

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.*

Contents

Immigration and Asylum

Equality

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Other UK Parliament and Government

Other News

Bills in Progress

Consultations

Job Opportunities

Funding Opportunities

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 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 Scottish Parliament is in recess until 4 September 2016.

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Question

Asylum seekers

Linda Fabiani: To ask the Scottish Government whether any dawn raids on the homes of asylum seekers have been carried out since May 2015. (S5W-00998)

Reply from Angela Constance: The Scottish Government does not hold this information. The Scottish Government is fundamentally opposed to dawn raids and believes asylum seekers must be treated humanely and sensitively at every stage of the asylum process. This is particularly important in cases where claims are not successful, where people are returned to their countries of origin and where children are involved.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-00998&ResultsPerPage=10>

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

UK Parliament Debates

Asylum Seekers: Glasgow

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-07-05/debates/1607055000002/AsylumSeekersGlasgow>

EU Nationals in the UK

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-07-06/debates/16070648000001/EUNationalsInTheUK>

Refugees and Migrants: International Summits

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-07-07/debates/16070746000412/RefugeesAndMigrantsInternationalSummits>

UK Parliament Ministerial Statement and Q&A

EU Nationals: UK Residence

The Minister for Immigration (James Brokenshire): EU nationals make an invaluable contribution to our economy, our society and our daily lives. They should be assured that, as the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary have repeatedly said, there will be no immediate change in their status in the UK. The Prime Minister has made it clear that decisions on issues relating to the UK's exit will be for a new Prime Minister. I am therefore not in a position to make new policy announcements this afternoon.

The discussions that we have with the European Union to agree the arrangements for the UK's exit will undoubtedly reflect the immense contribution made by EU citizens to our economy, our NHS and our schools, and in so many other ways; but they must also secure the interests of the 1.2 million British citizens who live and work elsewhere in the EU.

The Home Secretary was clear yesterday when she said that we should seek to guarantee that the rights of both groups were protected, and that this would be best done through reciprocal discussions with the European Union as part of the negotiations to leave the EU. It has been suggested that the Government could now fully guarantee EU nationals living in the UK the right to stay, but that would be unwise without a parallel assurance from European Governments regarding British nationals living in their countries. Such a step might also have the unintended consequence of prompting EU immigration to the UK.

It is in the best interests of all for the Government to conduct detailed work on this issue, and for the new Prime Minister to decide the best way forward as quickly as possible. In the meantime, let me stress that EU nationals continue to be welcome here. We have seen some truly abhorrent hate crimes perpetrated against EU nationals in the past week or so, and we will not stand for attacks of that kind. They must be, and will be, tackled in the strongest possible terms.

EU nationals can have our full and unreserved reassurance that their right to enter and to work, study and live in the UK remains unchanged, but to pre-empt future discussions at this point would risk undermining our ability to protect the interests of EU and British citizens alike, and to secure the best outcome for both.

To read the lengthy House of Commons question and answer session see

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-07-04/debates/1607046000001/EUNationalsUKResidence>

and

To read the lengthy House of Lords question and answer session see

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-07-04/debates/16070423000064/EUNationalsLegalStatus>

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

UK Parliament Questions

Immigration Act 2016

The following two questions both received the same answer

Chris Stephens [41574] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she plans to extend or give effect to the provisions in the Immigration Act 2016 in respect of (a) residential tenancies, (b) transfer of responsibility for unaccompanied children and (c) limitations on local authority support for people who have been refused asylum, adult migrant care leavers and other migrants.

Immigration Act 2016: Scotland

Chris Stephens [41575] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will place in the Library copies of any correspondence with Ministers of the Scottish Government since the passing of the Immigration Act 2016 relating to that Act.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Immigration Act 2016 received Royal Assent on 12th May 2016. Provisions in the Act that create a mechanism to transfer responsibility for unaccompanied asylum seeking children from one local authority to another in England came into force on 31st May. Announcements about implementation of the other provisions mentioned and extensions to other parts of the UK will be made in due course once discussions with the Devolved Administrations have taken place. There has been no correspondence with Ministers of the Scottish Government relating to the Immigration Act 2016 since the Act received Royal Assent.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-30/41574/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-30/41575/>

Immigrants: Health Services

Martyn Day [41770] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the effect of the immigration health surcharge for visa applications on the number of visas applied for; how much funding has been raised by that surcharge since its introduction; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from James Brokenshire: There is no evidence to suggest that there has been a reduction in visa applications as a result of the introduction of the Immigration Health Surcharge.

A summary of Immigration Health Surcharge income collected during 2015-16 will be published shortly in the Home Office annual report and accounts.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-04/41770/>

Visas: EU Nationals

Alison Thewliss [41445] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what plans her Department has to change visa requirements for EU citizens who wish to travel, study and work in the UK.

Reply from James Brokenshire: There will be no immediate changes in the circumstances of European nationals who wish to travel, study and work in the UK.

EU nationals do not currently need to apply for an entry visa, residence card or a permanent residence card in order to enjoy their free movement rights and responsibilities.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-29/41445/>

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Pupils from Non-UK EU Countries

Patrick Grady: 6. If she will make it her policy that all school children who are non-UK EU nationals retain access to the education system in the event of the UK leaving the EU. [905614]

Reply from the Secretary of State for Education (Nicky Morgan): As a matter of principle all children resident in the United Kingdom receive a free state school education. That provision goes back to 1880, when compulsory attendance at school to age 10 was introduced in England and Wales. The UK remains a member of the EU until the article 50 negotiations have concluded, which could take two years or more. Until the process is completed, nothing will change. Let me tell the hon. Gentleman my view, because the Home Secretary is about to make a statement on this issue: I think that EU citizens already here, including children, should have the right to remain.

