare of working people appears not to be of concern, with very few exceptions, to the Labour Party?

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** My Lords, the Government are completely reforming the immigration system, cutting abuse and focusing on attracting the brightest and the best. Since 2010, reforms have cut abuse in the student and family visa systems and raised standards in the work routes. In addition, of course, our recent negotiations in Europe have brought to fruition the provision of new settlement agreements for EU migrants, with the requirement for a seven-year emergency brake being in place.

**Lord Harris of Haringey:** My Lords, the Minister has told us how wonderful the Government's investment in public services is—apparently to meet all the concerns of the noble Lord, Lord Vinson. Could he then explain, for example, why there is a shortage of primary school places in London, why our health service in so many areas is in crisis and why there is a problem with social care beds becoming unviable? Why is all that happening if the Government's policies towards the public services have been so benign?

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** It takes time to recover from the experience that we had up until 2010, but major steps are being taken. The Government are committed to investing £7 billion in school places by 2021, to increasing NHS funding in England by £10 billion in real terms by 2020 and to investing £20 billion in housing in the next five years, including £8 billion in affordable housing.

**Lord Paddick:** My Lords, that is all very well, but clearly, as the noble Lord, Lord Harris of Haringey, said, it is not sufficient. Can the Minister tell the House why the Government are not building more new hospitals, schools and houses, using the additional income they are receiving from foreign workers, who are paying significant sums in income tax and national insurance?

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** As I stated a moment ago, very considerable sums are being expended in these areas. Indeed, we expect to deliver 600,000 new school places by 2021.

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

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-05-10/debates/16051037000415/ImmigrationPublicServices>

### Schools: Immigrants

*The following two questions all received the same answer*

**Karl McCartney** [36004] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what assessment her Department has made of the effect of immigration from (a) EEA member countries and (b) countries from outside the EEA on the level of demand for school places in each year from 2016 to 2030.

**Karl McCartney** [36007] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, whether her Department's risk register assesses risks to (a) the provision of education places and (b) changes in the level of the cost of providing education which result from immigration from (i) other EEA member states and (ii) countries from outside the EEA; and if she will make a statement.

**Reply from Edward Timpson:** Supporting local authorities in their responsibility to ensure sufficient school places remains one of this Government's top priorities. Pupil forecasts based on ONS population projections, which include migration, have been published up to 2024.

Local authorities are responsible for ensuring that there are sufficient school

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

places to meet that need, and for determining precisely how many new places are needed in their area. We allocate funding for new school places to local authorities based on their own projections of local pupil numbers. These projections reflect all drivers of increased pupil numbers: rising birth rates, housing development and migration from within the UK and overseas. Any increase in need for places should be reflected in the local authority's final basic need allocation – there is no shortfall between the number of places we fund and the number of places local authorities say they will need to create.

We have already committed to invest £7 billion on school places, which along with our investment in 500 new free schools we expect to deliver 600,000 new places by 2021. We have also protected the schools budget so that as pupil numbers increase, so will the amount of money in our schools. Revenue allocations to local authorities are calculated by reference to pupil numbers and do not differentiate on the basis of immigration from other EEA member states or countries from outside the EEA.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-04-28/36004/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-04-28/36007/>

### Social Rented Housing: Immigrants

**Andrea Jenkyns** [36094] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what estimate he has made of the additional housing needed to provide (a) private and (b) social sector accommodation for immigrants from (i) the EU and (ii) non-EU countries in each year to 2020.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The Department has not made estimates of the addition private and social housing needed to provide accommodation for immigrants from EU and non-EU countries.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-04-28/36094/>

### Housing: Immigrants

**Andrea Jenkyns** [36096] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what research his Department has commissioned on the effect of immigration on the demand for (a) housing and (b) social housing.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The Department published statistics on average household growth in December 2015, including the proportion attributable to net migration. The department has not commissioned research on how immigration affects the demand for social housing.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-04-28/36096/>

### Refugees

**David Burrowes** [36277] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Written Statement of 21 April 2016 on Refugees and Resettlement, HCWS687, how many of the 75 expert personnel will be working to identify and process individuals who are eligible for family reunification transfers to other EU countries under the Dublin III Regulation.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** Pursuant to my statement of 21 April, HCWS687, the 75 UK expert personnel deployed to Greece to support implementation of the EU-Turkey Migration Agreement will conduct a number of

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duties. A proportion of the UK expert personnel will work closely with European Asylum Support Officer (EASO) coordinators and the Greek Asylum Service to process cases through the admissibility process and provide expert support to the Greek authorities and other EU partners on overall co-ordination of the response. Supporting the operation of the Greek asylum service is a fundamental part of this Government's approach to identifying children in need of protection at the earliest possible opportunity and ensuring children are identified as eligible for family reunification consideration under the terms of Dublin Regulation.

This of course is in addition to the support that we are already providing to European partner Dublin Units. Following calls from EASO we have already deployed two UK experts to support the Greek Dublin Unit and a third is due to be deployed in May. We are also deploying an expert to the Italian Dublin Unit in May under the hotspot operation mission. This deployment is in addition to the long term support we are providing to the Italian Dublin through a bilateral agreement. We are confident that through our concerted joint efforts we can identify and facilitate the swift transfers of cases through our national systems and make effective use of the Dublin Regulation.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-03/36277/>

### Prime Minister's Questions: Child Refugees

**Jeremy Corbyn:** The Prime Minister will be very well aware of the concern across the whole country about the question of unaccompanied child refugees across Europe. Their plight is desperate and they are in a very dangerous situation. Everyone's heart reaches out to them, but we have to do more than that and we have to be practical in our help for them. I got a letter this week from a voluntary worker with child refugees by the name of Hannah. She wrote to me about these children, some of whom have family members in this country. Can the Prime Minister confirm that in response to Lord Dubs' amendment, there will be no delay whatsoever in accepting 3,000 unaccompanied child refugees into this country to give them the support they need and allow them to enjoy the childhood that they and all our children deserve?

**Reply from the Prime Minister:** We will follow the Dubs amendment—that is now the law of the land. The Dubs amendment says that we have to consult very carefully with local authorities to make sure that, as we take these children in, we are able to house them, clothe them, feed them and make sure they are properly looked after. So we need to look at the capacity of our care system, because if you look at some councils, particularly in Kent and southern England, you see they are already struggling because of the large number of unaccompanied children who have come in.

Just two figures for the right hon. Gentleman, to put this in context. Last year 3,000 unaccompanied children arrived and claimed asylum in the UK, even before the scheme that is being introduced. The second figure is, under the Dublin regulation, children with a connection to the UK can already claim asylum in France or Italy and then come to the UK, and we have accepted 30 such transfers since February. What I can say about Dubs is that there will not be any delay—we will get on with this as fast as we can—but in order to follow the law, we have to talk to our local authorities first.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-05-11/debates/1605114200014/Engagements#contribution-16051142000114>

### Child Refugee Resettlement

**Yvette Cooper:** To ask the Home Secretary if she will make a statement on the

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

resettlement of child refugees and the implementation of the Dubs amendment.

**Reply from the Minister for Immigration (James Brokenshire):** As I said last night, the Government are at the forefront of assisting and protecting vulnerable children wherever they are. As the House is aware, last week the Prime Minister said that we would work with local authorities on plans to resettle unaccompanied children from France, Greece and Italy. We have said that we expect the first children to arrive before the end of the year; we have not said that it will take until the end of the year for them to arrive. As I made clear to the House, we are working hard to ensure that isolated children are reunited with family and that children at risk of exploitation and abuse come to the UK as quickly as possible, but we have to be satisfied that they will receive appropriate care and support when they arrive.

The revised Dubs amendment to the Immigration Bill obliges us to consult local authorities. We must ensure that we fulfil our obligations to children who are already in the UK, as well ensuring that we have the right support for those who may be brought to the UK from Europe. The provisions in the Bill, by their nature, mean that we have to consult others before finalising our plans, but that does not imply that we will delay getting on with this. We will be contacting council leaders in the coming days, and I have already spoken to the Local Government Association about the matter.

We have always been clear that we must do nothing that inadvertently creates a situation in which families see an advantage in sending children ahead and putting their lives at risk by attempting perilous journeys to Europe. That is why only those who were present in the EU before 20 March will be eligible for resettlement, and only when it is in their best interests to come to the UK. That will avoid creating a perverse incentive for families to entrust their children to people traffickers.

