

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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Contents

[Immigration and Asylum](#)

[Community Relations](#)

[Equality](#)

[Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination](#)

[Other Scottish Parliament and Government](#)

[Other UK Parliament and Government](#)

[Other News](#)

[Bills in Progress](#)

[Consultations](#)

[Events/Conferences/Training](#)

[Useful Links](#)

Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month, and that the Scottish and UK Parliament and Government websites have 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 UK Parliament will be in recess from 15-27 June 2016.

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Motions

S5M-00373 Lewis Macdonald: Welcoming Start of Refugee Festival Scotland—That the Parliament welcomes the start of Refugee Festival Scotland, which runs from 14 to 26 June 2016; understands that the annual event, organised by the Scottish Refugee Council, has as its theme for 2016 Solidarity, highlighting the need to stand with people who have been forced to flee their homes and start new lives in Scotland; recognises that the Refugee Festival Scotland is a celebration of the contribution that refugees make to life in Scotland and that more than 100 arts, cultural, educational, heritage and sports events will be taking place across the country throughout the festival, and wishes all performers, participants and attendees a successful Refugee Festival Scotland for 2016.
<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-00373&ResultsPerPage=10>

S5M-00356 David Torrance: Congratulations to Fife Migrants Forum— That the Parliament congratulates Fife Migrants Forum, which is based in Kirkcaldy, on receiving

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Motions (continued)

a grant of £10,000 from the Voluntary Action Fund (VAF) through its Volunteering Support Fund; recognises that over the last 30 years the VAF has distributed over £90 million in grants to organisations and community groups across Scotland and that, through its programmes, it provides funding and support to tackle disadvantage, challenge inequality and build strong, safe communities; considers that the Fife Migrants Forum has made a considerable contribution to the community since its formation in 2010; understands that it will use this funding to increase the diversity of its volunteers and improve the support and training available to them; commends the help, support, advice and information that the organisation provides to clients from all over Fife, and wishes the forum continued success in the future.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-00356&ResultsPerPage=10>

S5M-00381 John Finnie: Moray Supports Refugees—That the Parliament welcomes the decision by Moray Council to offer a rent-free lease of three business units to help the Moray Supports Refugees group; also notes that Moray Council waived the remaining 20% of rates following charity status deduction; believes that this gesture will go a long way to ensuring that Moray and Scotland are seen as a welcoming and supportive home for those fleeing war and persecution; understands that the units will be used to collect, sort and distribute humanitarian aid for refugees, and sends its best wishes and sincere gratitude to Moray Council for its work in supporting the group.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-00381&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Debate

Refugee Family Reunion Rules

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-06-09/debates/16060930000002/RefugeeFamilyReunionRules>

UK Parliament Questions

Schools: Immigrants

The following three questions all received the same answer

William Wragg [39371] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, with reference to the National pupil projections statistics release, published on 22 July 2015, how many people were defined as (a) migrants and (b) children of migrants from (i) other EU member states and (ii) non-EU member states in the principal population projection in each year between 2015 and 2024.

William Wragg [39372] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, with reference to the National pupil projections statistics release, published on 22 July 2015, if she will publish the (a) assumptions and (b) estimated total migration figures that were used in the calculation of the (i) migrant component of the principal population projection and (ii) high migrant variant in Table 3a of that data release.

William Wragg [39374] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, with reference to the National pupil projections statistics release, published on 22 July 2015, how many people defined as migrants are included in the principal population projections in each (a) local education authority and (b) region in each year between 2015 and 2024.

Reply from Nick Gibb: The national pupil projections are only produced for the whole of England and do not break down projected pupil numbers by local

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

education authority or region. They are derived from the 2012-based national population projections for England produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS)[1] who used assumptions which were considered to best reflect demographic patterns at that time.

The ONS uses assumptions on the levels of future fertility, net migration and life expectancy in the production of their population projections. They use central assumptions for the principal projections and alternative high and low assumptions to produce variant projections.

New national pupil projections, based on the ONS's mid-2014 national population projections[2], are scheduled to be published on 14 July 2016. The timing and content of National Statistics releases are a matter for the Head of Profession for statistics. The month of publication was pre-announced in 2015 and the specific date of publication was pre-announced on 26 February 2016.

[1] Mid-2012 ONS national population projections available at

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/bulletins/nationalpopulationprojections/2013-11-06>

[2] Mid-2014 ONS national population projections available at

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/bulletins/nationalpopulationprojections/2015-10-29>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-06/39371/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-06/39372/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-06/39374/>

Immigration Controls

Lord Tebbit [HL380] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord O'Neill of Gatley on 12 May (HL8157) that "net migration remains too high and there is still more work to do", whether they will set out the details of the work to be done, and the date by which they expect it to have been completed; and when they now expect immigration to fall below 100,000 a year.

Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The Government remains committed to bringing migration down to sustainable levels. We have cut abuse and raised standards in non-EU visa routes and we have recently announced a series of reforms to Tier 2 (the non-EU skilled worker route) which will be implemented from this Autumn. We have taken steps to tackle abuse of EU free movement rights.

The new Immigration Act 2016, which we began implementing last month, will tackle illegal working and make it harder than ever for illegal migrants to stay under the radar, putting an end to the permissive environment of the past. Continuing this vital work will remain a priority over this Parliament.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-05-26/HL380/>

Immigration

Lord Robathan: To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the latest immigration figures.

Reply from the Advocate-General for Scotland (Lord Keen of Elie): My Lords, as the Prime Minister has said, the figures are disappointing. We are cutting

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

abuse, raising standards and toughening welfare provisions. We have legislated to make it harder for illegal migrants to stay. It remains our ambition to reduce migration to sustainable levels.

Lord Robathan: ... Will my noble and learned friend the Minister tell the House, first, why there has been this delay in moving the immigration figures in the direction we expected from the manifesto and, secondly, notwithstanding what happens on 23 June, when we can expect to see some progress in reducing the number of immigrants to this country to the tens of thousands?

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: The pressure of economic migration has been driven in part by the success of our economy, making us a goal for so many migrants who are on the continent already. With regard to when we hope to achieve sustainable levels, it is our ambition to achieve sustainable levels of migration during this Parliament. There may of course be two routes to that goal, depending on the outcome of 23 June.

Lord Rosser: There are a number of points that can be made about the immigration figures at this crucial time: the reality that a very significant percentage of the figure does not relate to people coming from within the EU; that the number arriving includes many tens of thousands who are British passport holders; that the figure includes significant numbers of students; that the vast majority of those who come from the EU are coming here to take up jobs; and that without them our economy and public services would be in even more difficulty. Can the Minister say when the Home Secretary herself is going to adopt a much higher profile, both in challenging the distortions currently being presented about immigration and in emphasising her support for remaining in the EU, when the Home Secretary, more than anyone else, will be guaranteed media coverage for what she says on immigration?

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: The Home Secretary and her Ministers have been consistent in considering and addressing the issue of migration into this country. With regard to the figures mentioned by the noble Lord, I concur that the extent of net migration is greater from outside the EEA or European Union than from within, even today. With regard to those coming from the European Union, there is no doubt that more than 70% already have a job waiting for them in this country. We are taking steps to control migration and the Home Secretary is spearheading those initiatives.

To continue reading this lengthy question and answer session see

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-06-08/debates/16060840000462/Immigration>

Migrants

Lord Higgins: To ask Her Majesty's Government whether it is their policy that migrants rescued from the English Channel should be returned to France, rather than brought to the United Kingdom.

Reply from the Advocate-General for Scotland (Lord Keen of Elie): My Lords, we work closely with the French to protect the border and prevent illegal migration. This includes on maritime threats. Our focus is on stopping boats leaving Europe and on developing strong intelligence processes. Migrants encountered in United Kingdom territorial waters by UK agencies are brought here, where they will be processed under UK legislation, in line with EU and international law. For those not claiming asylum, we seek a quick return.

Lord Higgins: My Lords, is it not clear that people smugglers and traffickers are able to persuade migrants to risk crossing the Channel despite the fact that their boats are unsafe and it is extremely dangerous to cross shipping lanes and so on, because they will be rescued and taken to the United Kingdom? Would it not frustrate the traffickers and people smugglers if we were absolutely clear that if people are rescued they will be

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

returned to France, where, if they are genuine asylum seekers, they can anyway claim asylum?