Patrick Grady: I thank the Secretary of State for that answer, but does she recognise the impact that such uncertainty is having on young people and their education? The First Minister, the National Association of Head Teachers and others are seeking precisely these assurances, so can she give an assurance that children from EU countries will be allowed to complete their education and will not be used as bargaining chips in negotiations about Brexit?

Reply from Nicky Morgan: The hon. Gentleman makes a very powerful case. There is obviously an awful lot to discuss in the light of the result of 23 June, which is not the result that I campaigned for. I completely accept his point that we should of course make sure that children of non-UK EU nationals resident here are educated.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-07-04/debates/1607044000014/PupilsFromNon-UKEUCountries>

Cost of Interpreters

David Davies: 9. What the cost to the public purse was in 2015-16 of providing interpreters for people using the NHS who did not speak English.[905661]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Life Sciences (George Freeman): Until now, data on NHS foreign language translation and interpretation have not been gathered centrally, but I am delighted to say that, as a result of the representations of my hon. Friend and other colleagues, we have changed that, and NHS England is now conducting a major piece of work looking at both commissioning and provider organisations' expenditure as part of a procurement review. It is worth saying that in view of the importance of effective communication in good diagnosis, informed consent, safeguarding and public health, it is in all our interests that all our patients understand what the doctors and clinicians are saying to them.

David Davies: I am grateful for that answer, but may I respectfully suggest to the Minister that if we are to have a serious discussion about the costs and the impacts of large-scale migration into the UK on the NHS, we must have access to figures on this cost and we should not have to wait months and months to get them? The figures must be out there somewhere.

Reply from George Freeman: My hon. Friend will find no more passionate champion of good data in the NHS than myself. He makes an important point about getting on with this, and I have already signalled to the team in NHS England that we will need to get a grip on this quickly, not least so that the new Administration implementing the Brexit decision will know the figures and have them to hand.

Philip Davies: I did a recent freedom of information request to my local hospitals to find

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

out the cost of interpreters. Airedale hospital reported that last year the cost was almost £200,000 and I suspect that, when I receive an answer, it will be even higher at Bradford royal infirmary. This money could be better spent on patient care. Surely it is better for these patients, if they want to contribute to the British way of life, to be able to speak English themselves. What is the Minister's Department doing with other Government Departments to make sure that people who live in this country can speak English so that money for the NHS goes to the purposes for which it was intended?

Reply from George Freeman: Let me gently and respectfully point out that those who work in the NHS and the leaders responsible for it have made it very clear how dependent it is on people who come to work here in the NHS from overseas. Under the terms of our own mandate and indeed our own laws, the NHS has a duty to make sure that it provides proper diagnosis and treatment for all our citizens. For public health and safety, it is in nobody's interests for citizens of the UK not to be able to integrate, deal with and get proper diagnosis from the system. My hon. Friend's wider points about the speaking of English are well made, but they are not relevant to this particular question.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-07-05/debates/16070532000016/CostOfInterpreters>

Refugees: Syria

Jim Cunningham [41729] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the number of people who will be relocated through the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation scheme in the next 12 months; and if she will make a statement.

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.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-04/41729/>

Undocumented Migrants

Gareth Thomas [41687] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the systems for measuring levels of illegal immigration in other countries; and whether such systems could be applied to the UK; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from James Brokenshire: The Home Office published a report as part of the European Migration Network work programme entitled 'Practical Measures for Reducing Irregular Migration' (Toms and Thorpe, 2012) which discusses the various measures available to estimate illegal migration in the UK.

The report is available from the following link:

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/reports/docs/emn-studies/irregular-migration/uk_20120402_practicalmeasuresforreducingirregularmigration_final_en.pdf

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-04/41687/>

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Deportation

Chris Law [41177] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have been forcibly removed on chartered flights in 2016 to date; and how many of those people had a criminal conviction in the UK.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Home Office records indicate that 718 individuals have been forcibly removed on charter flights in 2016. In at least 194 of these cases the primary reason for return was a criminal conviction in the UK. 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/2016-06-24/41177/>

Asylum: Deportation

Chris Law [41178] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether it is her Department's policy to prepare for the removal of asylum seekers from the UK before they have exhausted all legal remedies in their claim for asylum.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Section 77 of the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 prevents a person from being removed from the UK whilst a claim for asylum is pending, and section 78 of the 2002 Act has the same effect where an appeal is pending. In both cases this does not prevent the giving of directions for the person's removal or the taking of any other interim or preparatory action.

Where a person has claimed asylum and the claim has been refused preparations for removal can be made. Those preparations may involve gathering relevant information and applying for an emergency travel document.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-24/41178/>

Deportation

Chris Law [41217] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her Department's policy is on over-booking flights chartered for people being forcibly removed from the UK.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Charter flights are routinely overbooked to ensure the flight is fully utilised and delivers value for money. We reassess attrition rates for each flight on a monthly basis to ensure the number of individuals booked onto the flight who ultimately do not travel is kept to a minimum.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-24/41217/>

Deportation

Chris Law [41218] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her Department's practice is for the number of security guards per detainee aboard mass deportation charter flights.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Prior to each charter a risk assessment is undertaken for each detainee. This assessment will take into consideration many factors including history of non-compliance and medical issues. This information will be shared with the Home Office's overseas escort provider, Tascor, who will make a decision on the necessary detainee to escort ratio.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-24/41218/>