We have already started to consult relevant non-governmental organisations, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, UNICEF and member states on how best to implement the legislation. Last Friday, I met the Greek Government in Athens to discuss how we can make progress quickly. We are already working to identify those whom we can help. We have an ongoing plan with France to improve our joint response to children in Calais. We have accepted more than 30 transfer requests since February, and more than 20 have already arrived. We will work with France over the coming days and weeks to increase the identification of children in France who have family here so that we can bring them over.

In addition, the UK has played its full part in supporting European neighbours to provide support to those who have arrived. We have provided nearly £46 million of funding to the Europe-wide response to help the most vulnerable, including children and infants. In addition, the £10 million Department for International Development fund that was announced on 28 January will support the UNHCR, Save the Children and the International Rescue Committee to work with host authorities to care for and assist unaccompanied or separated children. That is on top of our Syrian resettlement programme and the children at risk resettlement scheme, which is designed to resettle up to 3,000 children at risk from the middle east and north Africa where that is deemed to be in their best interests. The Government remain committed to making a full contribution to the global refugee crisis.

We are already acting to implement the amendment. We have started discussions with local government. We have begun work with European partners and NGOs to support effective implementation, and we will bring refugee children to the UK as quickly as is safe. I am proud that the commitment of this country and this

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions *(continued)*

Government to help those in need, both within and outside Europe, withstands comparison with that of any other country in the world.

**Yvette Cooper:** have asked this urgent question because, at the end of the debate last night, the hon. Member for Westmorland and Lonsdale (Tim Farron) raised the evidence that No. 10 had briefed that we would not see the first children arrive in Britain until the end of the year, which is in seven months' time. That is in contrast with the urgency we heard from the Minister in yesterday's debate. It is so frustrating to hear warm words and commitment, while at the same time No. 10 seems to be dragging its feet. To take the first children only by the end of the year is simply not good enough. ...

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

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-05-10/debates/1605102700001/ChildRefugeeResettlement>

**A House of Lords question and answer session on Jame's Brokenshire's above reply, can be read at**

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-05-10/debates/16051037000420/ChildRefugeeResettlement>

**The debate referred to above is listed in the "Bills in Progress" section of MEMO, and can be read at**

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2016-05-09/debates/1605103000001/ImmigrationBill>

### Refugees: Unaccompanied Children

**The Lord Bishop of St Albans:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what extra resources they plan to provide to local authorities to support the foster care of unaccompanied refugee children, and what plans they have to engage charities that may have volunteers available to help.

**Reply from the Advocate-General for Scotland (Lord Keen of Elie):** My Lords, the Minister for Immigration will shortly be writing to local authorities to set out the new funding rates for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. We are consulting with local authorities across the United Kingdom to understand how many children they can support, and we will engage charities with relevant expertise as a part of that process.

**The Lord Bishop of St Albans:** I thank the Minister for that Answer. In all our debates and statistics, it is vital that we remember that the needs of the child are paramount at every point. A number of my colleagues have signed a letter that was published in the *Times* today, calling on Her Majesty's Government to ensure that the unaccompanied children living in the Calais camps who have families here in the UK are reunited with them in time for the new school term in September—and, furthermore, calling on the Government to act on the 300 unaccompanied children in Greece and Italy and deal with that in the same timeframe. In the light of this profound humanitarian need—indeed, crisis—would the Minister assure the House that the Government will act on these matters immediately?

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** My Lords, the Government are already acting on these matters and have made provision in Calais for suitable experts to be present to assist with the registration of unaccompanied children who may have direct relatives in the United Kingdom and who therefore have a route to the United Kingdom by way of the Dublin regulation. In addition, we have arranged to send experts out to Greece, again to assist with functions there in relation to unaccompanied children. We are at the forefront of attempts to secure as much as we can by way of relief to these unaccompanied children.

**Lord Singh of Wimbledon:** My Lords, over the last few days there has been a BBC



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television programme showing how Sikhs are supporting the homeless in London. This evening I shall be meeting people to take that work further forward. I assure the Minister that every Sikh gurdwara in the country will be more than willing to provide not only langar—free food—but every support and assistance to these children.

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** I thank the noble Lord. What he says complements the Government's efforts to develop community sponsorship schemes for children arriving in this country.

**Lord Tomlinson:** Could the Minister give a clear and unequivocal statement that the children who are coming into this country will have no pressure or requirement placed on them at 18 to leave these shores?

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** I can give no such assurance. The position of these children when they reach the age of 18 will be assessed and their right to remain will be determined by reference to the country from which they arrived and also by reference to whether it is fair, reasonable and safe for them to return.

**To continue reading this lengthy question and answer session see**

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-05-10/debates/16051037000417/RefugeesUnaccompaniedChildren>

### Refugees: Children

**Andrew Rosindell** [36926] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether the Government plans to place unaccompanied refugee children from European countries with foster families or in local authority care homes.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** As announced on 4 May we will be consulting closely with local authorities to find suitable places within the UK for these children.

Local authorities will be required to provide the right support, care and accommodation to meet the child's specific needs. Statutory agencies at a local level are best placed to understand and meet the needs of all children and will continue to make decisions about the right accommodation and support services for those who are looked after.

Unaccompanied children will be eligible for foster care if it is considered that that this placement type will provide appropriate support and best meet their individual needs.

The UK has well-established and effective safeguarding procedures to ensure the safety of children who come to the UK.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-09/36926/>

### Refugees: Children

**Andrew Rosindell** [36927] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps the Government is taking to encourage other countries to accept unaccompanied refugee children in Europe.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The government is at the forefront of assisting and protecting vulnerable children, wherever they are. Children in Europe are mostly already able to access support from countries that have similar legal obligations to our own.

The UK has been playing its full part in supporting European neighbours to provide support to those who have arrived. We have provided nearly £46 million of funding to the Europe wide response to help the most vulnerable, including children and infants.

In addition the £10 million the Department for International Development fund announced on 28 January will support UNHCR, Save the Children and

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International Rescue Committee to work with host authorities to care and assist unaccompanied or separated children.

This is in addition to resettling those from conflict regions through our Syrian Resettlement Programme and Children at Risk Resettlement Scheme. The UK is playing a leading role in the resettlement of the most vulnerable and supports other EU Member States in establishing and developing their resettlement schemes, through bilateral and multinational discussions.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-09/36927/>

### Asylum: Children

**Tim Loughton** [36889] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what information her Department holds on the number of unaccompanied asylum seeking child refugees of each (a) gender and (b) age group who are currently in EU member states.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The UK Government does not hold information on the number of unaccompanied asylum seeking child refugees in EU Member States by (a) gender and (b) age group.

This is collected by each Member State and compiled by Eurostat. It is available at: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database>

The UK Government is currently consulting with France, Italy and Greece to establish how best we can implement the recent Lord Dubs' amendment to the Immigration Bill. This will include an assessment of numbers and needs of unaccompanied children in these Member States.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-09/36889/>

### Asylum

**Shabana Mahmood** [36691] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the adequacy of the Complex Casework Directorate resources to manage the application for renewal of asylum-related discretionary leave to remain; and what the average time taken is for such application renewals to be processed.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Home Office has an internal target to consider all new Further Leave applications within six months of application. The resources in place in Complex Casework Directorate for Further Leave applications from failed asylum seekers granted Discretionary Leave to Remain is based around meeting this internal target. Our records indicate that the average time taken to decide such applications is 186 days.

Note: This is provisional management information that is subject to change. It has not been assured to the standard of Official Statistics

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-05/36691/>

### Asylum

**Philip Davies** [36867] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate she has made of the number of people who have had their application for asylum refused but cannot legally be returned to their country of origin.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The government expects those who have been refused asylum and who have no lawful basis to remain in the UK to leave at the earliest opportunity. If there is a genuine obstacle that prevents a failed asylum seeker's departure from the UK and they are destitute, they can apply for support

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

under section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. As of 31 December 2015, a total of 3,821 failed asylum seekers and their dependants were supported under section 4.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-09/36867/>

### Asylum: Finance

**Keir Starmer** [36831] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what plans she has to publish asylum support statistics by gender as part of the Government's quarterly immigration statistics.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The information published in the quarterly Immigration Statistics is kept under review, taking into account the needs of users, burdens on suppliers and producers, in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. There are currently no plans to publish data relating to asylum support statistics by gender.