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: With respect, it is necessary to have regard to international law in this respect, and the extent of our territorial waters. Pursuant to the UN convention on the seas, our territorial waters extend 12 miles from the coast, as do those of France. Our borders agency works within those territorial waters. Equally, the French work within their territorial waters. Of course, at Dover and Calais La Manche is only 20 miles wide. Nevertheless, although it may meet at a median point, we have to respect each other's territorial waters. Those who are found in UK territorial waters are brought to the United Kingdom. Those found in French territorial waters are taken to France.

Lord Hain: Is it not the case that if we left the European Union, the Dublin agreement would no longer operate and the French would have no obligation to receive people who came to their shores but ended up in Britain or in the sea? Of course, the same applies to every other member state where they might have first crossed European Union boundaries. Furthermore, is it not the case that if we left the French would shift the whole horrendous problem of refugees in Calais straight over to the White Cliffs of Dover? What consequence would that have for the people of the surrounding area?

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: Strictly speaking, our agreements with France over these matters are not predicated on our membership of the European Union, so we should be clear about that. Nevertheless, we benefit greatly from close co-operation with the French in these matters; indeed, not only with France but with Belgium and the Netherlands. The degree of intelligence co-operation reflects the very close union we have with these countries.

To continue reading this lengthy question and answer session see
<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-06-09/debates/16060929000318/Migrants>

Migration

Lord Green of Deddington: To ask Her Majesty's Government what further steps they intend to take in order to reduce net migration to the United Kingdom.

Reply from the Advocate General for Scotland (Lord Keen of Elie): My Lords, we remain committed to bringing migration down to sustainable levels. The EU changes which the Prime Minister has secured will reduce the artificial draw of our welfare system. We are cutting abuse and raising standards on non-EU visa routes. The changes that we are making to the work visa system and implementation of the new Immigration Act will seek to challenge the permissive environment of the past.

Lord Green of Deddington: I am grateful for that response. Is the Minister aware that the population projections that underlie all the Government's policies simply assume that net migration will fall by 40% and stay down? Does he realise that, if the current levels of immigration should continue, we will have to build a new home every four minutes, 24 hours a day, just for new migrants and their families? Will he therefore urge the Chancellor to put much more serious resources into the immigration system to restore its effectiveness?

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: The Government recognise that a growing demand by way of immigration has to be dealt with and can mean increased pressure on housing and public services. That is why we are working across the Government to reduce net migration to sustainable levels and delivering the investment this country needs to provide sufficient housing and effective public services.

Lord Anderson of Swansea: My Lords, one means of reducing the numbers would be to take students out of the statistics and therefore make the statistics more real. Would

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

not another means possibly be to ensure that there are sufficient resources to test the validity of marriages after a reasonable interval to ensure that there are fewer bogus marriages?

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: I am obliged to the noble Lord. Where students come in legitimately for a period of study that extends to more than a year, normally to three years, there is an impact on public services, housing and other matters. It is therefore appropriate that they should be included within the net immigration figures. That practice is embraced not only by the United Kingdom but by other countries such as Australia, Canada and the United States. On bogus marriages, I concur that we need to ensure that these cannot succeed and therefore that appropriate checks are made.

To continue reading this lengthy question and answer session see

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-06-06/debates/16060611000471/Migration>

Immigration

William Wragg [39201] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how many migrants from (a) the EU, (b) the EEA and (c) countries outside the EU have settled in the UK since 1 January 2004 in each (i) region and (ii) local authority area where they have settled.

Reply from Rob Wilson: The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the Authority to reply. ...

ONS collects data on the country of birth and nationality of the UK population from the Annual Population Survey (APS). The APS is the Labour Force Survey (LFS) plus various sample boosts. It is a household survey and so does not include people living in most types of communal establishment. A copy of the table has been placed in the House of Commons Library. The table shows the estimated number of people who were resident in the UK in 2014 with EU, EEA, and non-EU nationality, whose year of arrival was between 2004 and 2014 (please note that calendar year 2014 is the latest data available). The estimates are broken down by region and local authority and do not include British nationals. Estimates from the APS are subject to a margin of uncertainty. For example, with our estimate of those resident in the North East in 2014 with EU nationality, who have arrived since 2004 (29,000 with a confidence interval of +/- 6,000), we expect the true number to be within the range 23,000 to 35,000. Certain estimates within the table have been suppressed as the associated confidence interval is higher than the estimate. This is likely to happen in areas of the country where the overall population and/or the population of migrants is small. This means that very small numbers are sampled in the survey. Where this happens, the results have not been reported as they cannot be considered reliable for practical purposes

Table: Migrants

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/39201/>

Immigration

Andrew Smith [38020] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average time taken was to decide applications for the change of conditions of leave granted on the basis of family or private life during the last 12 months.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The average time taken between January 2015 and December 2015 to consider whether an application meets the requirements to change a condition code is 83 calendar days.

January 2015 – December 2015 was taken as the 12 month time frame to fall in line with data that is published.

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-23/38020/>

Visas

Julie Cooper [38652] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many visas were processed using the priority visa service in 2015.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The number of visas processed using priority visa services in 2015 is shown in the attached table. This figure includes both priority and super priority applications.

Total Priority applications resolved between 01-Jan-2015 and 31-Dec-2015	561,475
of which Super Priority applications resolved between 01-Jan-2015 and 31-Dec-2015	9,400
of which Priority applications resolved between 01-Jan-2015 and 31-Dec-2015	552,075

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/2016-05-26/38652/>

Visas

Julie Cooper [38655] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average processing time is for settlement visas using the priority visa service.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The average processing time for settlement applications made using priority visa services between 01-Jan-2015 and 31-Dec 2015 is 7.41 days. This is a 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/2016-05-26/38655/>

Visas: Married People

Daniel Kawczynski [39036] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what evidence can be provided to prove gross rental income in order to meet the minimum income threshold for a spousal visa.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Under paragraph 10(a) of Appendix FM-SE to the Immigration Rules, the evidence required of gross rental income under the minimum income threshold for a spousal visa comprises confirmation of ownership of the property, personal bank statements showing the relevant income and a rental agreement or contract.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/39036/>

Immigration: Children

Stuart McDonald [37351] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many children have been reunited with their families in the UK in (a) the last five years and (b) the last year under (i) the EU Dublin III Regulation; (ii) part 11 of the UK immigration rules, (iii) any other parts of the UK immigration rules and (iv) under exceptional circumstances.

Reply from James Brokenshire: There are several routes for children to be reunited safely with their families in the UK. Applications for family reunion for individuals under the age of 18 years of age can be received both in country and out of country and are processed by a number of casework units within the Home

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Office including International Operations, Settlement, Complex Casework and Asylum Operations. Unfortunately the way these applications are processed and the method used to store the data on the main immigration database means that not all of the data is recorded in a format that can be reported on automatically and would therefore require a manual investigation of thousands of case records. As a result this data could only be provided at disproportionate cost.

Since 2010 we have granted more than 21,000 family reunion visas and 175 visas for exceptional circumstances though we are not able to distinguish from the data how many of these applicants were under the age of 18. Internal Management information concerning applications from people under 18 processed by International Operations and Complex Casework are listed in the table below:

Year	Complex Casework
2010	14
2011	14
2012	8
2013	7
2014	24
2015	10
Grand Total	77

Year	International Operations
2011	2950
2012	2406
2013	2624
2014	2882
2015	3088
Grand Total	13950

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/2016-05-18/37351/>

Refugees: Children

The following three questions all received the same answer

Nicholas Brown [37889] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what support the Government provides local authorities who express an interest in resettling refugee children under the Immigration Act 2016.

Nicholas Brown [38014] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what criteria the Government plans to use to assess the suitability of a local authority's capacity to provide suitable care for resettled children under the Immigration Act 2016.

Nicholas Brown [38028] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what plans the Government has to publish the outcome of its consultation with local authorities on the resettling of child refugees under the Immigration Act 2016.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The UK Government takes it's responsibility in all cases involving children seriously and we will continue to ensure that all unaccompanied children are provided with appropriate care, regardless of their route to the UK.

It is important that we work with local authorities to understand their capacity to support all unaccompanied children and ensure their needs can be met. That is

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

why my officials are working closely with the Department for Communities and Local Government and the Department for Education to ensure consultation with local authorities is consistent and coordinated across all resettlement and relocation programmes. Consultation with local government partners will take place over the coming weeks and Parliament will be updated in due course.