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Deportation

Chris Law [41221] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the cost to the public purse of deportation by chartered flights has been in each of the last five years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Home Office records indicate that the cost of chartering aircraft for removal flights over the past 5 years is as follows:

2011/12 - £8.5 million

2012/13- £13.8 million

2013/14 - £12.7 million

2014/15 - £13.2 million

2015/16 - £9.1 million

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-24/41221/>

Deportation

Chris Law [41223] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many flights for the purposes of deporting people whose asylum or human rights claims were refused were chartered by the Government in each of the last five years.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Home Office charter flights are used to remove individuals who have been refused asylum in the UK, but also individuals who have committed other immigration and criminal offences. Home Office records indicate that there were 45 charters in 2012, 48 in 2013, 46 in 2014, 38 in 2015 and 18 to date in 2016.

In addition to charter flights the Home Office also removes people via scheduled commercial services.

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/2016-06-24/41223/>

Offenders: Deportation

The following two questions both received the same answer

Chris Law [41306] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many foreign nationals that had been held in UK prisons were removed on chartered deportation flights in each of the last five years.

Deportation

Chris Law [41307] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her Department's policy is on having independent witnesses and monitoring groups aboard mass deportation charter flights.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Home Office records indicate that there were at least 1999 foreign nationals who, having been detained in a UK prison, were removed on charter flights in the past 5 years; 367 in 2012, 424 in 2013, 498 in 2014, 486 in 2015 and 224 in 2016 to date.

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

Immigration Enforcement charter flights are regularly monitored by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) and the Independent Monitoring Board (IMB).

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-27/41306/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-27/41307/>

Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Human Trafficking

Henry Smith: 2. What recent steps have been taken by the Church of England to tackle human trafficking. [905694]

Reply from Caroline Spelman: The Bishop of Derby has been at the forefront of working to tackle human trafficking and modern slavery within the Church. I had the pleasure of serving with him on the pre-legislative scrutiny Joint Committee on the draft Modern Slavery Bill. He has set up and been part of the Santa Marta process to improve collaboration between Churches and police forces in the detection of instances of human trafficking.

Henry Smith: ... What plans does the Church have to roll out that scheme to the rest of England. With Gatwick in my constituency, I would certainly like to see that.

Reply from Caroline Spelman: We all understand my hon. Friend's concern because of his constituency's location. The Church is building on the Bishop of Derby's work and intends to launch the Clewer initiative against modern-day slavery in the autumn. It will be designed to combat modern-day slavery across England and provide parishes and dioceses with strategies to detect instances of modern-day slavery.

Philip Hollobone: One of the most powerful ways to get any message across is from the personal testimony of victims. A lot of people are realising that human trafficking is hidden in local communities, so what efforts is the Church making to identify and encourage Christian victims of human trafficking to bear witness in their churches and communities?

Reply from Caroline Spelman: When I served on the Joint Committee on the draft Modern Slavery Bill, the hidden nature of trafficking became apparent, and Churches can lift the lid on the prevalence of trafficking in the society in which we live. It is incumbent on us all to have our eyes and ears open and to ask questions when we suspect that someone may be being exploited as result of trafficking.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-07-07/debates/16070718000025/HumanTrafficking>

Human Trafficking

Jim Shannon [41718] To ask the right hon. Member for Meriden, representing the Church Commissioners, what steps are being taken by the Church of England to tackle human trafficking.

Reply from Caroline Spelman: In March 2014 the Archbishop of Canterbury, with Pope Francis and other global faith leaders, gave their backing to the Global Freedom Network (www.globalfreedomnetwork.org), a ground breaking ecumenical initiative to combat modern slavery and human trafficking. The Archbishop is planning an international conference in 2017 with the Ecumenical Patriarch. The Bishop of Derby has also been at the forefront of work to tackle human trafficking and modern slavery for the Church of England. He has been part of the Santa Martha Process (which looks to improve collaboration between churches and police in the detection of instances of human trafficking) and has developed strategies in his diocese to combat human trafficking and modern slavery. The Church of England will launch The Clewer Initiative against Modern Day Slavery this autumn. It will provide English dioceses and parishes with strategies for the combating of modern slavery and guidance on how to assist in the provision of victim support and care. The initiative is intended to build on existing capacity and the assistance to dioceses and church networks will be carefully tailored to their specific contexts and needs.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-04/41718/>

Immigration and Asylum (continued)

UK Parliament Early Day Motions

Greg Mulholland (291) Status of EU nationals in the UK – That this House expresses strong concern that the Government has not guaranteed the rights of EU nationals to stay in the UK after the country leaves the EU; notes that there are three million EU nationals currently living, working or studying in the UK; further notes that many of them have developed strong family and business ties to the UK; believes that a refusal from the Government to give all these people a guarantee about their long-term status throws their lives into great uncertainty; further believes that all these EU citizens, including families and children, should not be used as bargaining chips to negotiate the terms of a deal under which Britain will leave the EU; urges the Government to consider the strong implications for families, public services and the economy if many EU nationals start to or are forced to leave the UK; and calls on the Government to remove this uncertainty, recognise the huge contribution that EU nationals have made to Britain and, in line with the cross-party consensus, immediately guarantee the rights of all EU nationals already in the UK.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2016-17/291>