Statistics on asylum seekers in receipt of Section 95, Section 4 or Section 98 support are available in Tables as\_16\_q, as\_17\_q and as\_18\_q of the quarterly Immigration Statistics release, available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-october-to-december-2015>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-09/36831/>

### Asylum: Finance

**Keir Starmer** [36832] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many (a) single adult men, (b) single adult women, (c) families and (d) single-parent families were in receipt of support under section 95 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 at the end of 2015.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Home Office publishes statistics on those supported under section 95, as at the end of each quarter, in the quarterly Immigration Statistics release.

Of the 34,363 main applicants that were supported under section 95 as at the end of December 2015, 12,561 were single adults. Where the gender of the main applicant is recorded, 9,987 were males and 2,135 were females.

There were 6,456 families supported under section 95 as at the end of December 2015. It is not possible to identify single parent families from the published statistics.

The figures provided are published in table as\_17\_q, in volume 4 of the Immigration Statistics asylum data tables. The data provided by gender are a subset of published figures. The latest release, Immigration Statistics September to December 2015, is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-october-to-december-2015>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-09/36832/>

### Asylum: Finance

**Keir Starmer** [36895] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many (a) single adult males and (b) single adult females were in receipt of support under the provisions of section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 in December 2015.

**Reply from James Brokenshire;** The Home office publishes statistics on those supported under section 4 at the end of each quarter in the quarterly Immigration

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Statistics release.

Of the 3,821 main applicants and dependants that were supported under section 4 as at the end of December 2015, 1,948 were single adults. Where the gender of the main applicant is recorded, 1,544 of these were males and 335 were females. The data relating to single adults is a subset of figures published in Table as\_18\_q, in volume 4 of the latest Immigration Statistics release, available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-october-to-december-2015>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-09/36895/>

### Asylum: Housing

**Keir Starmer** [36840] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will make it her policy to consider the final report of the Home Affairs Committee's planned inquiry into asylum accommodation before she makes her decision on whether to extend Compass asylum accommodation to 2019.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Home Secretary will consider the Home Affairs Committee's report on their planned inquiry into asylum accommodation when it is published. The timing of any decision to extend the COMPASS contracts is subject to ongoing discussions with providers and is commercially sensitive. In deciding whether to extend the contract the Home Office will take a number of things into account, including the performance of the contracts and the value for money that they offer to the taxpayer.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-09/36840/>

### Asylum: Disability

**Baroness Thomas of Winchester** [HL8166] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will publish the number of people with disabilities who are seeking asylum.

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** At present the Asylum Transparency Agenda Data set does not report information on asylum claimants with disabilities nor are there plans for this to be included. In addition we do not currently record this information in a readily accessible format.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-05-03/HL8166/>

### Asylum: Females

**Kirsten Oswald** [35818] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will establish an asylum programme for young Yazidi and other women who wish to relocate to the UK.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** There are a number of resettlement schemes the UK operates that young Yazidi and other women may qualify for, subject to meeting the schemes' varying criteria. These are Gateway, Mandate, the Syrian Resettlement Scheme and the Government's new Children at Risk Resettlement Scheme. All schemes see the UK working closely with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to identify cases that they deem in need of resettlement according to agreed criteria. Only UNHCR registered refugees are eligible under these schemes.

The Syrian Resettlement Scheme is only for Syrian nationals. Gateway, Mandate and the Children at Risk Resettlement Scheme are not nationality specific.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-04-27/35818/>

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

### Asylum: Yazidis

**Baroness Berridge [HL7694]** To ask Her Majesty's Government how many Yazidis have been given asylum in the UK under (1) the Syrian Vulnerable Person Resettlement Scheme, (2) the Gateway Protection Programme, and (3) the Mandate Refugee Scheme, in the last six months.

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** We continue to work closely with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to identify appropriate cases that they deem in need of resettlement for the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme, the Gateway Protection Programme and the Mandate Refugee Scheme.

Statistics on arrivals under each of these schemes are published in the regular quarterly Immigration Statistics in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

The next set of statistics will be in the quarterly release on 26 May 2016 and will cover the period January – March 2016. We do not publish a breakdown of these statistics by religion or ethnicity.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-04-18/HL7694/>

### Young Asylum Seekers: Deportation

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno:** To ask Her Majesty's Government whether it is their continuing policy to deport failed unaccompanied asylum seekers on reaching 18 years of age.

**Reply from the Advocate-General for Scotland (Lord Keen of Elie):** In the absence of adequate reception arrangements in the country of origin, our policy is not to return unaccompanied children who are refused asylum. Instead, we grant leave until they reach adulthood. At that point, individuals can make further representations, but if they do not qualify for protection or another form of leave, it is right that they leave the United Kingdom. Support is available for people to return voluntarily.

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno:** I thank the Minister. I tabled a Written Question on 13 April asking for the number of 18 year-olds deported in each of the last 10 years. One month later, I have still not received a reply. I received a reply last October to a Question about deportation figures, and was given a number for 2010 of 132. After another Question in March, that was corrected to 778. The initial figure given for 2014 was also 132, which was later corrected to 445. Is the Minister happy with these sorts of misleading citations of figures from the Home Office? Is it not time that we had some explanation for why this happened? The Home Office is reluctant to give answers, and when it does so, the answer is wrong.

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** There is no reluctance on the part of the Home Office to answer these questions. Given the diverse number of figures that the noble Lord has mentioned, it might be difficult to determine which of them was wrong and which was right. ... However, I am advised that for the year 2014 the number of removals was 402, and for 2015 it was 333.

**Baroness Howarth of Breckland:** My Lords, if it is unsafe for youngsters to return to their countries of origin before they are 18, how do those countries suddenly become safe? I ask this question because a number of young people with family here—I have met such young people, some of whom are as young as six—suddenly discover, when they are 18 and starting school, that they do not have the right papers. Why has that not been investigated sooner? Why are children not returned home sooner when it is safe, not at 18 when their lives are changing?

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** With regard to children who have been here from

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

the tender ages mentioned by the noble Baroness, I would point out that where a person under 18 has lived continuously in the United Kingdom for seven years or more and it would be unreasonable to expect them to leave, arrangements will be made for them to remain.

**Lord Dubs:** Will the Minister confirm that there are no circumstances in which anyone would be removed from this country unless it was absolutely safe for them in their country of origin?

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** Whether it be a matter of assistance for voluntary return or of compulsory return where someone has overstayed and has no right to remain, in the first instance this Government will always seek to ensure that there are appropriate reception arrangements for a person returning to a country of origin.

**Lord Paddick:** My Lords, many of these young people have no memory of the countries that they are being deported to and no experience of living independently in those countries. Can the Minister imagine a teenage relative of his being deported to somewhere like Afghanistan to fend for themselves? Will he explain how this policy is justified?

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** The majority of unaccompanied minor children making asylum applications are aged 16 or 17 years, have not been here for many years and have not lost contact with their country of origin. With regard to the country of origin, at least one-third of those making applications in 2015 were from either Albania or Afghanistan. In the circumstances where they volunteer to return, appropriate arrangements are made to assist them. Meetings with NGOs or social workers are arranged for them, and they are given considerable assistance, equivalent to a maximum value of £1,500, if they go through the voluntary return procedure.

**Baroness Hollins:** My Lords, adolescence is a pretty stressful and turbulent time for young people in any circumstances. Obviously, being unable to make plans for your future, and perhaps being terrified of being returned to your country of origin, will make your growing up a little more difficult. Can the Minister assure the House that young people facing deportation will have their mental health assessed, and that the state of their mental health will be taken into account before such a decision is finally made?

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** Where an unaccompanied minor makes an application for leave to remain, they will be granted leave for at least 13 months or until they reach the age of 17 and a half. An assessment will then be made as to whether or not it would be reasonable to return them. Whether that involves a positive mental health check I cannot say, but I would be happy to write to the noble Baroness on that point.

**Lord Elton:** My Lords, my noble friend assured the House that nobody would be returned unless the Home Office was assured that there were appropriate arrangements for reception. Can he please tell us the criteria by which the Home Office defines what is appropriate?

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** The Home Office gathers evidence with regard to all potential countries of return from diverse sources before arriving at a conclusion as to whether the available evidence indicates that a person can be returned without risk of persecution or serious harm.