We are keen to ensure that there is a more equitable distribution of unaccompanied children across the UK and that no local authority is required to take more children than they can support.

The Home Office provides funding to local authorities for the care of unaccompanied asylum seeking children and recently announced new enhanced rates to support the transfer scheme. We will continue to measure the impacts on local authorities, but are clear that funding for unaccompanied asylum seeking children and refugees must be aligned, regardless of the route of entry for the child.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-23/37889/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-23/38014/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-23/38028/>

Refugees: Loans

Thangam Debbonaire [39221] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for a refugee integration loan have been (a) made, (b) accepted and (c) refused in each of the last five years.

Reply from Richard Harrington:

Years	No. Applications received	No. Applications paid	Total value of loans	Mean value
2011/12	2552	1766	£814,551	£461
2012/13	2125	1451	£553,685	£382
2013/14	2205	1506	£619,330	£388
2014/15	2534	1457	£704,409	£483
2015/16	3971	2525	£1,216,095	£482

This is taken from local records and not from officially published statistics and it is therefore provisional and subject to change. It has not been assured under Office for National Statistics standards

We do not hold official statistics or local management information on the number of applications refused but the difference between the number of loans applications made and those paid is indicative of the number of applications that were not granted a loan either because the applicant was not eligible to receive a loan, did not demonstrate a need for a loan, or did not provide the required information to consider their loan application.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/39221/>

Refugees: Loans

Thangam Debbonaire [39222] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the (a) mean, (b) maximum and (c) median value was of refugee integration loans in each of the last five years.

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Reply from Richard Harrington:

Years	Mean value
2011/12	£461
2012/13	£382
2013/14	£388
2014/15	£483
2015/16	£482

This is taken from local records and not from officially published statistics and it is therefore provisional and subject to change. It has not been assured under Office for National Statistics standards.

For the above years, the maximum loan amount has been varied between £500 and £400. The current maximum amount payable is £500. It is not possible to provide a median value given the large volume of loans paid.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/39222/>

Refugees: Loans

Thangam Debbonaire [39223] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the (a) mean, (b) maximum and (c) median length of time has been for a decision to be made on an application for a refugee integration loan in each of the last five years.

Reply from Richard Harrington: There is no information held on decision making times over the last five years. It is the departments aim to respond to all applications as quickly as possible.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/39223/>

Refugees: Syria

Caroline Lucas [39522] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department is on target to resettle 20,000 Syrian refugees by the end of the current Parliament.

Reply from Richard Harrington: We are continuing to work productively with local authorities and International Partners to deliver the Government's commitment to resettle 20,000 Syrian refugees by the end of this Parliament. We are on track to do this.

The number resettled in a particular period will depend on a range of factors. This includes the number of referrals we have received from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the number of confirmed places we have received from local authorities that are suitable for the specific needs of those who have been accepted for resettlement. Progress on resettlement will be indicated in quarterly immigration statistics.

The last set of statistics, published on 26 May 2016 showed that 1,602 Syrians were relocated to the UK under the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement scheme between October 2015 and March 2016.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-06/39522/>

Asylum: Scotland

The following four questions all received the same answer

Ian Murray [38917] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what arrangements have been made to guarantee access to legal representation for an asylum claim for asylum seekers dispersed to (a) current dispersal areas, (b) new

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

dispersal areas and (c) Scotland.

Ian Murray [38919] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what measures are in place to ensure that the appropriate educational provision is in place for asylum seekers dispersed to (a) current dispersal areas, (b) new dispersal areas and (c) Scotland.

Ian Murray [38920] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what measures are in place to ensure that the appropriate health services, mental health services and sexual health services are available to asylum seekers dispersed to (a) current dispersal areas, (b) new dispersal areas and (c) Scotland.

Ian Murray [38940] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what measures are in place to ensure that local communities are involved and considered in discussions on the dispersal of asylum seekers to (a) current dispersal areas, (b) new dispersal areas and (c) Scotland.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Home Office maintains an active partnership with local governments across the UK, including those in Scotland, and funds Strategic Migration Partnerships to plan for the most appropriate dispersal of asylum seekers. The partnerships consider the impact on communities and local services so that adjustments to dispersal patterns can be made where appropriate.

Free access to NHS healthcare is provided to asylum seekers. Asylum Health Teams are commissioned by NHS England and Scotland to provide healthcare and screening. Strategic Migration Partnerships work with Care Commissioning Groups to plan for the health care needs of asylum seekers in their regions.

All children are entitled to free primary and secondary education. To enable access to education, internal checks are in place to triage applications involving children of school age for priority dispersal into permanent accommodation. Strategic Migration Partnerships discuss education provision as part of their local authority engagement. Asylum seekers are able to access legal advice via the Legal Aid system and are provided details of local solicitors as part of their induction into their dispersal region.

Local authorities are consulted before asylum seekers are placed in their area, so that the potential impact on communities and local services is fully considered. During discussions on widening dispersal in Scotland we are and will continue to ensure that Local Authority leads and partners on health and education, as well as the Scottish Government and the Scottish Law Society, are involved to address any concerns and to ensure the close and successful partnership working in Glasgow is replicated elsewhere.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-26/38917/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-26/38919/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-26/38920/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-26/38940/>

Asylum

Ian Murray [38918] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions took place between December 2015 and May 2016 between Ministers and

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

(b) officials of her Department with the Scottish Legal Aid Board and the Law Society of Scotland on plans to widen asylum dispersal in Scotland; and whether any further such discussions are planned.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Home Office is currently exploring the widening of dispersal agreements across all Scottish Local Authorities on a voluntary basis.

Once new dispersal agreements have been agreed and the location and likely demand for legal services is known, we will seek to meet with the Scottish Legal Aid Board and the Scottish Law Society on the proposals. Similar discussions will also be held with Migrant Help and other Non-Government Organisations to discuss provision of service and support.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-26/38918/>

Asylum

Ian Murray [38960] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will develop a coordinated refugee dispersal policy with (a) all nations of the UK, (b) other government departments and (c) local government incorporating the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation scheme, the dispersal and transfer of unaccompanied children and the Compass Contracts for accommodation of asylum seekers.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The UK Government has been co-ordinating the dispersal of asylum and resettlement schemes for many years and we will continue to ensure that all refugees are provided with appropriate care, regardless of their route to the UK.

Our existing policies are aimed at ensuring an equitable distribution of asylum seekers and refugees across the country so that no individual local authority bears a disproportionate share of the burden. However, we recognise that the development of existing schemes will require an expansion of current networks and the impact on local communities and infrastructure will need to be managed carefully to ensure that no local authority is required to take more than they can support.

That is why the Home Office is working closely with the Department for Communities and Local Government and the Department for Education to ensure consultation with local authorities is consistent and co-ordinated across all resettlement and relocation programmes. The Home Office will continue to maintain an active partnership with local governments across the whole of the UK, and funds Strategic Migration Partnerships to plan for the most appropriate dispersal of asylum seekers. The partnerships consider the impacts of these different schemes so that adjustments to dispersal patterns can be made to ensure that people continue to be integrated sensitively into local communities.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/38960/>

Asylum

Ian Murray [38939] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the oral contribution of the Minister for Immigration of 3 May 2016, Official Report, column 45WH, on asylum seeker dispersal, if she will provide the names of the (a) 103 local authorities that are currently asylum dispersal areas, (b) 20 local authorities signed up to be asylum dispersal areas and (c) 28 local authorities that her Department is in discussions with to become asylum dispersal areas.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Recently published Home Office data confirms that, as at the end of March 2016 there were 107 local authorities accommodating

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

dispersed asylum seekers. This data can be accessed via the following link:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-january-to-march-2016/list-of-tables#asylum>

Not all dispersal areas are currently housing asylum seekers; future published data will detail new dispersal areas as asylum seekers are dispersed to them.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-26/38939/>

Asylum

Deidre Brock [39196] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what advice, assistance and representation the Government provides to unsettled asylum-seeking women and children who have experienced gender-based violence.

Reply from James Brokenshire: When an application for asylum is lodged, all asylum seekers are provided with information, in a range of languages, about the asylum process. This leaflet, entitled 'Information about your asylum application', includes details on where asylum seekers can obtain information about local legal advisers and local and national voluntary sector organisations that can provide support and assistance.

