

## Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

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

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**The Scottish Parliament is in recess until 4 September 2016, and the UK Parliament until 5 September, and again from 15 September to 10 October.**

**During recess MEMO will be published on 1, 15, and 29 August, 12 and 26 September, and 10 October 2016.**

## Immigration and Asylum

### Scottish Parliament Questions

#### Asylum seekers

**Linda Fabiani:** To ask the Scottish Government what information it has in relation to children of asylum seekers who are living in Scotland being detained in secure facilities in Scotland or elsewhere in the UK. (S5W-00995)

**Reply from Mark McDonald:** This is a reserved matter by the UK Government and both the Scottish Government and South Lanarkshire Council do not hold this information. The Scottish Government remains opposed to detaining any children of asylum seekers; detention of children in an asylum context is unnecessary and

## Immigration and Asylum Scottish Parliament Questions (continued)

disproportionate. It is a breach of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and should not be happening in the UK. The Scottish Government will continue to reaffirm this position at every available opportunity.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-00995&ResultsPerPage=10>

### Asylum seekers

**Linda Fabiani:** To ask the Scottish Government on how many occasions in the last 12 months personnel from South Lanarkshire Council have been involved in "age dispute" cases relating to asylum seekers held at the Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre. (S5W-00996)

**Reply from Mark McDonald:** Over the past 12 months, South Lanarkshire Council has been asked to age assess seven individuals. Of those seven, three were assessed as over 18 and four assessed as being between 16 and 18. Social work resources continue to support those individuals under 18.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-00996&ResultsPerPage=10>

### Asylum seekers

**Linda Fabiani:** To ask the Scottish Government further to the answer to question S4W-24964 by Paul Wheelhouse on 8 April 2015, whether Police Scotland personnel have been involved in the transfer of asylum seekers from Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre since 1 April 2013, and what information it has on which private contractors are employed by the UK Government to carry out the work. (S5W-00997)

**Reply from Mark McDonald:** Police Scotland have advised that there are no Police Scotland personnel involved at Dungavel, they were able to advise that the Home Office have brought in private contractors to carry out this work, the private contractors are GEO Group Ltd. Therefore, Police Scotland does not get involved with the transfer of people from or to the centre.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-00997&ResultsPerPage=10>

## UK Parliament Debate

### EU Citizens in the UK

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-07-14/debates/16071439000430/EUCitizensInTheUK>

## UK Parliament Questions

### Immigration

**Baroness Goudie [HL924]** To ask Her Majesty's Government, in the light of the referendum of the UK membership of the EU, whether families and individuals already established in the UK, including families and individuals from other EU countries, will be able to stay in the UK whatever changes may be made in regard to future migration to the UK.

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** The Government wants to be able to guarantee the legal status of EU nationals who are living in the UK, and we are confident that we will be able to do this.

But we must also win the same rights for British nationals living in European

## Immigration and Asylum

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

countries, and it will be an early negotiating objective for the Government to achieve those things together.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-07-04/HL924/>

#### Migration

**Tom Brake** [41543] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment her Department has made of the outcome of the EU referendum on levels of (a) inward and (b) outward migration.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The UK currently remains part of the EU. As the Prime Minister has indicated, there will be no immediate changes for British citizens living in European countries or European citizens living in the UK and there will be no change to the way people travel.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-06-30/41543/>

#### Immigration: EU Nationals

**Nigel Huddleston** [41704] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she has taken to uphold the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties 1969 allowing existing EU citizens already living and working in the UK to retain their existing rights throughout and following negotiations on the UK leaving the EU.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Government has been clear that there will be no immediate changes in the circumstances of European nationals and their family members entering or currently residing in the UK.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-04/41704/>

#### Immigration: EU Nationals

**Ian Murray** [42063] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what plans the Government has to review the level of funding it provides to NGOs and charities that support EU nationals in making applications for right to remain or other forms of residency visa as a result of the outcome of the EU referendum.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** EU nationals do not need to apply for an entry visa, residence card or a permanent residence card in order to enjoy their free movement rights and responsibilities.

As a result, the Home Office does not provide funding to NGOs in order to assist EU nationals to obtain such residency documentation.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-06/42063/>

#### EU Nationals: Immigration

**Ian Murray** [41857] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what plans the Government has to provide EU citizens with information on applying for (a) the permanent right to remain and (b) citizenship; and whether the Government plans to introduce any simplifications or streamlining of the process.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The gov.uk website provides information for European nationals and their family members on applying for documents confirming their permanent residence.

The application process in terms of obtaining British citizenship is the same for all foreign nationals and information on this is available from the gov.uk website.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-05/41857/>

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

### Visas: Married People

**Keith Vaz** [41641] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many spousal visas were revoked in each of the last eight years.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The number of spousal visas that were curtailed in each of the last eight years is as follows:

Year	Number Curtailed
2008	670
2009	754
2010	942
2011	886
2012	447
2013	465
2014	768
2015	612

Please note that this data is provisional management information that is subject to change. It has not been assured to the standard of Official Statistics. It is based on the casetypes and outcomes defined by yourselves below, any curtailments recorded in a different way will not be picked up. This needs to be made clear in the answer. Data Run as below - Casetypes used (defined by the business) - Curtailment Consideration - Other and Curtailment Consideration - Spouse/Partner only

Outcome - Curtailed

Cases despatched between 01-01-2006 and 31-12-2015

Data based on the report used to produce Transparency data

Data produced based on criteria set by the business. Any curtailments recorded in another way are not included within this data. "Curtailment Consideration – Other" includes Leave Outside The Rules on Family Grounds.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-04/41641/>

### Visas: Married People

**Keith Vaz** [41642] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many revoked spousal visas have led to the deportation of the spouse concerned in each of the last eight years.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The following table shows the number of individuals returned who had previously had a spousal visa curtailed.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total returns	32	89	126	106	105	95	96	83

Notes: Individuals with a spousal visa curtailment from 2006 provided for PQ 41641 have been used. Please see the caveats associated with that response for details of the data included.