**Baroness Farrington:** My Lords, will the Minister care to answer the question, which was about the criteria used, in writing? It would be extremely helpful for Members of the House to see the criteria used.

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** I am not entirely clear what the noble Baroness refers to by way of the criteria, but I will consider what she has said and I will undertake to write if we are in a position to do so. ...

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

**Lord Dholakia:** What account is taken of in-country reports, particularly those produced by Amnesty International and Save the Children, before an individual is deported to their country of origin?

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** The Home Office has regard to all in-country reports that are available to it before arriving at a conclusion with regard to individual countries.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-05-09/debates/1605099000483/YoungAsylumSeekersDeportation>

### Deportation: Young People

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno [HL7605]** To ask Her Majesty's Government how many unaccompanied children who were asylum seekers were deported from the UK on reaching the age of 18 in each year since 2007.

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** Our records indicate that the total number of asylum seeking children who were removed from the United Kingdom after reaching the age of 18 from 2007 to 2015 is 6,797. A breakdown of these returns is provided in the table below.

Removal of former unaccompanied asylum seeking children will only take place after their asylum claim has been finally determined, including any appeal hearing, and it has been established that there is no risk of persecution, or of a breach of the European Convention on Human Rights, upon return to their Home Country.

After a former unaccompanied asylum seeking child is over eighteen years of age, and found not to be at risk upon return to their home country, their removal will be managed in line with our usual arrangements for the safe and secure return of failed asylum seekers who do not leave the UK voluntarily.

<b>Asylum Seeking Children Returned after Turning 18</b>	
<b>Year of Return</b>	<b>Total Number of Individuals Removed</b>
2007	1,338
2008	1,132
2009	900
2010	760
2011	807
2012	559
2013	566
2014	402
2015	333
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,797</b>

#### **Table Notes:**

1. This is provisional management information that is subject to change. It has not been assured to the standard of Official Statistics.
2. This data is based on the returns of individuals who have made asylum applications as main applicants who were minors at the date of application. The applicants were not necessarily unaccompanied.
3. The figures include voluntary and enforced removals from January 2007.
4. The table shows only the first removal of any individual since January 2007. The figures for 2010 and 2014 therefore differ from those in the answer to HL2297 which showed the first removal in the two years 2010 and 2014 only.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-04-13/HL7605/>

## Immigration and Asylum (continued)

### Press Releases

#### **New rules to attract non-EU students, researchers and interns to the EU**

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/20160504IPR25749/New-rules-to-attract-non-EU-students-researchers-and-interns-to-the-EU>

#### **Irregularly present migrants: “firewalls” needed to prevent denying human rights through sharing personal data**

<http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/ecri/Library/PressReleases/REC16-PR-2016-215-en.asp>

#### **Human trafficking: MEPs call on EU member states to protect victims better**

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/20160504IPR25764/Human-trafficking-MEPs-call-on-EU-member-states-to-protect-victims-better>

### New Publications

#### **Addressing the needs of unaccompanied asylum seeking children and child refugees in Scotland**

<http://peaceandjustice.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/UASC-and-child-refugees-in-scotland-may-2016-final.pdf>

#### **ECRI General Policy Recommendation No. 16 On Safeguarding Irregularly Present Migrants From Discrimination**

[http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/ecri/activities/GPR/EN/Recommendation\\_N16/REC-16-2016-016-ENG.pdf](http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/ecri/activities/GPR/EN/Recommendation_N16/REC-16-2016-016-ENG.pdf)

#### **Engaging the anxious middle on immigration reform: evidence from the UK debate**

[http://www.migrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/publications/TCM\\_Trust-UK-FINAL.pdf](http://www.migrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/publications/TCM_Trust-UK-FINAL.pdf)

### News

#### **Tory immigration bill fails children traumatised by torture in Syria**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/may/10/tory-immigration-bill-fails-children-traumatised-by-torture-in-syria>

#### **UK Government seeks to play down fears of delays to resettling child refugees from Europe**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14482385.UK\\_Government\\_seeks\\_to\\_play\\_down\\_fears\\_of\\_delays\\_to\\_resettling\\_child\\_refugees\\_from\\_Europe/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14482385.UK_Government_seeks_to_play_down_fears_of_delays_to_resettling_child_refugees_from_Europe/)

#### **Britain will not accept child refugees for up to seven months, Number 10 admits**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/05/09/britain-will-not-be-able-to-accept-unaccompanied-refugee-children/>

#### **Let the refugee children in now, demand church leaders: Former Archbishop of Canterbury among 30 figures warning that youngsters cannot be left in limbo**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3583973/Former-Archbishop-Canterbury-30-figures-warning-youngsters-left-limbo.html>

#### **UK Government to take in lone refugee children from Europe**

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/news/2853\\_uk\\_government\\_to\\_take\\_in\\_lone\\_refugee\\_children\\_from\\_europe](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/2853_uk_government_to_take_in_lone_refugee_children_from_europe)



## Immigration and Asylum News (continued)

**Talking about refugee 'pull factors' wilfully misses the point**

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/may/10/refugee-pull-factors-uk-immigrants>

**NI numbers prompt row over 1.2m EU 'immigration gap'**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-eu-referendum-36271390>

**Extra 1.5 million EU migrants came to Britain over last five years, official data shows**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/05/12/extra-15-million-eu-migrants-came-to-britain-over-last-five-year/>

**Mystery solved in migration figures mismatch**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/mystery-solved-in-migration-figures-mismatch-x96ntz8fp>

**ONS report disproves 'beyond doubt' claims of an EU immigration cover-up**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/ons-report-disproves-beyond-doubt-claims-of-an-eu-immigration-cover-up-a7025576.html>

**ONS analysis disproves 'missing million of migrants' accusations**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/may/12/ons-short-term-migration-explains-national-insurance-gap>

**An EU migrant every 40 seconds – the bombshell No 10 tried to bury: Report suggests 800,000 citizens may have exploited free movement rules last year**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3587648/An-EU-migrant-40-seconds-bombshell-No-10-tried-bury-Report-suggests-800-000-citizens-exploited-free-movement-rules-year.html>

**Migration doubles with million extra EU visitors**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-05-13/news/mystery-solved-in-migration-figures-mismatch-x96ntz8fp>

**Immigrants have always been an integral part of Scotland's story**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/immigrants-have-always-been-an-integral-part-of-scotlands-story-0dkl2nb2z>

**Syrian family in plea to Theresa May for separation law change**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-south-yorkshire-36286137>

**Syrian refugees send message to Theresa May: 'We need our children, we miss them so much'**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/syrian-refugees-send-message-to-theresa-may-we-need-our-children-we-miss-them-so-much-a7028841.html>

**Don't report illegal migrants, GPs and teachers told**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-05-11/news/gps-and-teachers-told-not-to-report-illegal-migrants-w97z6g552>

**The gangsters on England's doorstep**

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/may/11/gangsters-on-our-doorstep>

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## Community Relations

### New Publication

**European training programme handbook on intercultural mediation for Roma communities**  
<http://coe-romed.org/sites/default/files/documentation/ROMED1%20Trainers%27%20Handbook.pdf>

### News

**Govanhill primary pupils hit back at 'No Scots' claims by singing Flower of Scotland**  
<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/watch-govanhill-primary-pupils-hit-7949209#fUDprQMWIVHaKoZv.97>

**Anti-racism group rejects Trevor Phillips' claims that Britain is 'sleepwalking to catastrophe' over diversity**  
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/anti-racism-group-rejects-trevor-phillips-claims-that-britain-is-sleepwalking-to-catastrophe-over-a7022451.html>

**Britain 'sleepwalking to catastrophe' over race: Trevor Phillips**  
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/05/10/britain-sleepwalking-to-catastrophe-over-race-trevor-phillips/>

**Ethnic segregation is leading to catastrophe, warns equality tsar**  
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-05-10/news/poor-integration-is-leading-to-disaster-warns-equality-tsar-kj58p9hj8>

**Muslims are not a 'different' class of Briton: we're as messy as the rest**  
<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/may/14/muslims-class-islam-citizen-britain>

**We're heading for an immigration disaster, warns former race tsar: Trevor Phillips says Britain risks wave of unrest unless concerns are addressed**  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3581950/We-heading-immigration-disaster-warns-former-race-tsar-Trevor-Phillips-says-Britain-risks-wave-unrest-unless-concerns-addressed.html>

**'It's the Babel of London': Oldhill Street, Hackney**  
<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/ng-interactive/2016/may/10/babel-london-oldhill-street-hackney-photo-essay-sounds-jewish-podcast>

**Heathcliff, hijabs and chutzpah: the Bradford you've never seen**  
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news-review/heathcliff-hijabs-and-chutzpah-the-bradford-youve-never-seen-79d2bzpnn>

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## Equality

### UK Parliament Debates

**Life Chances Strategy**  
<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-05-11/debates/16051151000395/LifeChancesStrategy>

## Equality

### UK Parliament Debates (continued)

#### Diversity in the Media

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-05-10/debates/16051051000164/DiversityInTheMedia>

## UK Parliament Questions

### Mental Health Services: Ethnic Groups

**Lord Boateng** [HL8069] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the impact of the guidance for commissioners of mental health services to people from black and minority ethnic communities on inequalities in access, experience and outcomes in mental health care.