Alison Thewliss (276) Annual refugee and solidarity football tournament – That this House commends the Scottish Unity Football League and Glasgow Afghan United for hosting the Annual Refugee and Solidarity Football Tournament on 26 June 2016 as part of Refugee Festival Scotland; notes that 21 teams competed in the tournament, comprising players from a range of countries across the world; celebrates the coming together of those players in the universal language of football, which has helped to break down barriers and bring about new friendships; congratulates Shawbridge Lions, who won the tournament; and further commends all those who participated, organised and supported that team.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2016-17/276>

Press Releases

Reassurance following EU referendum

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Reassurance-following-EU-referendum-25fe.aspx>

Asylum: EU list of safe countries of origin to replace national lists in 3 years

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/20160707IPR36205/Asylum-EU-list-of-safe-countries-of-origin-to-replace-national-lists-in-3-years>

MEPs urge EU countries to use €1.3bn budget refund to honour refugee aid pledges

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/20160701IPR34491/MEPs-urge-EU-countries-to-use-%E2%82%AC1.3bn-budget-refund-to-honour-refugee-aid-pledges>

Getting refugees to work: MEPs call for a win-win approach

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/20160701IPR34490/Getting-refugees-to-work-MEPs-call-for-a-win-win-approach>

New Publications

Legal rights & options for victims of human trafficking in the UK

http://www.labourexploitation.org/sites/default/files/publications/FLEX%20Legal%20Rights_Options%20Pamphlet%20A5-English.pdf

Immigration and Asylum New Publications (continued)

Support entitlements in the UK: national referral mechanism for victims of human trafficking

<http://www.labourexploitation.org/sites/default/files/publications/NRM%20Booklet%20English.pdf>

Towards visibility: the Latin American community in London

<http://www.trustforlondon.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Towards-Visibility-full-report.pdf>

Key findings of the European Asylum Support Office's Annual Report on the Situation of Asylum in the EU 2015

<https://www.easo.europa.eu/sites/default/files/public/EN-Annual%20Report%202015%20key%20findings.pdf>

News

Nicola Sturgeon acts to reassure EU nationals living in Scotland

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2016/jul/05/nicola-sturgeon-acts-to-reassure-eu-nationals-scotland>

Church calls for action on EU Citizens right to stay

http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news_and_events/news/recent/church_calls_for_action_on_eu_citizens_right_to_stay

David Cameron is accused of betraying vulnerable child refugees

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jul/09/unaccompanied-child-refugees-dubs-amendment>

Child refugee scheme yet to come into effect, says Lord Dubs

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/pa/article-3682730/Child-refugee-scheme-come-effect-says-Lord-Dubs.html>

Minister to investigate reports of mistreatment of Glasgow asylum seekers

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14599803.Minister_to_investigate_reports_of_mistreatment_of_Glasgow_asylum_seekers/

Treatment of asylum seekers in Glasgow to be investigated

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-07-06/scotland/treatment-of-asylum-seekers-in-glasgow-to-be-investigated-hjir2vjit>

UK Government called to take action over 'slum' housing conditions of asylum seekers in Glasgow

<http://www.thenational.scot/news/uk-government-called-to-take-action-over-slum-housing-conditions-of-asylum-seekers-in-glasgow.19661>

Third of councils refuse to take in Syrian refugees

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/third-of-councils-refuse-to-take-in-syrian-refugees-n7v3ddsnp>

Yarl's Wood detention centre staff replaced by 'self-service kiosks'

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jul/07/yarls-wood-immigration-detention-centre-staff-replaced-by-self-service-kiosks>

Immigration and Asylum News (continued)

Prosecutions for people-smuggling into UK rise by 50%

<https://www.theguardian.com/law/2016/jul/04/prosecutions-people-smuggling-uk-vehicles-rise-50>

Brain family to meet with MPs over deportation battle

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/brain-family-to-meet-with-mps-over-deportation-battle-1-4168590>

Girl, 8, grilled for 12 hours by immigration officers after flying on her own from her home in Antigua to spend the summer with her father on the Isle of Sheppey

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3677377/Gatwick-Airport-immigration-officers-grill-eight-year-old-girl-12-hours-lands-UK-Antigua.html>

EU migrants should not be left fearing for their future in the UK

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/jul/05/eu-migrants-fearing-future-uk-bigotry-referendum>

Following the Brexit vote, I fear tolerant Britain is lost for ever

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/jul/04/brexit-vote-britain-loved-gone-race-hate>

[TOP](#)

Equality

Scottish Parliament Questions

Race Equality Framework

John Finnie: To ask the Scottish Government whether it will seek to hold a parliamentary debate on the Race Equality Framework for Scotland 2016-2030. (S5W-00724)

Reply from Angela Constance: The Scottish Government would welcome a debate about the Race Equality Framework and will look to scheduling this.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-00724&ResultsPerPage=10>

Race Equality Framework

John Finnie: To ask the Scottish Government when it plans to appoint a race framework advisor, as stated in the 2016 SNP manifesto; what the advisor's (a) remit and (b) responsibilities will be, and whether he/she will lead an advisory committee or act independently. (S5W-00725)

Reply from Angela Constance: The Scottish Government is currently taking forward discussions to appoint a Race Equality Framework advisor who will act to take forward the actions in the race framework. The remit and responsibilities of the advisor will be made available following discussion and agreement with the advisor.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-00725&ResultsPerPage=10>

Race Equality Framework

John Finnie: To ask the Scottish Government how it plans to resource the implementation of the specific actions in the Race Equality Framework for Scotland 2016-2030 in the current parliamentary session. (S5W-00728)

Equality Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

Reply from Angela Constance: Work to progress the actions within the Race Equality Framework has already begun within the Scottish Government and across our partner organisations and will continue through 2016 and beyond. There are a number of projects funded through the promoting equality and cohesion fund covering the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 which will contribute to the commitments in the framework. Considerations as to longer term funding will be taken as part of normal spending review processes.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-00728&ResultsPerPage=10>

Race Equality Framework

John Finnie: To ask the Scottish Government when it plans to publish information on the implementation planning mechanisms, governance and review arrangements that it has committed to develop for the Race Equality Framework for Scotland 2016-2030.