We have worked closely with partners, including the Refugee Council, to develop a referral process, so that women are formally referred to special counselling services when they disclose issues relating to sexual violence as part of their asylum claim. We intend to monitor this process as part of our commitment to ensure the asylum process is gender sensitive and responsive to the needs of those who have suffered sexual violence in conflict.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/39196/>

Asylum: EU Law

Steve McCabe [38190] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Answer of 21 April 2016 to Question 34026, what types of data her Department holds on unaccompanied children who have (a) applied for asylum in accordance with Article 8 of the Dublin III Regulation and (b) been granted asylum in accordance with Article 8 of the Dublin III Regulation.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Dublin III is the mechanism in place used to determine the Member State deemed to be responsible for hearing an applicant's asylum claim, providing the asylum claim has been lodged in at least one of Member States. Article 8 of the Dublin regulations deals specifically with asylum claimants who are unaccompanied minor. Asylum claims are not granted under Article 8 of the Dublin III Regulations.

Home Office records regarding the processing of Dublin III cases are recorded on the Case Information Database (CID), and would include but are not restricted to, name, nationality, date of birth, Member State where the asylum claim was lodged, Dublin Article relevant to the claim, request/decision details and Dublin case outcome details. Currently case progression data is not held in a way that allows it to be reported on automatically and is currently subject to a full manual interrogation of individual records to improve the quality of the central data.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-24/38190/>

Asylum: Families

Stuart McDonald [37784] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will consider proposals put forward by the British Red Cross Torn Apart campaign to

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

extend refugee family reunion to include young people over the age of 18 who were living with their parents when they were forced to flee.

Reply from James Brokenshire: There are no plans to extend the family reunion criteria. The current policy meets our international obligations and strikes the right balance.

Where family members cannot meet the requirements of the Immigration Rules, such as in the case of an 18 year old applying to join their refugee parents in the UK, we consider whether there are exceptional circumstances or compassionate reasons to justify granting entry clearance outside the Rules.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-23/37784/>

Asylum: Families

The following two questions both received the same answer

Stuart McDonald [38031] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many refugee family reunion applications to bring children of 18 years or older into the UK were submitted in the last three years; and how many of those applications were successful.

Stuart McDonald [38032] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unsuccessful refugee family reunion applications during the last three years were rejected on the basis of the child being 18 years or older.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The family reunion policy allows those granted refugee status or humanitarian protection in the UK to sponsor their pre-flight family members, i.e. spouse or partner and children under the age of 18, who formed part of the family unit before the sponsor fled their country, to reunite with them in the UK.

Information on the applicant's relationship with their sponsor is not collated centrally. As such it is not possible to identify how many applicants have applied for family reunion as adult children aged 18 or over or what the outcome was.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-23/38031/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-23/38032/>

Asylum: Families

Stuart McDonald [38033] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many (a) successful and (b) unsuccessful refugee family reunion applications there have been in the last three years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The available published statistics relate to the 'Family: other' category, which are known to very largely consist of family reunion cases. The information is provided in the table below.

Entry clearance visas (cases resolved of which: grants, refusals, withdrawn/lapsed): Family Other[2]				
Year	Cases resolved	of which:		
		Granted	Refused	Withdrawn or lapsed
2013	6,108	4,211	1,797	100
2014	6,658	4,596	1,931	131
2015	8,544	4,949	3,466	129

Source: Immigration Statistics Oct - Dec 2015, Visas volume 1 table vi_01_q.

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

[1] For the year 2015 family reunion visas made up 99% of "Family: Other" visas granted.

[2] The "Family: Other" category consists of:

- Family reunion: pre-existing family members (partners, minor children) of a person with refugee leave or humanitarian protection, who has not yet obtained British citizenship;
- *From July 2012*: dependants who are not partners or children of those with refugee leave or humanitarian protection;
- *From July 2012*: parents with access rights to a child.

The latest quarterly Home Office immigration statistics on entry clearance visas are published in 'Immigration Statistics', available from the Home Office website at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-statistics>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-23/38033/>

Asylum: Families

Lord Hylton [HL203] To ask Her Majesty's Government what response they have made to the British Red Cross campaign Torn Apart; and in particular whether they now plan to widen family reunion rules to include children over 18 years of age who previously lived with their parents.

Baroness Lister of Burtersett [HL255] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether, in response to the British Red Cross campaign Torn Apart, they will extend the scope of refugee family reunion rules to include young people over 18 years of age who are living with their parents when they were forced to flee.

Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: There are no plans to extend the family reunion criteria. The current policy meets our international obligations and strikes the right balance. Where family members cannot meet the requirements of the Immigration Rules, such as in the case of an 18 year old applying to join their refugee parents in the UK, we consider whether there are exceptional circumstances or compassionate reasons to justify granting entry clearance outside the Rules.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-05-23/HL203/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-05-23/HL255/>

Asylum: Children

The following three questions all received the same answer

Thangam Debbonaire [37587] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she has taken in conjunction with the French government to ensure that unaccompanied child refugees have access to high quality legal assistance in order to submit claims for family reunion under the Dublin III Regulation.

Thangam Debbonaire [37627] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many of her officials are working in Calais and Northern France to identify, screen and process those unaccompanied child refugees who are potentially eligible under the Dublin III Regulation for family reunion in the UK; and how many applications under that regulation have been processed in each of the last 15 weeks.

Thangam Debbonaire [37628] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will increase the number of her officials working in Calais to process applications from unaccompanied child refugees for family reunion in the UK; and what steps she is taking to ensure that the applications from 157 children in Calais estimated as eligible for

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

family reunion can be processed in time for them to start school in the UK in September 2016.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Under the UK-France Joint Declaration of 20 August 2015, the UK and France have committed to ensuring that the provisions of the Dublin III Regulation are used efficiently and effectively. To assist the handling of such cases, the two Governments have established a permanent official contact group, agreed single points of contact within respective Dublin Units and the UK seconded an asylum expert to the French administration to improve all stages of the process of identifying, protecting and transferring relevant cases to the UK. The Home Office will review the existing arrangements as part of the work to implement relevant provisions of the Immigration Act 2016. Between the start of January 2016 and 30th April 2016 our records indicate that the UK has accepted over 30 requests from France under the Dublin Regulations to take charge of asylum seeking children on family grounds of which more than 20 have already been transferred to the UK.

To assist with the identification of potential victims of trafficking and exploitation (including unaccompanied children) in Calais, the UK has funded a project run by a French non-governmental organisation which aims to identify and direct these vulnerable people to the appropriate support services in France.

The UK and France are running regular joint communication campaigns in northern France which informs individuals (including unaccompanied children) of their rights to claim asylum in France and gives them information on family reunification. The frequency of these campaigns has been increased in line with the Joint Declaration signed in August 2015.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-19/37587/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-19/37627/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-19/37628/>

Asylum: Children

Thangam Debbonaire [37591] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to ensure that unaccompanied child refugees have access to information in a form and language appropriate to their age and language on their rights to apply for asylum or family reunion which includes information on the criteria used in and estimated timescales for determining applications.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Unaccompanied asylum seeking children who have arrived in the UK are referred to local authority children's services as soon as possible.

As well as social work support, they have access to publicly-funded legal advice in relation to their asylum claim, to advice and guidance on the asylum process from the Refugee Council Children's Panel, and to an interpreter if English is not their first language.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-19/37591/>

Asylum: Children

Roger Godsiff [39139] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to accelerate the family reunification process for

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

unaccompanied children in Europe with a family in the UK.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Government continues to work with key EU Member States to ensure the Dublin Regulation family reunification process works effectively.

Under the UK-France Joint Declaration of 20 August 2015, the UK and France have committed to ensuring that the provisions of the Dublin III Regulation are used efficiently and effectively. To assist the handling of such cases, the two Governments have established a permanent official contact group, agreed single points of contact within respective Dublin Units and we have seconded an asylum expert to the French administration to facilitate the improvement of all stages of the process. The UK and France are running regular joint communication campaigns in northern France which inform unaccompanied children and others of their right to claim asylum in France and of the family reunion process.

We are also providing support to the Dublin Units in Greece and Italy bilaterally and through European Asylum Support Office. On 4 May we announced the Government will work with local authorities on plans to resettle unaccompanied children from Europe. We are looking to transfer children who were already present in Europe before the EU-Turkey deal came into force on 20 March, where it is in their best interests.