**Reply from Lord Prior of Brampton:** The Department is committed to involving patients and service users in the development of national mental health policy. It does not monitor this engagement centrally.

The Department commissioned the Mental Health Providers' Forum and the Race Equality Foundation to gather and review evidence of effective mental health service for Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups. The review *Better practice in mental health for black and minority ethnic communities* was published in May 2015.

The report found that organisations that were successful in providing mental health services that meet the needs of BME groups had developed local community-based approaches to service delivery which addressed cultural and linguistic differences and sought to actively engage hard to reach groups.

The Department has also supported guidance published by the Joint Commissioning Panel in 2014 *A guide for commissioners of mental health services for people from black and minority ethnic communities*. <http://www.jcpmh.info/good-services/black-minority-ethnic-communities/>

The guide set out 10 key messages for commissioners to improve services. These included: commissioning equitable access to mental health services for people regardless of ethnicity and identify and taking action to reduce ethnic inequalities; better local data collection to build understanding and competencies in commissioning services that meet the needs of BME groups; clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) and health and wellbeing board developing strategies for BME groups; and involving and engaging service users in commissioning decisions. ...

[JCPMH BME GUIDE](#)

[Better Practice in Mental Health](#)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-04-28/HL8069/>

### Stop and Search: Ethnic Groups

**Philip Davies** [36552] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of stop and searches of people of each ethnic group led to an arrest in the last year for which information is available.

**Reply from Mike Penning:** Stop and search data are published by the Home Office in the annual 'Police Powers and Procedures' bulletin. Data on the proportion of stop and search that led to an arrest in 2014/15, broken down by ethnic group, are provided in the table 1 below.

## Equality UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Proportion of stops and searches that result in an arrest, by ethnic group <sup>1</sup> , England and Wales, 2014/15 <sup>3</sup>	
Ethnicity	Proportion (%)
White	13
Asian or Asian British	14
Black or Black British	20
Chinese/other	17
Mixed	17
<b>All searches<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>14</b>

*Source: Police Powers and Procedures, Home Office*  
*Notes:*

1. Based on the ethnicity given by the person being searched at the time of search.
2. Includes cases where the individual did not state their ethnicity, or the ethnicity was unknown, and vehicle only searches.
3. Includes searches under section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994, and section 1 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-04/36552/>

### Offenders: Ethnic Groups

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Philip Davies** [36569] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many and what proportion of offenders from each ethnic group pleaded guilty for each category of offence in the last year for which information is available.

### Sentencing: Ethnic Groups

**Philip Davies** [36560] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many and what proportion of offenders of each ethnic group were found guilty of each category of offence in (a) magistrates' courts and (b) Crown courts in the latest year for which figures are available.

**Reply from Shailesh Vara:** The number and percentage of offenders found guilty at the Crown Court, by offence group and ethnicity, in England and Wales, in 2014 (the latest available), can be viewed in table 1.

The number and percentage of offenders who pleaded guilty at the Crown Court, by offence group and ethnicity, in England and Wales, in 2014 (the latest available), can be viewed in table 2.

Plea data at magistrates' courts are not held centrally and could only be obtained at disproportionate cost. It is not possible to present a representative picture of ethnicity at the magistrates' courts as data on ethnicity is not collected at the magistrates' courts for all offences.

[Numbers of offenders found guilty 2014](#)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-04/36569/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-04/36560/>

### Sentencing: Ethnic Groups

*The following three questions all received the same answer*

**Philip Davies** [36605] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what the average

## Equality UK Parliament Questions (continued)

custodial sentence was for each ethnic group for each category of indictable only offence in the latest year for which figures are available.

**Philip Davies** [36606] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what the custody rate was for offenders of each ethnic group for (a) violence against the person and (b) drugs offences in the latest year for which figures are available.

**Philip Davies** [36607] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what the custody rate was for each ethnic group for each type of robbery offence committed in the latest year for which figures are available.

**Reply from Dominic Raab:** The average custodial sentence length for sentences given in the Crown Court for each category of indictable only offence, by ethnicity, in 2014, can be found in the sentencing data tool contained in the annual publication. Information including overall sentencing data and those sentenced to immediate custody for the violence against the person and drugs offence groups can also be found in the published table.

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

The number of offenders sentenced at all Crown Courts only to immediate custody (including custody rate) for robbery offences, by ethnicity, in England and Wales, in 2014, can be viewed in the table.

Offenders sentenced at all Crown Courts only for offences relating to robbery <sup>(1)</sup> , by self-identified ethnicity, England and Wales, 2014 <sup>(2)(3)(4)</sup>								
Offence	Outcome	Ethnicity						
		Asian	Black	Mixed	Not stated	Chinese or other	White	All
Robbery	Sentenced	282	613	197	393	56	2,673	4,214
	<i>of which</i>							
	Immediate custody	208	488	149	336	44	2,256	3,481
	Custody rate	74%	80%	76%	85%	79%	84%	83%
Assault with intent to rob	Sentenced	3	5	3	6	2	35	54
	<i>of which</i>							
	Immediate custody	3	3	3	4	2	26	41
	Custody rate	100%	60%	100%	67%	100%	74%	76%

(1) An offence under S8 Theft Act 1968

(2) The figures given in the table relate to persons for whom these offences were the principal offences for which they were dealt with. When a defendant has been found guilty of two or more offences it is the offence for which the heaviest penalty is imposed. Where the same disposal is imposed for two or more offences, the offence selected is the offence for which the statutory maximum penalty is the most severe. (3) Every effort is made to ensure that the figures presented are accurate and complete. However, it is important to note that these data have been extracted from large administrative data systems generated by the courts and police forces. As a consequence, care should be taken to ensure data collection processes and their inevitable limitations are taken into account when those data are used.

(4) Custody rate represents the proportion of offenders sentenced who are sentenced to immediate custody.

Source: Justice Statistics Analytical Services - Ministry of Justice.

Ref: PQ 36607

## Equality

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

It is not possible to present a representative picture of ethnicity at the magistrates Court because data on ethnicity is not collected at the magistrates' Court for all offences.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-04/36605/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-04/36606/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-04/36607/>

#### Sentencing: Ethnic Groups

**Philip Davies** [36554] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many and what proportion of non-UK nationals of which ethnic groups dealt with in courts were sent to prison for each offence in the last year for which information is available.

**Reply from Shailesh Vara:** The number and proportion of non-UK nationals, their ethnic groups and offences are detailed on the attached table and covers the period of 2015. The government has a longstanding policy to do everything possible to return foreign prisoners to their home country at the earliest opportunity. Offender management statistics, including FNOs, can be found at this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/offender-management-statistics-quarterly-october-to-december-2015>

[Immediate Custodial Sentenced Admissions 2015](#)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-04/36554/>

#### Sentencing

**Philip Davies** [36614] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, in what proportion of cases, in which custody was not recommended by probation in a pre-sentence report a custodial sentence was handed down to people of each (a) ethnic group and (b) gender in the latest year for which figures are available.