Reply from Angela Constance: We are committed to developing an overarching approach to implementation and monitoring of the Race Equality Framework in the first six months. We intend to do that collaboratively with key stakeholders during the summer and will publish the details on implementation thereafter.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-00729&ResultsPerPage=10>

Gypsy/Traveller strategy development group

John Finnie: To ask the Scottish Government for what reason its Gypsy/Traveller strategy development group, set up in response to two Equal Opportunities Committee inquiries, did not endorse the government's draft action plan in 2015, and what action the Scottish Government has taken since 2015 to deal with issues facing Gypsy/Travellers. (S5W-00757)

Reply from Angela Constance: The work of the Gypsy/Traveller strategy development group progressed during 2014-15. A key part of the strategy was the development of an action plan to help drive the change necessary to secure improvement in outcomes. A draft action plan was considered by the group in August 2015. The group raised a number of issues, which were important in terms of the developing action plan and required further consideration. Work on the strategy was therefore paused to allow a period of reflection. We recognise that there is still much to do to address the needs of Gypsy/Travellers and the further development of the programme of work for Gypsy/Travellers is currently being considered. However, work to improve outcomes for Gypsy/Travellers is continuing. The Scottish Government has provided £200,416 funding from the equality budget in 2015-16 and £229,159 in 2016-17 to organisations working with Gypsy/Travellers to improve outcomes across a range of areas of work. Through the Scottish traveller education review group, we are developing guidance which will be published for consultation in 2016, to improve the educational outcomes of Gypsy/Traveller children and young people. Additionally, the review process for local housing strategies looks at how the needs of Gypsy/Travellers have been considered and addressed (within the strategy), and highlights any concerns to the local authority for further consideration.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-00757&ResultsPerPage=10>

Equality (continued)

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-00710 Sandra White: CEMVO Scotland – That the Parliament welcomes news that CEMVO Scotland has received a £385,773 grant from the Big Lottery Fund’s Investing in Communities, Life Transitions programme; notes that it will use this funding to provide opportunities and life skills to vulnerable, disadvantaged and hard-to-reach ethnic minority women in Glasgow, South Lanarkshire and East Renfrewshire; further notes that a coach will be provided to mentor and help women access employment opportunities, and welcomes this initiative and the support that it will offer to ethnic minority women, particularly in the Glasgow Kelvin constituency.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-00710&ResultsPerPage=10>

News

None of MI6 and MI5's senior officials are from BAME backgrounds

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jul/05/none-of-mi6-and-mi5-senior-officials-from-bame-backgrounds>

[TOP](#)

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament Debate

EU Referendum: Race Hate Crime

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-07-05/debates/16070549000002/EUReferendumRaceHateCrime>

UK Parliament Questions

Hate Crime

Lord Rana: To ask Her Majesty’s Government, in the light of the reported increase in the incidence of hate speech against immigrants following the referendum on the United Kingdom’s membership of the European Union, what steps they are taking to tackle xenophobia and racist extremism.

Reply from the Advocate-General for Scotland (Lord Keen of Elie): My Lords, the Government are committed to tackling hate crime. The United Kingdom has one of the strongest legislative frameworks in the world to tackle it. In terms of recent events, we are working across government, the police, including national community tensions teams, the Crown Prosecution Service and community partners to send out a clear message. Hate crime will not be tolerated and those who commit these reprehensible acts will face the full force of the law.

Lord Rana: My Lords, I fear that many hate crimes have occurred against the backdrop of a campaign to which certain elements gave the stamp of racism. Did the Government make any preparations before the referendum for the rise in hate crime? Will the Minister agree that the status of EU citizens and other immigrants in this country must be assured?

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: My Lords, the Government have implemented a series of educational programmes, including by the Anne Frank Trust and the Crown Prosecution Service, which have received the support of the National

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Union of Teachers. It is close by this afternoon, I believe. In the circumstances, we have taken steps to address this issue. In addition, a cross-government hate crime action plan is to be published imminently. This will drive forward our proposals to deal with all forms of hate crime.

Lord Bilimoria: My Lords, I came to this country from India as a 19 year-old in the 1980s. At the time of the referendum, I received this tweet: “You are not British-born, so your input into the vote of the true Brits is not required and of no interest to true workers”. Last weekend, a member of our team for 16 years who is from abroad, with an English husband, went to hospital with a broken, bloodied finger and was told by somebody waiting next to her, “You are a burden on this country”. What is going on? Will the Minister and the Government acknowledge that this wretched referendum has caused this? Are the Government really doing enough to address something which I have not witnessed in any way for 30 years, but am now witnessing?

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: No matter what may divide us, we are united in this country by shared values of democracy, free speech, mutual respect and opportunity. If we maintain these standards, we can drive out the criminals who would perpetrate the sort of crimes that the noble Lord has referred to.