We will work closely with local authorities to implement this initiative. It is important that we ensure we fulfil our obligations to children who are already in the UK, as well as ensuring we have the right support for those who may be brought to the UK from Europe. We will also consult relevant Non-Governmental Organisations, the UNHCR, UNICEF and Member States.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/39139/>

Asylum: Children

The following three questions all received the same answer

Tim Farron [39085] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to accelerate the family reunification process for unaccompanied children in Europe with family in the UK.

Tom Brake [39170] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to accelerate the family reunification process for unaccompanied children in Europe with family members in the UK.

David Anderson [39191] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to accelerate the family reunification process for unaccompanied children in Europe with family in the UK.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Government continues to work with key EU Member States to ensure the Dublin Regulation family reunification process works effectively.

Under the UK-France Joint Declaration of 20 August 2015, the UK and France have committed to ensuring that the provisions of the Dublin III Regulation are used efficiently and effectively. To assist the handling of such cases, the two Governments have established a permanent official contact group, agreed single points of contact within respective Dublin Units and we have seconded an asylum expert to the French administration to facilitate the improvement of all stages of the process. The UK and France are running regular joint communication campaigns in northern France which inform unaccompanied children and others of their right to claim asylum in France and of the family reunion process.

We are also providing support to the Dublin Units in Greece and Italy bilaterally and through the European Asylum Support Office. On 4 May we announced the

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Government will work with local authorities on plans to resettle unaccompanied children from Europe. We are looking to transfer children who were already present in Europe before the EU-Turkey deal came into force on 20 March, where it is in their best interests.

We will work closely with local authorities to implement this initiative. It is important that we ensure we fulfil our obligations to children who are already in the UK, as well as ensuring we have the right support for those who may be brought to the UK from Europe. We will also consult relevant Non-Governmental Organisations, the UNHCR, UNICEF and Member States.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/39085/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/39170/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/39191/>

Asylum: Children

Deidre Brock [39195] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Government's press release, Unaccompanied asylum-seeking children to be resettled from Europe, published on 4 May 2016, what the timetable is for implementation of that commitment.

Reply from James Brokenshire: As announced by the Prime Minister on 4 May and now reflected in the Immigration Act 2016, we will work to admit unaccompanied refugee children to the UK from elsewhere in the EU, where this is considered to be in the child's best interests. The very nature of this legislation means we must take the time to consult others before bringing final proposals on how to implement.

We will work closely with local authorities to implement this initiative. It is important that we ensure we fulfil our obligations to children who are already in UK, as well as ensuring we have the right support for those who may be brought to the UK from Europe. We will also consult relevant Non-Governmental Organisations, the UNHCR, UNICEF and Member States.

Work has already begun and we are committed to act as quickly as we can but it is important we take the necessary time to ensure we have the capacity to resettle and support those who are resettled. We must also ensure that we fulfil our obligations to children who are already in the UK.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/39195/>

Asylum: Housing

Ian Murray [38941] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what annual per-person rate her Department provides to each of its Compass contractors for the accommodation of asylum seekers.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Home Office provides accommodation for eligible asylum seekers via its contractual arrangements with three suppliers. Payments are made on a per person per night basis. The details of these daily rates are commercially sensitive and therefore we are unable to release this information.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-26/38941/>

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Asylum: Syria

Roger Godsiff [37475] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to ensure that Syrian children given asylum in the UK will be able to enter in time for the start of the school year in September.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Syrian resettlement scheme has already provided safe haven to more than 1,000 vulnerable Syrians since the scheme was expanded in September 2015. More than half of these were children and we expect children to make up a significant proportion of the 20,000 resettlement places we are providing under the scheme.

In addition, we have committed to resettling up to 3,000 individuals from the Middle East and North Africa over the lifetime of this Parliament through the resettlement scheme announced on 21 April for children at risk and their family members. As announced by the Prime Minister on 4 May and now reflected in the Immigration Act 2016, we will also work to admit unaccompanied refugee children to the UK from elsewhere in the EU, where this is considered to be in the child's best interests. Work has begun on how best to implement the legislation and we are committed to act as quickly as we can, while ensuring that we have the necessary services in place to care for these children alongside those who are already in the UK and have claimed asylum here.

We also continue to work closely with France and other EU Member States to ensure that arrangements for transferring asylum cases under the Dublin Regulation are operating as effectively as possible. A senior UK official was seconded to the French Dublin Unit to assist with the identification and transfer of cases and since February more than 20 children have been transferred to the UK from France and there are many other cases in train.

All Syrian and other children brought to the UK will be given the care, support and education they require.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-18/37475/>

Immigrants: Detainees

The following two questions both received the same answer

Stuart McDonald [37778] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people of each nationality detained for over (a) six and (b) 12 months between 2005 and 2015 for the purpose of removal were successfully removed.

Stuart McDonald [37779] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people of each nationality were held in detention for over (a) six and (b) 12 months between 2005 and 2015 for the purpose of removal.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The table attached shows the number of people removed on leaving detention, by nationality who were held for over six and over twelve months.

Published statistics relating to immigration detention are only available from 2010 onwards. It is not possible to provide pre-2010 figures and this information could be provided only by examining individual case records, which would result in disproportionate cost. The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on the number of people detained in the United Kingdom for immigration purposes, within the Immigration Statistics release on the GOV.UK website:

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

People removed on leaving detention

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-23/37778/>

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-23/37779/>

Assisted Voluntary Return Schemes

Stuart McDonald [39024] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, to which countries her Department returns people through the assisted voluntary return programme.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Voluntary Returns Service would work to support all those eligible for an assisted return to their country of origin. Whilst nationality does not preclude assistance, the elements of support available would depend on the circumstances of the individual and the country to which they will be returning.

The Home Office seeks to support returnees to reintegrate and make a sustainable return.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/39024/>

Human Trafficking

Sarah Champion [39100] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what the total value is of legal aid paid to enable victims of human trafficking to bring claims of compensation against their traffickers since the Modern Slavery Act 2015 came into force; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Shailesh Vara: The Legal Aid Agency has continued to make funding available to enable victims of human trafficking to bring claims of compensation against their traffickers since the relevant provisions in the Modern Slavery Act 2015 came into force on 31 July 2015.

The latest figures available cover up until 31 December 2015.

No cases commenced after 31 July 2015 had completed by 31 December 2015, and therefore no information on expenditure is available.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/39100/>

Human Trafficking

Sarah Champion [39101] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many (a) victims in criminal human trafficking cases were awarded compensation by the trial judge and (b) convicted human traffickers were ordered to pay compensation to their victims by the trial judge in each of the last three years; what the value was of the award or order in each such case; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Mike Penning: Data relating to compensation awarded in cases of human trafficking from 2013 to 2015 can be found in the “outcomes by offence” data tool table contained in the annual Criminal Justice Statistics publication, linked below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/criminal-justice-system-statistics-quarterly-december-2015>

Additionally, the Home Office Joint Asset Recovery Database (JARD) records all asset recovery orders such as forfeiture and confiscation. In some confiscation cases, the Court will order that compensation be paid to victims out of the confiscation order. Between April 2013 and March 2016, there were three such orders and the total amount paid out in compensation was £155,944.26.

The Government has introduced provisions for bespoke Slavery and Trafficking Reparation Orders in the Modern Slavery Act 2015. These orders are designed to

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

ensure that more money confiscated from convicted traffickers goes directly to their victims.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/39101/>

Human Trafficking: Ports

James Berry [38560] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps Border Force has taken to identify and assist potential victims of trafficking and modern slavery at ports across the UK.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Combating modern slavery, which includes human trafficking, slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour, is a leading priority for Border Force. All frontline Border Force Officers have access to comprehensive guidance on modern slavery and must complete mandatory training on identifying victims of modern slavery.

Additionally, Border Force has specialist teams at ports across the country which receive additional, in depth, training to increase their levels of expertise. This allows Border Force to maintain a high degree of vigilance to identify and protect those who may be a victim of modern slavery and to identify those seeking to exploit them. Border Force officers follow established processes and referring all identified child and consenting adult potential victims to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM), which acts as the UK's identification and support process for victims.

Border Force staff also receive mandatory training also takes places on how to refer potential victims to NRM. Working in close partnership with police forces, social services and the UK Human Trafficking Centre, Border Force also carries out intelligence led exercises to tackle the threat of trafficking at the border.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-25/38560/>

Human Trafficking: Children

Royston Smith [39262] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps the Government is taking to support children trafficked from abroad.