**Reply from Dominic Raab:** The tables below are drawn from data published on a quarterly basis, which are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/offender-management-statistics-quarterly-october-to-december-2015>

**Table 1: Number and proportion of cases where custody was not recommended by the Probation Service in a Pre-sentence report but a custodial sentence was given by the courts, by gender, 2015, England and Wales <sup>(1)</sup>**

	Custodial sentence was not recommended by the Probation Service		
	Males	Females	Males and Females
	Percentage	Percentage	Percentage
<b>Sentence given</b>			
Custody	14%	8%	<b>13%</b>
All other sentences (2)	86%	92%	<b>87%</b>
<b>All</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Equality UK Parliament Questions (continued)

- 1 - Exclude Breach, Court Review and Deferred Sentence reports.  
2 - All other sentences refer to suspended and community sentences and fine.

**Table 2: Number and proportion of cases, where custody was not recommended by the Probation Service in a Pre-sentence report, but a custodial sentence was given by the courts by ethnicity, 2015, England and Wales (1,2,3)**

	Custodial sentence was not recommended by the Probation Service						
	White	Mixed	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Other ethnic group (1)	Not Known (2)	All ethnicities
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Sentence given</b>							
Custody	12%	14%	16%	14%	13%	15%	<b>13%</b>
All other sentences (3)	88%	86%	84%	86%	87%	85%	<b>87%</b>
<b>All</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

1 - Pre-sentence reports were recorded under the 2011 Census categories which have replaced the 2001 Census categories and therefore Chinese have moved from "Chinese or other ethnic group" to the "Asian/Asian British" category, and the group renamed to "Other ethnic group". This is in line with changes made to the ethnic group classifications in other National Statistic publications in England and Wales following the 2011 Census.

2 - Includes reports where ethnicity is not known either due to no recording or a recording of 'Not Stated'.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-04/36614/>

### Homicide: Ethnic Groups

**Philip Daviews** [36568] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, from which ethnic group came each offender convicted of murder in the last five years.

**Reply from Dominic Raab:** The number of offenders found guilty of murder, by ethnicity, in England and Wales from 2010 to 2014 (latest available) can be viewed in the table.

<b>Offenders found guilty of murder, by self declared ethnicity, England and Wales, 2010 to 2014 <sup>(1)(2)</sup></b>					
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
Asian	38	28	32	13	34
Black	44	47	59	51	40
Mixed	11	13	18	9	15
Not stated	35	32	39	52	57
Chinese or other	12	1	2	3	2
White	206	222	206	186	185
<b>Total</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>333</b>

## Equality UK Parliament Questions (continued)

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

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

Source: Justice Statistics Analytical Services - Ministry of Justice.

Ref: PQ 36568

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-04/36568/>

## Press Release

**BME workers review must lead to race equality strategy for employment, says TUC**

<https://www.tuc.org.uk/economic-issues/labour-market/equality-issues/black-workers/bme-workers-review-must-lead-race>

## New Publications

**Business and human rights: A five-step guide for company boards**

[https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/business\\_and\\_human\\_rights\\_web.pdf](https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/business_and_human_rights_web.pdf)

**Equality and Human Rights Commission: Strategic Plan 2016-19**

[https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/strategic\\_plan\\_-\\_web\\_accessible.pdf](https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/strategic_plan_-_web_accessible.pdf)

## News

**BBC is 'too Christian' and 'could broadcast Muslim prayers' to reflect growing multi-culturalism**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/05/15/bbc-is-too-christian-and-could-broadcast-muslim-prayers-to-refle/>

**BBC says it is too Christian and must diversify**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/bbc-says-it-is-too-christian-and-must-diversify-mvg7lh6t2>

**BBC says it airs too much Christian content and should produce more shows for Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3591301/BBC-says-airs-Christian-content-produce-shows-Muslims-Hindus-Sikhs.html>

**Irish in Scotland more at risk of alcohol-related disease and death, says study**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-36247541>



## Equality

### News (continued)

#### **Study reveals ethnic variations in alcohol-related hospitalisations and deaths**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14479053.Study\\_reveals\\_ethnic\\_variations\\_in\\_alcohol\\_related\\_hospitalisations\\_and\\_deaths/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14479053.Study_reveals_ethnic_variations_in_alcohol_related_hospitalisations_and_deaths/)

#### **Irish twice as likely as Scots to die from drink**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-05-09/scotland/irish-twice-as-likely-as-scots-to-die-from-drink-tmqj26k38>

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## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### UK Parliament Question

#### **Religious Hatred: Islam**

**Baroness Berridge** [HL8060] To ask Her Majesty's Government what action they are taking to respond to anti-Ahmadiyya hate literature in the UK in the light of recent reports that leaflets endorsing the execution of Ahmadi Muslims were found in Stockwell Green mosque on 10 April.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Religiously motivated hate crime and hate speech has absolutely no place in British society. This Government is clear that everybody should be free to live their lives free from fear of attack simply because of what their beliefs are, and that tragic events such as the recent murder of Asad Shah in Glasgow will not be tolerated. We have a strong legal framework in place against discrimination on the basis of religion, and criminal penalties for offences such as racially or religiously aggravated assault and criminal damage. Those who perpetrate hate crimes of any kind will be punished with the full force of the law. This Government has done more than any other to tackle anti-Muslim hatred. As of 1 April 2016, police forces in England and Wales are disaggregating religious hate crime data to reveal the true scale and nature of the problem. The Government also plans to publish its new Hate Crime Action Plan in the summer, which will set out our approach to tackling all forms of hate crime, including Islamophobia. This will build on the success of 'Challenge It, Report It, Stop It', which was published in 2012 and updated subsequently in 2014.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-04-27/HL8060/>

### New Publication

#### **European Islamophobia Report 2015**

[http://www.islamophobiaeurope.com/reports/2015/en/EIR\\_2015.pdf](http://www.islamophobiaeurope.com/reports/2015/en/EIR_2015.pdf)

### News

#### **Charity launch appeal for Scots to call time on sectarianism and banish the scourge once and for all**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/charity-launch-appeal-scots-call-7948703#vEg1sXeOFtGRmuEL.97>

## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### News (continued)

**IRA supporting primary teacher pleads guilty to posting sectarian rants on social media**  
<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/ira-supporting-primary-teacher-pleads-7947075#7kcjuy8lbdRgMhAp.97>

**Freedom of speech row as YouTube refuses to take down Scots Nazi Dog video**  
[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14493679.Freedom\\_of\\_speech\\_row\\_as\\_YouTube\\_refuses\\_to\\_take\\_down\\_Scots\\_Nazi\\_Dog\\_video/?ref=mr&lp=5](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14493679.Freedom_of_speech_row_as_YouTube_refuses_to_take_down_Scots_Nazi_Dog_video/?ref=mr&lp=5)

**Man who posted video of dog doing Nazi salute arrested**  
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/nazi-dog-salute-video-man-arrested-a7021006.html>

**Nazi pug: Man arrested after teaching girlfriend's dog to perform Hitler salute as a 'prank'**  
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/05/09/nazi-pug-man-arrested-after-teaching-girlfriends-dog-to-perform/>

**Man arrested over pet dog 'Nazi salute'**  
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-05-11/scotland/man-arrested-over-pet-dog-nazi-salute-l3kz6ck5l>

**Call centre worker is arrested after teaching dog to give Nazi salute on hearing the phrase 'Gas the Jews'**  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3580951/Call-centre-worker-arrested-online-footage-Nazi-dog.html>

**Nazi Salute Pug: Man Arrested Over 'Sieg Heil' Dog Video**  
[http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/nazi-salute-pug-man-arrested-over-sieg-heil-dog-video\\_uk\\_5731c0b0e4b0ade291a27261](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/nazi-salute-pug-man-arrested-over-sieg-heil-dog-video_uk_5731c0b0e4b0ade291a27261)

**Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis urges university vice-chancellors to address growing anti-Semitism problem**  
<http://www.independent.co.uk/student/news/chief-rabbi-ephraim-mirvis-urges-university-vice-chancellors-to-address-growing-anti-semitism-a7022081.html>

**Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis Says Universities 'Are Ignoring Vilification Of Jews'**  
[http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/chief-rabbi-says-universities-are-ignoring-vilification-of-jews\\_uk\\_57303bc7e4b05c31e5723118](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/chief-rabbi-says-universities-are-ignoring-vilification-of-jews_uk_57303bc7e4b05c31e5723118)

**Rhea Wolfson: The hate beat me down but the haters will not crush me**  
<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/rhea-wolfson-hate-beat-down-7971887#8DkRiWRm1PssSI5X.97>

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## Other Scottish Parliament and Government