Lord Rosser: My Lords, if there had been no split on Europe within the Conservative Party, there would have been no Conservative Party referendum. If there had been no Conservative Party referendum, there would have been no significant rise in hate crime. Will the Government now at least do the decent thing and accept that what is happening today is because party interest was put in front of national interest? Can the Minister tell us what specific new initiatives or decisions—as opposed to discussions, messages and plans—the Government have taken since the referendum campaign to address the serious and damaging situation they have helped to create?

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: With respect to the noble Lord, it is not appropriate to seek to draw a line between the referendum result and those who have taken it as an opportunity to express xenophobia and racist positions. I think it is obvious to all that the vote in the referendum can be attributed to a split in the Labour Party and not to a split in the Conservative Party.

Baroness Hussein-Ece: My Lords, there has been a fivefold increase—500%—in reported hate crime. As we know, the majority of these incidents are not reported. I have been abused online. In the last fortnight, since Brexit, members of my family and people I know, of all colours, races and religions—and of no religion or faith—have been subjected to this. Will the Minister support the initiative by a national coalition of race equality groups, including the Runnymede Trust? These groups have come together to ask for leadership and solidarity from all politicians around this House and in the other place and from the media to reject racism and hate crime and to stop pandering to intolerance. We should have zero tolerance of this kind of behaviour in this country.

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: I agree with the noble Baroness that we, on all sides of this House, are ready to condemn racism and xenophobia. We have a common interest and a common outlook in so far as this is concerned. With regard to the increase in reported race crime, there have been significant increases in the period 2010 to 2016, but one must be careful of these statistics because much of the increase is attributed to the fact that we have introduced a better reporting system, including the reporting portal, True Vision. ...

Lord Harris of Haringey: My Lords, it is not simply a question of the referendum campaign making xenophobia and racism respectable again; this is also the responsibility of the Minister’s right honourable friends in the other place who have consistently pandered to this in exactly the same way—for example, the right honourable Theresa May and the campaigns run by the Home Office against illegal immigrants. The Prime Minister’s intervention in the mayoral election in London, talking about extremists,

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

was all part of the same picture. Is there not a pattern which has led to this increase in xenophobic incidents in the last few weeks?

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: With respect to the noble Lord, nothing makes xenophobia and racism respectable, least of all the referendum.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-07-05/debates/16070553000243/HateCrime>

Xenophobia

Ben Howlett: On Tuesday evening, a Bath mum, Kerry Parkinson, was travelling home and was hit in the face after confronting a passenger who told their son to “Shut up, or we will send you to Istanbul with the other Muslims to join Isis”. I am sure that whole House will join me in condemning such disgusting racist views and in congratulating Kerry on standing up against hate. Will my right hon. Friend speak to the Home Secretary to see what more can be done to tackle xenophobia in our society and look at staging further debates in the House?

Reply from Chris Grayling: That instance is absolutely shocking. We send all our good wishes to my hon. Friend’s constituent for what she has done. Let us be absolutely clear: the Muslim community plays a valuable role in our communities up and down the country. The Muslim community is full of people who have made a real difference to our society, and we should support them. The fact that there are a small number of people in the Islamic world who pursue an ideology of hate that we all stand up against should not in any way tarnish the good, hard-working decent Muslims of this country. We should abhor, tackle and prosecute insults and attacks against them.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-07-07/debates/16070728000001/BusinessOfTheHouse#contribution-16070728000077>

Prosecution of race hate crimes

Vernon Coaker: Is it possible for the Leader of the House to organise an urgent debate, in Government time, on prosecution policy? Over the past few weeks, we have seen a disgraceful rise in the number of race hate crime incidents, as we heard from the hon. Member for Bath (Ben Howlett). It is quite right that we all abhor that, but do we not need to take a stand as a society and prosecute people who take part in such behaviour? It is not enough to be angry and to say that we abhor it; these people need to be brought before the courts and prosecuted, and that will help to stop it.

Reply from Chris Grayling: I wholly agree with the hon. Gentleman. One of the most extraordinary things is that British Asians, who have had nothing whatever to do with the debates in recent weeks, should be singled out in this way. That is a sign of a streak of opinion in our society. I believe that we are as tolerant a society as any in the world, but we none the less have a core of people whose beliefs are disgraceful and whose actions are disgraceful, and when they act in the way that we have seen in recent weeks, there is absolutely no excuse for our police and our prosecuting authorities not to put them in court where they belong.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-07-07/debates/16070728000001/BusinessOfTheHouse#contribution-16070728000105>

Hate Crime: Greater London

Catherine West [41330] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many instances of (a) religious and (b) hate crime were reported to the police in London in each of the last five years.

Reply from Karen Bradley: The Home Office has collected information from police forces in England and Wales on the number of hate crimes recorded by the police since 2011/12. Data for religious hate crime and total crime measured

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament Questions (continued)

across the five monitored strands (religion, race, sexual orientation, disability and transgender) are given in the attached table.

Data for 2015/16 are due to be published in October 2016.

As stated by the Office for National Statistics, action taken by police forces to improve their compliance with the National Crime Recording Standard has led to improved recording of crime over recent years, especially for violence against the person offences. Together with a greater awareness of hate crime, and improved willingness of victims to come forward, this is likely to be a factor in the increase in hate crimes recorded by the police shown in the table.

This Government is committed to tackling hate crime. The UK has one of the strongest legislative frameworks in the world to tackle hate crime. We are working across Government with police, (including National Community Tensions Team), the Crown Prosecution Service and community partners to send out a clear message that hate crime will not be tolerated and we will vigorously pursue and prosecute those who commit these crimes.