Reply from Karen Bradley: The Government recognises that children can be trafficked into this country from abroad as well as being internally trafficked. The Government does not differentiate between child victims of trafficking and has made it clear that nothing should get in the way of this incredibly vulnerable group of children receiving the support and assistance that they need as quickly as possible.

That is why the Government has brought into force provisions under the Modern Slavery Act 2015 to ensure that if there is uncertainty over whether a potential victim of trafficking is a child or an adult, that person is presumed to be a child and receives the appropriate support without delay.

In July 2014 the Government published statutory guidance on the care of unaccompanied and trafficked children by local authorities. Statutory Guidance under Section 49 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 is currently being drafted and will set out the identification process of a child trafficking victim to ensure all competent bodies, including local authorities, understand what they should do to safeguard children.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/39262/>

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Hywel Williams (149) Refugee figures, BBC and government accountability – That this House notes the Home Office figures showing the number of Syrian refugees taken in by the UK under the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme; further notes that Wales has taken in just 78 refugees compared to England's 863 and Scotland's 610; regrets that the Welsh Government refused a request from BBC Wales for a comment; expresses concern that the BBC, in response to the Welsh Government's refusal, decided not to run any response from any political party, without reporting the Welsh Government's refusal to provide a comment; believes that the BBC should act as a public service broadcaster, not a state broadcaster; and calls for the BBC Charter review to make it clear that the BBC is not beholden to any particular government, that it has a duty to report opposition parties' views irrespective of any government's wilful stonewalling, and that it should uphold the traditional Welsh principle of Rhydd i bawb ei farn ac i bob barn ei llafar, that is, all have a right to their opinion and a right to make that opinion known.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2016-17/149>

Press Releases

Delivering the European Agenda on Migration: Commission presents Action Plan on Integration and reforms 'Blue Card' scheme for highly skilled workers from outside the EU
http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-2041_en.htm?locale=en

Commission announces New Migration Partnership Framework: reinforced cooperation with third countries to better manage migration
http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-2072_en.htm

News

Alistair Carmichael calls for overhaul of “cruel and inhumane” family reunion rules for refugees
http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/14547116.Alistair_Carmichael_calls_for_overhaul_of_cruel_and_inhumane_family_reunion_rules_for_refugees/

Migrants try to sneak into Britain at a rate of one every six minutes, official figures show
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3634930/Migrants-try-sneak-Britain-rate-one-six-minutes-official-figures-show.html>

Leaked UK plan to open doors for 1m Turks
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-06-12/news/leaked-uk-plan-to-open-doors-for-1m-turks-n085h225w>

Secret plan to open our borders to 1.5m Turks: British diplomats admit it would be a 'risk' but tell ministers the move would be a 'symbolic gesture to Turkey'
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3637523/Secret-plan-open-borders-1-5m-Turks-British-diplomats-admit-risk-tell-ministers-symbolic-gesture-Turkey.html>

EU Member States granted citizenship to almost 900 000 persons in 2014
<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/2995521/7465617/3-13062016-AP-EN.pdf/a2e10eb2-748b-4e27-9e01-85cfcb82f998>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Refugees seeking asylum on religious grounds quizzed on 'Bible trivia'

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jun/07/refugees-asylum-religious-grounds-quizzed-on-bible-trivia>

Asylum seekers get baptised 'to stay in Britain'

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-06-12/news/asylum-seekers-get-baptised-to-stay-in-britain-dtwztkxxr>

Muslims converting to Christianity 'to avoid being deported': C of E warning over hundreds of asylum seekers asking for baptisms to exploit legal loophole

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3637471/Muslim-asylum-seekers-Iran-getting-baptised-bid-avoid-getting-kicked-Britain.html>

Now 30,000 a year get into Britain as spouse of EU citizens: Number of migrants taking advantage of backdoor route created by Brussels has rocketed under Cameron

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3630377/Now-30-000-year-Britain-spouse-EU-citizens-Number-migrants-taking-advantage-backdoor-route-created-Brussels-rocketed-Cameron.html>

EU migrants more likely to be working in UK than British nationals, new figures show

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/06/06/eu-migrants-more-likely-to-be-working-in-uk-than-british-national/>

The true cost of our open borders revealed: EU migrants are more likely to have a job in the UK than British citizens

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3628840/The-true-cost-open-borders-revealed-EU-migrants-likely-job-UK-British-citizens.html>

Foreign teachers may need to earn £35,000... or leave

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-06-11/news/foreign-teachers-may-need-to-earn-35-000-or-leave-x5zd577gq>

Home Office 'fiasco' over missing documents of family facing deportation

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14537763.Home_Office_39_fiasco_39_over_missing_documents_of_family_facing_deportation/?ref=mr&lp=12

The scandal of refugees housed in 'slum conditions' in Scotland

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14551827.Revealed_the_scandal_of_refugees_ho used_in_slum_conditions_in_Scotland/?ref=mr&lp=12

Tipoffs from public led to 750 illegal immigrant arrests in three months

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jun/09/tip-offs-public-750-illegal-immigrant-arrests>

Inactivity in securing deportation no excuse for over-long detention

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/law/inactivity-in-securing-deportation-no-excuse-for-over-long-detention-cqs3pm08k>

You cannot jail illegal immigrants, court says

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-06-08/news/you-cannot-jail-illegal-immigrants-court-says-f32wgx8c5>

Immigration and Asylum

News (continued)

Home Office refuses to reveal whether women in Yarl's Wood have been raped in case it 'damages the commercial interests' of companies

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/home-office-refusing-to-reveal-whether-women-in-yarls-wood-have-been-raped-to-protect-the-commercial-a7077736.html>

Union calls for refugee and asylum seeker teachers to be supported

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/education/14548358.Union_calls_for_refugee_and_asylum_seeker_teachers_to_be_supported/

Accidental activists: the British women on the front line of the refugee crisis

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jun/12/help-refugees-calais-accidental-activists>

20 June is the World Refugee Day: we need your words!

<http://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/20-june-is-the-world-refugee-day-we-need-your-words->

Shortlist announced for Refugee Festival Scotland Media Awards 2016

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/2991_shortlist_announced_for_refugee_festival_scotland_media_awards_2016

[TOP](#)

Community Relations

Scottish Parliament Motions

S5M-00368 Bill Kidd: Congratulating the Islamic Unity Alliance—That the Parliament congratulates the Islamic Unity Alliance, newly established by the Scottish Ahlul Bayt Society (SABS) in partnership with Khadman-e-Dar-ul-Ehsan, on its successful Peace Walk and Dhikr meeting in Glasgow on 29 May 2016, which highlighted peace, togetherness and interfaith/intrafaith unity; notes that key speakers at this event included Archbishop Mario Conti, Archbishop Emeritus of Glasgow Archdiocese and Chair of the Bishop's Committee for Interreligious dialogue; further notes that several congregational members from across the UK also participated, including representatives from the Sunni Muslim of the Qadariyyah sufi and the Roman Catholic Church; understands that the speakers focused on the need for engagement to deepen the understanding and association that congregations across Scotland need to ensure peace and harmony; applauds Director-General Sayed Ali Abbas Razawi and SABS chairman Shabir Beg for their great work in promoting cross-faith unity in Scotland, and wishes the Islamic Unity Alliance continued success in the future.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-00368&ResultsPerPage=10>

S5M-00412 Jackson Carlaw: Jewish Objects for Education in Scotland—That the Parliament applauds the proactive approach of the Jewish Objects for Education in Scotland boxes (JOES Boxes) initiative; notes that the educational resource was helped into action by Zoe Jacobs, who serves as education and community development worker with the Scottish Council of Jewish Communities, and the rest of the team; understands that the initiative involves the boxes, which can include a tallit and siddur among other things, being provided to schools to help stimulate interest about Judaism and the Scottish Jewish community; believes that this positive engagement is a helpful means to engage with people in Scotland from a young age to help further religious understanding,

Community Relations

Scottish Parliament Motions (continued)

especially in communities with a small Jewish community, and hopes that such engagement from an early age can help to further understanding and minimise religious hatred.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-00412&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Question

Community Relations

Shabana Mahmood [38645] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what indicators the Government uses to determine levels of community integration.