### Press Releases

**Ken Macintosh MSP elected as the Scottish Parliament's Presiding Officer**  
<http://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/99443.aspx>

**Linda Fabiani and Christine Grahame elected as Deputy Presiding Officers**  
<http://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/99446.aspx>

## Other Scottish Parliament and Government (continued) New Publications

### Scottish Parliament Information Centre Briefing: Election 2016

[http://www.parliament.scot/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/SB\\_19-34i\\_How\\_did\\_Scotland\\_Vote\\_-\\_Scottish\\_Election\\_2016.pdf](http://www.parliament.scot/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/SB_19-34i_How_did_Scotland_Vote_-_Scottish_Election_2016.pdf)

### Scottish Parliament Information Centre Briefing: Key Issues for the Parliament in Session 5

[http://www.parliament.scot/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S4/SB\\_16-33\\_Key\\_Issues\\_for\\_the\\_Parliament\\_in\\_Session\\_5.pdf](http://www.parliament.scot/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S4/SB_16-33_Key_Issues_for_the_Parliament_in_Session_5.pdf)

## News

### Nicola Sturgeon pledges 'loyalty to Scots' during swearing-in

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/nicola-sturgeon-pledges-loyalty-to-scots-during-swearing-in-1-4125974>

### Ken Macintosh chosen as Holyrood presiding officer

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-36279028>

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## Other UK Parliament and Government

### EU Referendum

#### **A referendum about the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union will take place on 23 June 2016.**

The deadline for registering to vote in the referendum is **7 June 2016**. If you were registered to vote in the Scottish Parliament elections which have taken place, then you will already be registered to vote in the referendum – you do not need to re-register. If, however, you are not already registered, you can register online at <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>

In order to vote in the referendum you must be over 18 on polling day and:

- A British or Irish citizen living in the UK, or
- A Commonwealth citizen living in the UK who has leave to remain in the UK or who does not require leave to remain in the UK, or
- A British citizen living overseas who have been registered to vote in the UK in the last 15 years, or
- An Irish citizen living overseas who was born in Northern Ireland and who has been registered to vote in Northern Ireland in the last 15 years.

For more information about registering to vote in the referendum, see <http://www.aboutmyvote.co.uk/upcoming-elections-and-referendums/eu-referendum>

## Other UK Parliament and Government (continued)

### Parliamentary Questions

#### Students: Loans

**Gordon Marsden** [36934] To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, whether the Government plans to introduce a Sharia-compliant Takaful alternative finance product for students unable to access 24+ Advanced Learning Loans as well as for students undertaking higher education courses.

**Reply from Joseph Johnson:** The November 2015 Higher Education Green Paper (*Teaching Excellence, Social Mobility and Student Choice*) confirms the Government's intention to introduce, for the first time, a new system of alternative student finance. Work on the new system is ongoing, and includes careful consideration of where and how alternative student finance can deliver the most benefit for students. Subject to Parliament, the Government plans to introduce the system through new primary legislation.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-09/36934/>

#### Forced Marriage

**Jamie Reed** [36641] To ask the Secretary of State for International Development, what steps her Department is taking to end forced marriage worldwide.

**Reply from Desmond Swayne:** Ending Child Early and Forced Marriage (CEFM) remains a high priority for the UK Government at home and overseas. The UK has demonstrated its leadership through co-hosting the first ever Girl Summit in 2014, which galvanized global action to end CEFM and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). Following the Girl Summit 2014 the UK has continued its global leadership on ending CEFM, including through support for UN Resolutions and advocating for a separate target on ending CEFM within the Global Goals. The UK has supported campaigns and country-led Girl Summits through its overseas network, raising awareness of the impact of CEFM and ensuring global commitments translate into country-level action.

The UK has committed £36 million towards ending CEFM around the world. This includes support for the UN's Joint Programme to End Child Marriage working in twelve high prevalence countries and for grassroots civil society organisations working to challenge this harmful social practice. Domestically, the UK Government's Forced Marriage Unit provides support to British Nationals overseas affected by forced marriage.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-04/36641/>

#### Forced Marriage Protection Orders

**Naz Shah** [36314] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many forced marriage protection orders were issued in (a) 2014 and (b) 2015.

**Reply from Caroline Dinenege:** Statistics on Forced Marriage Protection Orders are published by the Ministry of Justice and are available as part of the Family Courts Statistics Quarterly series at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/family-court-statistics-quarterly>.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-03/36314/>

#### Forced Marriage: Prosecutions

**Naz Shah** [36316] To ask the Attorney General, how many people were prosecuted in England for forced marriage in (a) 2014 and (b) 2015.

**Reply from Jeremy Wright:** The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) collects information to show the number of defendants prosecuted for offences relating to

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

forced marriages identified by way of a monitoring flag applied to the case record. The flag is applied where any offence of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse has been carried out in the context of a forced marriage. During the financial year 2014-15 the CPS prosecuted 45 defendants in England and 46 defendants nationally (England and Wales) for offences associated with forced marriages. CPS figures in relation to the financial year 2015-16 will be placed in the House of Commons Library later this year.

A specific offence of forced marriage was created by section 121 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and came into force in June 2014. This offence applies to a person who intentionally forces a person to enter into marriage, believing the person does not consent, or a person who deceives someone into going abroad for the specific purpose of forcing them to marry. During 2014-15, the CPS commenced one prosecution in relation to forced marriage and two in relation to breaches of forced marriage protection orders.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-03/36316/>

### Forced Marriage

*The following three questions all received the same answer*

**Naz Shah** [36317] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many cases of forced marriage the police investigated in England as that offence in (a) 2014 and (b) 2015.

**Naz Shah** [36318] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much her Department spent on raising the profile of forced marriage as a criminal offence in (a) 2014 and (b) 2015.

**Naz Shah** [36352] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent assessment her Department has made of the effectiveness of criminalising forced marriage.

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** We made forced marriage a criminal offence in 2014 to better protect victims and send a clear message that this abhorrent practice will not be tolerated in the UK.

The Forced Marriage Unit (FMU) (a joint FCO and Home Office Unit) leads the Government's forced marriage policy, outreach and casework. It carries out a range of awareness raising work, including a comprehensive programme of outreach, new e-learning for professionals, and the launch of short film aimed at deterring potential perpetrators. For the financial years 2014-16, the Home Office has allocated £200,000 to the FMU.

Statistics on the number of cases of forced marriage investigated by the police are not collected centrally. The Crown Prosecution Service's (CPS) most recent violence against women and girls report shows that the volume of referrals from the police to the CPS with a forced marriage element is going up: from 67 in 2013-14, to 82 in 2014-15. In addition, to date over 1,000 Forced Marriage Protection Orders have been issued to prevent marriages from taking place and to assist in repatriating victims.

We are encouraged by the first conviction secured in June last year, but there is still work to be done. We want to see more victims having the confidence to come forward and being identified by the police. As part of the wider work to improve the police response to so-called 'honour' based violence, we will continue to work with the partners to review the implementation of the new legislation and lead efforts to tackle this barbaric crime.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-03/36317/>

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

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-03/36318/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-03/36352/>

### Female Genital Mutilation

*The following three questions all received the same answer*

**Baroness Gould of Potternewton** [HL8150] To ask Her Majesty's Government how much funding, and what resources, are allocated to providing training for teachers and those working in the care and medical professions to recognise female genital mutilation.

**Baroness Gould of Potternewton** [HL8151] To ask Her Majesty's Government to whom instances of female genital mutilation should be reported, and whether there is a mechanism for doing so anonymously.

**Baroness Gould of Potternewton** [HL8152] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many children have been prevented from leaving the country when it is believed they are going abroad to undergo female genital mutilation.