[Hate crimes recorded](#) (spreadsheet)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-27/41330/>

Press Release

Cardiff visit for Lammy race review

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cardiff-visit-for-lammy-race-review>

New Publication

Young Muslims on Trial: A scoping study on the impact of Islamophobia on criminal justice decision-making

http://www.t2a.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Young_Muslims_on_Trial.pdf

News

Scotland avoided post-Brexit hate rise due to 'closer communities' says police chief

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/local/dundee/219492/scotland-avoided-post-brexit-hate-rise-due-to-closer-communities-says-police-chief/>

Brexit vote 'has changed the tone of racial abuse'

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/brexit-vote-has-changed-the-tone-of-racial-abuse-1-4173263>

Hate crimes surge by 42% in England and Wales since Brexit result

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/brexit-hate-crime-racism-stats-spike-police-england-wales-eu-referendum-a7126706.html>

Three race hate crimes every hour since EU referendum, say Met Police

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/brexit-race-hate-crime-eu-referendum-met-police-a7121401.html>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

News (continued)

Met police received more than 500 reports of hate crimes after Brexit vote

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jul/05/met-police-received-230-reports-of-hate-crimes-after-brexit-vote>

Hate crimes surge as vote exposes community tensions

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-07-09/news/hate-crimes-surge-as-vote-exposes-community-tensions-39ch26qlt>

'Unity events' to be held to show solidarity amid post-EU referendum racism

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/unity-events-to-be-held-to-show-solidarity-amid-post-eu-referendum-racism-a7117801.html>

'Unity events' held in London after post-Brexit spike in hate crime

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jul/04/unity-events-held-in-london-after-post-brexit-spike-in-hate-crime>

Asad Shah killing: Man admits Glasgow shopkeeper murder

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-36733744>

Muslim man admits murdering Glasgow shopkeeper Asad Shah

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/muslim-man-admits-murdering-glasgow-shopkeeper-asad-shah-1-4171667>

Man admits murdering Glasgow shopkeeper Asad Shah

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/scotland/220014/man-admits-murdering-glasgow-shopkeeper-asad-shah/>

Asad Shah murder: Brother describes fight to defend Glasgow shopkeeper from sectarian attacker

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/14609694.Asad_Shah_murder_Brother_describes_fight_to_defend_Glasgow_shopkeeper_from_sectarian_attacker/

Glasgow shopkeeper killer does not care if he gets "100 years or death" for crime

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/world_news/14608643.Glasgow_shopkeeper_killer_does_not_care_if_he_gets_100_years_or_death_for_crime/

Asad Shah murder: Tanveer Ahmed pleads guilty to brutal slaying of popular Glasgow shopkeeper

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/asad-shah-murder-tanveer-ahmed-8367885#m2E4abiuG30SodBy.97>

Family of slain shopkeeper Asad Shah say they will 'leave Scotland forever'

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/family-slain-shopkeeper-asad-shah-8373548#ieUod8FVTr13dey7.97>

Asad Shah murder: Man admits killing Glasgow shopkeeper 'because he disrespected Prophet Mohamed'

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/asad-shah-murder-killing-glasgow-shopkeeper-tanveer-ahmed-muslim-ahmadi-prophet-mohamed-a7124531.html>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

News (continued)

Man admits murder of Glasgow shopkeeper Asad Shah

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jul/07/man-admits-murder-of-glasgow-shopkeeper-asad-shah-shawlands>

The persecution of the Ahmadis must not be allowed to spread

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/belief/2016/jul/07/the-persecution-of-the-ahmadis-must-not-be-allowed-to-spread>

Muslim shopkeeper Asad Shah had 'disrespected Islam' according to man who admits his murder

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/07/07/muslim-man-admits-murdering-shopkeeper-asad-shah-who-wished-belo/>

Glasgow shopkeeper's murderer drove 200 miles to attack him

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-07-08/scotland/glasgow-shopkeepers-murderer-drove-200-miles-to-attack-him-z59fgb3w8>

Uber driver pleads guilty to 'despicable' murder of Glasgow shopkeeper Asad Shah because he belonged to minority Muslim sect

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3678547/Taxi-driver-pleads-guilty-killing-Glasgow-shopkeeper-Asad-Shah-wished-Christian-customers-happy-Easter.html>

Police investigate suspect packages after 42% rise in hate incident complaints

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jul/08/police-record-3000-hate-incidents-weeks-around-referendum>

White powder sent to mosques

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/white-powder-sent-to-mosques-6779smwck>

Envelopes of white powder with 'P* filth' scrawled on them are sent to mosques as officials figures reveal 42% increase in race hate crime in June**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3680554/Arson-attack-warning-family-told-Poland-EU-referendum.html>

Anti-Muslim Hatred on Student Campuses

<http://tellmamauk.org/anti-muslim-hatred-student-campuses/>

Muslims report discrimination in prisons as fear of 'extremism' grows

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2016/jul/06/muslims-discrimination-uk-prisons-extremism>

I've lived in Paisley for 12 years and now I feel unwelcome, says Welshman attacked by racist job

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/local-news/ive-lived-paisley-12-years-8364340#BDdfwrjwJldWzpk6.97>

Universities move to protect academics from racist abuse

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-07-06/news/universities-move-to-protect-academics-from-racist-abuse-x6vwgwj2w>

Man who went on 'bizarre' mosque rampage sent back to prison

<http://www.scotsman.com/dundee/man-who-went-on-bizarre-mosque-rampage-sent-back-to-prison-1-4173257>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

News (continued)

Dundee mosque rampage attacker sent back to jail

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-07-09/scotland/dundee-mosque-rampage-attacker-sent-back-to-jail-svbc6f6qb>

There's no room on our streets for neo-Nazis

<http://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/opinion/gerry-farrell-there-s-no-room-on-our-streets-for-neo-nazis-1-4170459>

Alert at Islamic buildings as white powder and threats sent to three London mosques

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/alert-at-islamic-buildings-as-white-powder-and-threats-sent-to-three-london-mosques-a7126861.html>

Man throws pork at London mosque in 'religiously aggravated hate crime'

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/cctv-mosque-hate-crime-man-pork-north-london-a7118586.html>

Our istreetwatch website tells of another Britain: one that confronts racism

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/jul/05/istreetwatch-britain-confronts-racism-xenophobic-uk>

Will wearing safety-pins help stop the rise of the new racism?