Reply from Marcus Jones: In February 2012, we published *Creating the Conditions for integration* which is built around the five key contributors to an integrated society:

- common ground - a clear sense of shared aspirations and values, which celebrates what we have in common rather than our differences
- responsibility - a strong sense of our mutual commitments and obligations, which brings personal and social responsibility
- social mobility - people able to realise their potential to get on in life
- participation and empowerment - people of all backgrounds have opportunities to take part, be heard and take decisions in local and national life
- tackling intolerance and extremism - a robust response to threats, whether discrimination, extremism or disorder, that deepen division and increase tensions.

The Community Life Survey 2014-15 shows a well-integrated society with 87% of people reporting they belong strongly to Britain and 86% that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together. But we know that some communities and places still face challenges, tensions and missed opportunities. That is why the Prime Minister asked Louise Casey to carry out a review into boosting opportunity and integration in the most isolated and deprived communities. The results of the review will inform a major new Cohesive Communities Programme.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-26/38645/>

TOP

Equality

News

Police Scotland hijab plan for Muslim officers

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-36468441>

Police add hijab to uniform to attract Muslim women recruits

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/police-add-hijab-to-uniform-to-attract-muslim-women-recruits-1-4147690>

Hijab move is first step towards greater diversity

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/leaders-hijab-move-is-first-step-towards-greater-diversity-1-4147664>

Equality News (continued)

Most students still white and wealthy

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/most-students-still-white-and-wealthy-rgpv6xvrp>

Edinburgh primary school to be renamed- to make it sound more Catholic

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/14541196.Police_Scotland_adds_hijab_to_uniform_to_encourage_Muslim_women_to_join_force/

Theatre 'needs to be more diverse', say actors

<http://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-36360093>

[TOP](#)

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Motions

S5M-00384 Neil Findlay: National Union of Students—That the Parliament condemns the statement made by Murdo Fraser MSP, who reportedly called members of the National Union of Students “bigots”; believes this to be an outrageous insult to thousands of the students up and down the country who work to improve the education, welfare and lives of seven million students across Scotland and the UK, and urges Mr Fraser to withdraw this remark and apologise.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-00384&ResultsPerPage=10>

S5M-00384.1 Murdo Fraser: National Union of Students—As an amendment to motion S5M- 00384 in the name of Neil Findlay (National Union of Students), leave out from "condemns" to end and insert "notes that student unions at Newcastle, Lincoln and Hull universities have all voted to disaffiliate from the National Union of Students (NUS), with it being reported that a dozen others could follow suit, following concerns about comments made by the newly-elected NUS President, who has been accused of anti-Semitism; notes the comments of the Labour MP for Bassetlaw, John Mann, after the NUS Conference in April 2016, when he described how some delegates' comments were 'inappropriate, offensive and point to a disturbing wider ignorance about anti-Semitism' within the NUS, and agrees with John Mann, who is chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group against Antisemitism, that the NUS is 'not doing enough to combat anti-Jewish hatred' and is failing in its responsibilities to its members."

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-00384.1&ResultsPerPage=10>

UK Parliament Questions

Hate Crime

Karl Turner [38489] To ask the Attorney General, how many (a) prosecutions and (b) convictions there have been for each category of hate crime since 2010.

Reply from Robert Buckland: The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) maintains a central record of the number of prosecutions flagged as hate crimes. Hate crimes comprise offences motivated by hostility or prejudice to a person's race or perceived race, religion or perceived religion, sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation, disability or perceived disability and transgender identity or

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

perceived transgender identity. These data are accurate only to the extent that the flag has been correctly applied. The tables below show the number and proportion of convictions and overall prosecutions, by each category of hate crime, during each of the last five available years:

TOTAL HATE CRIME PROSECUTIONS

	Convictions		Total
2010-11	12,651	82.80%	15,284
2011-12	11,843	83.40%	14,196
2012-13	10,794	82.60%	13,070
2013-14	11,915	84.70%	14,074
2014-15	12,220	82.90%	14,738

RACIAL HATE CRIME PROSECUTIONS

	Convictions		Total
2010-11	10,566	83.10%	12,711
2011-12	9,933	84.40%	11,774
2012-13	9,107	83.30%	10,935
2013-14	10,069	85.20%	11,818
2014-15	10,123	83.50%	12,130

RELIGIOUS HATE CRIME PROSECUTIONS

	Convictions		Total
2010-11	472	83.40%	566
2011-12	479	80.80%	593
2012-13	308	77.20%	399
2013-14	463	84.20%	550
2014-15	557	83.80%	665

HOMOPHOBIC & TRANSPHOBIC HATE CRIME PROSECUTIONS (1)

	Convictions		Total
2010-11	1,034	80.70%	1,281
2011-12	951	78.70%	1,208
2012-13	885	80.70%	1,096
2013-14	913	80.70%	1,132
2014-15	1,037	81.20%	1,277

(1) A separate flag for Transphobic crime was introduced in December 2012 following the amendment to the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

DISABILITY HATE CRIME PROSECUTIONS

	Convictions		Total
2010-11	579	79.80%	726
2011-12	480	77.30%	621
2012-13	494	77.20%	640
2013-14	470	81.90%	574
2014-15	503	75.50%	666

Data Source: CPS Management Information System

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-05-25/38489/>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination (continued) Press Releases

Tackling hate crime

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Tackling-hate-crime-255c.aspx>

Hate Crime in Scotland, 2015-16

<http://www.crownoffice.gov.uk/media-site/media-releases/1329-hate-crime-in-scotland-2015-16>

New Publications

Religiously Aggravated Offending in Scotland 2015-16

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0050/00501327.pdf>

Charges under the 'Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act 2012' in 2015-16

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0050/00501336.pdf>

Hate Crime in Scotland 2015-16

http://www.crownoffice.gov.uk/images/Documents/Equality_Diversity/Hate%20Crime%20in%20Scotland%202015-16.pdf

News

Football hate crimes rise by almost 50% in last year

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-36498081>

Criminal charges for hate crimes against Muslims in Scotland almost doubled in past year

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14549652.Criminal_charges_for_hate_crimes_against_Muslims_in_Scotland_almost_doubled_in_past_year/

Rise in charges under Offensive Behaviour at Football Act

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/rise-in-charges-under-offensive-behaviour-at-football-act-1-4151163>

Number of anti-Islamic hate crimes in Scotland has almost doubled in past year

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/number-antiislamic-hate-crimes-8155606#rRDR3JJHJkUhzgQM.97>

Muslims 'seen as fair game' for hate crimes

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-06-11/scotland/muslims-seen-as-fair-game-for-hate-crimes-ml75ng2vq>

Shetland pensioner fined over letters to MP Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-36480251>

Carer suspended after threatening to 'blow the faces off' Muslims in social media rant

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14540782.Carer_suspended_after_threatening_to_blow_the_faces_off_Muslims_in_social_media_rant/

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

News (continued)

Sacked supervisor faces rap over claims she wanted to blow the 'black faces' off 'dirty clatty Muslim f*s'**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3628854/Social-worker-faces-struck-foul-mouthed-Facebook-rant.html>

Social worker faces being struck off after 'saying she wanted to blow the black faces off dirty clatty Muslim f*s in a foul mouthed Facebook rant'**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3628854/Social-worker-faces-struck-foul-mouthed-Facebook-rant.html>

US anti-semitism watchdog adds (((Echo))) to hate symbol database

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/2016/06/08/us-anti-semitism-watchdog-adds-echo-symbol-to-hate-symbols-datab/>

((((Echoes)))): beating the far-right, two triple-brackets at a time

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/shortcuts/2016/jun/12/echoes-beating-the-far-right-two-triple-brackets-at-a-time>

'Three black teenagers': anger as Google image search shows police mugshots

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2016/jun/09/three-black-teenagers-anger-as-google-image-search-shows-police-mugshots>

An Airbnb service for black people? I wish it weren't necessary

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/jun/08/airbnb-service-black-people-noirbnb-noirebnb>

University launches racism investigation after medical students 'blacked up'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2016/06/09/university-launches-racism-investigation-after-medical-students/>

Welsh Muslim subjected to Islamophobic abuse in London supermarket

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/06/07/welsh-muslim-subjected-to-islamophobic-abuse-in-london-supermark/>

'All non-white police put on corruption list'

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-06-12/news/all-non-white-police-put-on-corruption-list-k2nr2srhq>

[TOP](#)

Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Release

First Minister's Ramadan message

<https://firstminister.gov.scot/first-ministers-ramadan-message-2/>

[TOP](#)

Other UK Parliament and Government

Debate

Female Genital Mutilation

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-06-09/debates/16060935000289/FemaleGenitalMutilation>

Parliamentary Questions

Meat: Labelling

Michelle Donelan [39092] To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what assessment she has made of the extent to which kosher products are sold without being labelled as such in (a) supermarkets and (b) restaurants and cafes.