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** We are clear that Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a crime and it is child abuse. On 1 April we published updated multi-agency statutory guidance on FGM including information to help professionals understand the risk factors that they should be looking out for and what action they should take. In addition, free e-learning is available to all professionals, providing training on how to recognise and respond to FGM. To date the course has been completed by over 30,000 people. In addition, the Department of Health's £3M FGM Prevention Programme is focused on improving the NHS response and includes free e-learning for healthcare professionals. A new mandatory reporting duty requiring regulated health and social care professionals and teachers to report known cases of FGM in under 18s to the police came into force on 31 October 2015. Professionals encountering instances of FGM in women over 18, or who believe that a girl or woman is at risk, should follow established safeguarding procedures. Anyone who is concerned that a girl or woman has undergone FGM or is at risk can contact the NSPCC FGM helpline. Reports to this helpline can be made anonymously. The Home Office's Border Force plays a vital role in helping to identify and protect potential victims of FGM travelling to and from the UK. Border Force work with the police in protecting girls and young women at risk of FGM, including carrying out joint operations. FGM Protection Orders (FGMPOs) were fast-tracked for implementation last July and are being used to protect girls at risk of FGM, including those who may be taken abroad. Ministry of Justice data released on 31 March shows 32 FGMPOs were issued between July and December 2015.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-05-03/HL8150/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-05-03/HL8151/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-05-03/HL8152/>

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

### Circumcision

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Philip Davies** [36567] To ask the Secretary of State for Health, how many men and boys were treated in hospital for complications or after-effects arising from circumcision (a) in an NHS hospital and (b) conducted privately in each of the last three years.

**Philip Davies** [36600] To ask the Secretary of State for Health, how many men and boys were circumcised for medical reasons through the NHS in each of the last three years.

**Reply from Ben Gummer:** The number of men and boys treated in hospital for complications or after-effects arising from circumcision in a National Health Service hospital and conducted privately in each of the last three years, is not collected centrally.

The number of men and boys circumcised for medical reasons through the NHS in each of the last three years is not collected centrally. However, the table below shows a count of finished admission episodes (FAEs) where the primary procedure was a circumcision undertaken for medical reasons for boys (aged under 18 years) and men (aged 18 years and over) for 2012-13 to 2014-15.

Note that these data should not be described as counts of people as the same person may have had more than one episode of care in the time period presented.

Counts of FAEs where the primary procedure was a circumcision undertaken for medical reasons for boys (aged under 18 years) and men (aged 18 years and over) for 2012-13 to 2014-15

Year	Age (years)		
	0-17	Over 18	Unknown
2014-15	8,868	17,998	150
2013-14	8,964	17,554	179
2012-13	8,906	17,331	137

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-04/36567/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-04/36600/>

## New Publication

### Updated Female genital mutilation: resource pack

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

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## Other News

### Royal Mail joins forces with RNIB to help blind and partially sighted people communicate with local MPs

<http://www.royalmailgroup.com/royal-mail-joins-forces-rnib-help-blind-and-partially-sighted-people-communicate-local-mps>

## Other News (continued)

**Scotland's biggest Sikh temple set to open and the stunning building is a far cry from the Gorbals flat it was once based in**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/scotlands-biggest-sikh-temple-set-7940675#B1hQH2sOubwVXgDw.97>

**Golden glow of new £8m Sikh temple in Glasgow**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-05-11/scotland/golden-glow-of-new-8m-sikh-temple-in-glasgow-3bfs160q>

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## Bills in Progress

\*\* new or updated this week

### Bills in Progress UK Parliament

*The current session of the UK Parliament has ended, and the Parliament has been “prorogued” until the State Opening of Parliament on 18 May. The majority of Bills that have not been approved by the Parliament are dropped, and can only be progressed further if they are reintroduced in the next session.*

#### **\*\* Asylum (Unaccompanied Children Displaced by Conflict)**

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

The 2015-16 session of parliament has ended and this bill will make no further progress.

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

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

The 2015-16 session of parliament has ended and this bill will make no further progress.

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

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

The 2015-16 session of parliament has ended and this bill will make no further progress.

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

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

Commons insistence, non-insistence, amendment in lieu and amendments to Lords amendment

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2015-2016/0124/16124.pdf>

“Ping Pong”, House of Commons

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-05-09/debates/1605103000001/ImmigrationBill>

and

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-05-10/debates/16051037000419/ImmigrationBill>

“Ping Pong”, House of Lords

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-05-10/debates/16051037000419/ImmigrationBill>

Royal Assent

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-05-12/debates/16051229000006/RoyalAssent>



## Bills in Progress

### UK Parliament (continued)

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

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

The 2015-16 session of parliament has ended and this bill will make no further progress.

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## Consultations

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

#### **\*\* Racism and religious discrimination** (closing date 31 May 2016)

<http://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/offices/commons/media-relations-group/news/youth-select-committee-tackles-racism-and-religious-discrimination/>

#### **Proposals to amend Immigration and Asylum Chamber fees** (closing date 3 June 2016)

<https://consult.justice.gov.uk/digital-communications/first-tier-tribunal-and-upper-tribunal-fees>

#### **Draft Code of Practice for Stop and Search** (closing date 15 July 2016)

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/organised-crime-and-police-powers-unit/stop-and-search>

#### **Police Powers to Search Children and Young People for Alcohol** (closing date 15 July 2016)

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/organised-crime-and-police-powers-unit/under18search>

#### **\*\* Developing black and minority ethnic talent: issues faced by businesses** (closing date 22 August 2016)

<https://bisgovuk.citizenspace.com/lm/baroness-mcgregor-smith-review>

#### **Police Scotland: local policing** (consultation open during the whole year)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/8LMB9WX>

#### **The rise of anti-Semitism** (closing date not listed)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/inquiries/parliament-2015/inquiry2/>

#### **\*\* Suicide and BME Communities in North East Glasgow** (closing date not listed)

[https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BME\\_suicide\\_NorthEastGlasgow](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BME_suicide_NorthEastGlasgow)

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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**

#### **\*\* closing date this week!**

#### **Social Isolation and Loneliness Fund**

*Deadline for applications 20 May 2016*

## Funding Opportunities (continued)

Scottish Government funding to tackle social isolation and loneliness among Scotland's most vulnerable people. For information and application form see <http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/funding-and-support/social-isolation-and-loneliness-fund/>

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## Events/Conferences/Training

\*\* new or updated this week

**\*\* this week!**

### **Gender Based Violence and BME Women, Children, and Young People**

17 May (9.30-4.30) & 18 May (9.30-4.30)

31 May (9.30-4.30) & 1 June 2016 (9.30-4.30)

Shakti Women's Aid awareness-raising training for any practitioner or interested individual. For information see <http://shaktiedinburgh.co.uk/events-training/> or contact 0131 475 2399 / [info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk](mailto:info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk)

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

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](mailto:train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) / 0141 223 7951.

### **\*\* Working Together in Faith Refugee information and advocacy**

21 June 2016 in Edinburgh (10.30-3.30)

Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees conference to provide information about the current humanitarian refugee catastrophe and explores practical ways in which local faith groups can make an effective difference. For information and to register see <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/working-together-in-faith-registration-25160800632> or contact Sabine Chalmers [schalmers@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:schalmers@churchofscotland.org.uk) or David Bradwell [dbradwell@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:dbradwell@churchofscotland.org.uk)

### **\*\* 'Meet the Artists' of Transit Zone**

23 June 2016 in Glasgow (5.30-6.30)

Scottish Refugee Council open discussion with photographer Iman Tajik and cinematographer Frederik Subei about their exhibition and film Transit Zone which gives an insight into what life is like for refugees in the makeshift camps of Calais. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/jxrgebc>

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## Useful Links

**Scottish Parliament** <http://www.parliament.scot/>

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

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

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

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

## Useful Links (continued)

**One Scotland** <http://onescotland.org/>

**Scottish Refugee Council** <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk>

**Interfaith Scotland** <http://www.interfaithscotland.org/>

**Equality and Human Rights Commission** <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/>

**Equality Advisory Support Service** <http://www.equalityadvisoryservice.com>

**Scottish Human Rights Commission** <http://scottishhumanrights.com/>

**ACAS** [www.acas.org.uk](http://www.acas.org.uk)

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

**Volunteer Development Scotland** [www.vds.org.uk](http://www.vds.org.uk)

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

**Central Registered Body for Scotland (CRBS)** [www.volunteerscotland.net/disclosure-services](http://www.volunteerscotland.net/disclosure-services)

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

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

**BBC Democracy Live** [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/bbc\\_parliament/default.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/bbc_parliament/default.stm)

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



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



The **Scottish Government** is committed to promoting equality of opportunity and social justice for all those who live in Scotland. **One Scotland** is the Scottish Government campaign designed to tackle racism. It aims to raise awareness of racist attitudes, highlight its negative impact and recognise the valuable contributions that other cultures have made to our society – and make Scotland no place for racism. <http://onescotland.org/>

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