<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2016/jul/10/the-rise-of-the-new-racism>

Egyptian refugee family have suffered months of horrific racial abuse with 'Muslims are scum' being daubed on their front door and son, 11, being dragged off his bike

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3678634/Family-Egyptian-refugees-Cardiff-say-racist-attacks-increased-Brexit-vote.html>

Polish family's Plymouth home damaged in 'race hate arson attack'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-devon-36737529>

[TOP](#)

Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Releases

Eid Mubarak

<https://firstminister.gov.scot/eid-mubarak/>

Charity complaints telephone line

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Charity-complaints-telephone-line-2634.aspx>

[TOP](#)

Other UK Parliament and Government

Parliamentary Question

Female Genital Mutilation: Prosecutions

Thangam Debbonaire [41490] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many prosecutions there have been under legislation on female genital mutilation.

Reply from Caroline Dinenage: There has been one prosecution under the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 since it came into force.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-29/41490/>

Press Releases

Eid al-Fitr 2016: David Cameron's message

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/eid-al-fitr-2016-david-camerons-message>

Foreign Secretary's Eid ul-Fitr message

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretarys-eid-ul-fitr-message--2>

Eid 2016: Greg Clark's message

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/eid-2016-greg-clarks-message>

[TOP](#)

Other News

Protecting our human rights - European Union referendum

<http://scottishhumanrights.com/news/latestnews/eurefstatement2016>

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator: Standards of conduct for fundraising by charities

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/charities/fundraising-faqs>

[TOP](#)

Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

UK Parliament

Ethnicity Pay Gap Bill

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

**** Modern Slavery (Transparency in Supply Chains) Bill**

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

Second Reading, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-07-08/debates/16070837000490/ModernSlavery\(TransparencyInSupplyChains\)Bill\(HL\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-07-08/debates/16070837000490/ModernSlavery(TransparencyInSupplyChains)Bill(HL))

Student Support (Non-Interest-Bearing Finance) Bill

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

[TOP](#)

Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes 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>

**** closes this week!**

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>

Sharia Councils (closing date 20 July 2016)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/news-parliament-2015/160623-new-inquiry-sharia-councils/>

Draft Strategic Police Priorities for Scotland (closing date 16 August 2016)

https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/police-division/strategic-police-priorities/user_uploads/430839_consultation_p2--2-.pdf

**** Independent review into the application of sharia law** (closing date 19 August)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/sharia-law-review-issues-calls-for-evidence>

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

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

**** Hate crime and its violent consequences** (closing date 1 September 2016)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/home-affairs-committee/news-parliament-2015/160704-new-inquiry-hate-crime/>

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](#)

Job Opportunities

[Click here](#) to find out about job opportunities

[TOP](#)

Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

Scottish Winter Festivals

All applications will be considered until all available funds have been distributed.

Scotland's Winter Festivals aim to mobilise the people of Scotland and those with an affinity to Scotland to join in the St Andrew's Day, Hogmanay and Burns celebrations, boosting Scotland's key tourism and events sectors and the wider economy, enhancing community engagement and raising Scotland's international profile. Our diverse ethnic and cultural minority communities are key elements of Scotland's past, present and future so the Scottish Government, BEMIS Scotland, and other national partners are committed to ensuring that our diverse ethnic and cultural minority communities participate fully within this year's Winter Festival celebrations. For information see <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/swf-grant-guidelines.pdf>, and an application form is available at <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/swf-grant-application.docx>

Year of Innovation, Architecture & Design

All applications will be considered until all available funds have been distributed.

Our diverse ethnic and cultural minority communities are key elements of Scotland's past, present and future so we want to ensure that your story, history, innovation and narrative plays a full part in the celebration of the themed year.

The Scottish Government and BEMIS Scotland, and other national partners are committed to ensuring that our diverse ethnic and cultural minority communities participate fully within this year's celebrations. We believe that in order to fulfil our potential as individuals and communities of place, culture and ethnicity that we should celebrate and promote our diversity. This reflects our shared objective to build an 'Inclusive National Identity' which celebrates Scotland's vibrant, diverse, confident and dynamic people. For information see

<http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/yiad-grant-guidelines.pdf> and the application form is available at <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/yiad-grant-application.docx>

[TOP](#)

Events/Conferences/Training

** new or updated this week

Scottish Solutions to the Refugee Crisis

18 August 2016 at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh (4.30-6.00)

Panel discussion about how Scotland should respond to the refugee crisis that has seen over 60 million people displaced from their homes and countries by conflict, disaster and destitution. For information see <http://festivalofpolitics.scot/events/scottish-solutions-to-the-refugee-crisis/>

[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>

Useful Links (continued)

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/>

Volunteer Development Scotland www.vds.org.uk

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

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

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

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

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

[TOP](#)



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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