Reply from George Eustice: There is no obligation to label products as being kosher. However, when foods are labelled or presented as such, the information given must not mislead the average consumer. It is the responsibility of food businesses, including retailers and caterers, to ensure that the food they sell is what they say it is.

The definition of kosher and certification as kosher is a matter for the Jewish community and private business.

Accreditation bodies can assist retailers by setting standards and ensuring that these standards are met. These bodies are private organisations.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/39092/>

Meat: Labelling

Michelle Donelan [39090] To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what assessment she has made of the extent to which halal products are sold without being labelled as such in (a) supermarkets and (b) restaurants and cafes.

Reply from George Eustice: There is no obligation to label products as being halal. However, when foods are labelled or presented as such, the labelling must not mislead the consumer. It is the responsibility of food businesses, including retailers and caterers, to ensure that the food they sell is what they say it is.

The definition of halal and certification as halal is a matter for the Muslim community and private business.

Accreditation bodies can assist retailers by setting standards and ensuring that these standards are met. These bodies are private organisations.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-03/39090/>

Female Genital Mutilation

Lord Lester of Herne Hill [HL312] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to protect British girls in the Dawoodi Bohra community from female genital mutilation, in the light of the sermon by Supreme Leader Mufaddal Saifuddin on 25 April urging that all girls must undergo that procedure.

Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a crime and it is child abuse. We will not tolerate a practice that can cause extreme and lifelong physical and psychological suffering to women and girls.

We will not stop FGM until we have changed attitudes within communities. The Government works closely with a range of community and faith groups, including Muslim women's groups, to tackle FGM. Over 350 faith leaders from all the major faiths have signed a declaration condemning FGM. They have declared that it is not required by their religions and is a form of child abuse. The declaration makes

Other UK Parliament and Government Parliamentary Questions (continued)

clear that all religions will work together to end FGM for good. We continue to work with community organisations and survivors through the Governments FGM Unit's stakeholder group and outreach programme to drive this work forward.

In 2014 the Government ran a national communications campaign to raise awareness. We also funded 29 community engagement projects, including a network of community champions, who are reaching thousands of women and girls affected by FGM, and, importantly, their families. The work of these projects has included training for teachers, awareness sessions in local mosques, and the establishment of a new national website for, and by, young people giving information about how to prevent FGM. The Department for Communities and Local Government has established a network of community champions which is operating in London, Bristol, Manchester and Birmingham. Champions are working with local people to address the myths that sustain FGM and to help keep girls safe.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-05-25/HL312/>

Press Release

Ramadan: safer giving

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ramadan-safer-giving>

New Publication

Female Genital Mutilation - Jan-Mar 2016, Enhanced Dataset

<http://www.hscic.gov.uk/catalogue/PUB20852>

[TOP](#)

Other News

Woman wins court order to stop parents arranging FGM

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/woman-wins-court-order-to-stop-parents-arranging-fgm-5fmwwlzdc>

[TOP](#)

Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

UK Parliament

**** Ethnicity Pay Gap Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/ethnicitypaygap.html>

First Reading, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-06-08/debates/16060840000463/EthnicityPayGapBill\(HL\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-06-08/debates/16060840000463/EthnicityPayGapBill(HL))

Bills in Progress UK Parliament (continued)

Modern Slavery (Transparency in Supply Chains) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/modernslaverytransparencyinsupplychains.html>

Student Support (Non-Interest-Bearing Finance) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/studentsupportnoninterestbearingfinance.html>

[**TOP**](#)

Consultations

** new or updated this week

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>

**** Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) review on teacher shortages** (closing date 16 September 2016)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/527653/Teachers_Call_for_evidence.pdf

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

[**TOP**](#)

Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Refugee Festival Scotland

14-26 June throughout Scotland

Refugee Festival Scotland is an annual Scotland-wide programme of arts, cultural, educational, heritage and sports events, coordinated by Scottish Refugee Council. For detailed information about events see

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/refugee_festival_scotland

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

**** this week!**

Child Refugees, Past and Present - Practitioners Event

14 June 2016 in Glasgow (9.30-2.30)

GRAMNet knowledge-exchange workshop for practitioners working with child refugees, and academic researchers, especially historians. For information see or contact David Wright David.Wright@glasgow.ac.uk

**** this week!**

Child Refugees, Past and Present - Public Event

14 June 2016 in Glasgow (3.00-5.00)

GRAMNet talk on child refugees in history. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/h2kfmxn> or contact David Wright David.Wright@glasgow.ac.uk

**** this week!**

Make sectarianism a history lesson

14 June 2016 in Glasgow

X-change Scotland training day to support and inspire practitioners and group leaders to challenge sectarianism while promoting empathy within groups. For more information contact sos@xchangescotland.org / 0141 237 2430

**** this week!**

How the UK Parliament Works

15 June 2016 in Glasgow (2pm)

GramNet and UK Houses of Parliament Outreach and Engagement Service event to find out how the UK Parliament works, and how to raise issues that you want heard by policy makers at Westminster. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/jfg9u55>

**** this week!**

Immigrants to Scotland: 1945 to the Present

16 June 2016 in Glasgow (9.15-4.45)

ESRC conference to explore the cultural diversity of Scotland's refugee and migrant groups since 1945. For information and to book see <http://tinyurl.com/jg36dvyb>

**** this week!**

Celebrating Solidarity' – Refugee Festival Scotland Launch

18 June 2016 in Glasgow (12.00-4.00)

Show solidarity with refugees across Scotland at a gathering for all the family to launch Refugee Festival Scotland 2016, featuring live music, dance, arts and crafts, sports and games, face painting and free food. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/zr2gfdl> or contact festival@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

**** this week!**

Being Roma in Glasgow

18 June 2016 in Glasgow (6pm)

Glasgow Anew discussion on the Roma experience in Glasgow. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/hknmn2o>

Who Cares in Dundee?

20 June 2016 in Dundee (12.00-6.00)

Opportunity to view the work done by national and local agencies and ask questions about their work. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/hw4q695> or contact John Clark john_d_clark@btinternet.com

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

GRAMnet Research Open Day 2016

21 June 2016 in Glasgow (10.00-1.00)

GRAMNet event for postgraduate research students with an interest in issues around refugees, asylum and migration. For information and to book see <http://tinyurl.com/ha9vmjn>

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 or David Bradwell dbradwell@churchofscotland.org.uk

**** Female Genital Mutilation seminar**

21 June 2016 in Glenrothes (1.30-3.30)

Fife Domestic and Sexual Abuse Partnership seminar for professionals to raise awareness of issues surrounding female genital mutilation, including prevalence, consequences, legal aspects and implications for practice. For information see <http://www.fifevoluntaryaction.org.uk/news.asp?id=7085> or contact fdasap@fife.gov.uk

The Immigration Bill 2015/16: impact on asylum seekers and migrants, and consequences for Scottish services

22 June 2016 in Glasgow (5.30-7.00)

GRAMnet and Scottish Detainee Visitors event to explore immigration legislation that will make changes to support for asylum seekers, and which has major implications for human rights and discrimination law. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/i8t9m48>

'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/jxrgcbc>

Are open borders the way to deal with the 'migration crisis'?

23 June 2016 in Glasgow (6.00-7.30)

GRAMNet and Open Borders Scotland discussion about ways of responding to the 'migration crisis' in Europe today. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/zhl3dwr>

**** Supporting non-EEA destitute migrants**

30 June 2016 online webinar (2.00-3.15)

Homeless Link webinar to provide information about support available for non-EEA destitute migrants who find themselves rough sleeping and with no recourse to public funds. For information see <http://www.homeless.org.uk/whats-on/supporting-non-eea-destitute-migrants>

[TOP](#)

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/>

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

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

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

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

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

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

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

SCVO [http://www.scvo.org.uk/](http://www.scvo.org.uk)

Volunteer Development Scotland www.vds.org.uk

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

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

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

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

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

[TOP](#)



Scottish Council of
Jewish Communities

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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