The dates in the table are those when the individual returned, not when their spousal visa had been curtailed (which are outlined in PQ 41641).

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

Returns figures are based on data used in Published Returns figures from Migration Statistics and include both enforced and voluntary returns.

Returns have been matched to the nearest Curtailment. Individuals with more than one curtailment have been counted only once.

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/2016-07-04/41642/>

### Visas: Married People

**Keith Vaz** [41650] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many spousal visas have been granted in each of the last eight years.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The information requested is shown in the table below:

Partner entry clearance visas granted		
Year	Family: Partner	Family: Partner (for immediate settlement)
2008	44,499	600
2009	38,242	1,314
2010	38,414	2,052
2011	33,496	1,336
2012	30,411	1,097
2013	23,481	1,081
2014	26,352	592
2015	28,947	630

Source: Home Office, Migration Statistics (MBA)

Immigration Statistics, January - March 2016, table vi\_01\_q, Visas Volume 1.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-january-to-march-2016-data-tables>

The published statistics do not distinguish between applications decided under the family Immigration Rules in force before and from 9 July 2012.

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/2016-07-04/41650/>

### Migrant Workers: Entry Clearances

**Lord Laird** [HL912] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon on 16 June (HL568), whether they will make available annually information about (1) how many certificates of sponsorship for immigration entry clearance are granted to each licensed sponsoring employer, (2) how long licences are valid, and (3) the top 50 employment categories within which the individual certificates are granted in each year.

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** There are no plans to publish data regarding how many certificates of sponsorship for immigration entry clearance are granted to each licensed sponsoring employer.

There is no requirement to publish annual information regarding how long sponsor licences are valid for as all sponsor licences are issued for four years, as set out

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

in the published sponsor guidance.

Sponsorship data by tier and industry type is already published as part of the immigration statistics quarterly releases on the gov.uk website. However there are no plans to specifically publish the top 50 employment categories within which the individual certificates are granted in each year.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-30/HL912/>

### Immigration: Families

*The following three questions all received the same answer*

**Stuart McDonald** [42404] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will collect regularly statistics on the (a) number of and (b) reasons for exceptional family reunion cases relating to children where indefinite leave to remain is granted at her discretion outside of the rules.

### Asylum: Families

**Stuart McDonald** [42276] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if her Department will collect data on the reasons given for refusal of family reunion applications involving children and young people aged over 18 years of age.

**Stuart McDonald** [42277] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, which exceptional circumstances applied to each grant of family reunion made outside the rules during the last five years.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** The Home Office does not hold the specific information in the format requested. The questions cover a number of different casework operations and the information is not recorded centrally in a way which can be reported on directly.

To obtain the information would involve examining individual case records and would incur disproportionate cost. We do not currently plan to change the data that is centrally recorded and published on this category of applications.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-11/42404/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-11/42276/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-11/42277/>

### Refugees: Children

**Deidre Brock** [41781] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether the Government plans to fulfil its commitment to accept unaccompanied refugee children following the UK vote to leave the EU.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** We will continue to implement the Immigration Act 2016, including the provision to transfer unaccompanied refugee children to the UK from elsewhere in Europe.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-04/41781/>

### Refugees: Children

**Lord Alton of Liverpool** [HL908] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the answer by Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon on 13 June (HL Deb, col 1004), what new information they have about the fate of the 10,000 unaccompanied refugee children who, according to Interpol, have gone missing; and how many unaccompanied refugee

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

children have arrived in the UK to date.

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** The UK is the largest bilateral contributor to the humanitarian response to the crisis in Europe and the Balkans with a total contribution of £65 million. The efforts of the partners we fund are targeted to reach the most vulnerable including children.

It also includes the £10 million Refugee Children Fund the Department for International Development (DFID) has created to support vulnerable refugee and migrant children specifically in Europe. The fund will support three specialist and mandated organisations; the UNHCR, Save the Children and the International Rescue Committee to work with host authorities to care for and assist unaccompanied or separated children in Europe and the Balkans.

In addition, the government continues to implement the Immigration Act 2016, including the provision to transfer unaccompanied refugee children to the UK from elsewhere in Europe. We are consulting local authorities as required and are also working closely with relevant Member States and other partners such as UNHCR, UNICEF and Save the Children.

We continue to fulfil our obligations under the Dublin Regulation to unaccompanied children who qualify for transfer to the UK under family reunification provisions. Since January 2016 our records show that over 60 children have been transferred from other EU countries to the UK.

We are working with UNHCR on our Children at Risk Resettlement Scheme to resettle vulnerable children, both unaccompanied and with their family members from the Middle East and North Africa region. We have committed to resettling several hundred individuals in the first year.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-30/HL908/>

### Refugees: Children

**Lord Hylton [HL1021]** To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon on 27 June (HL649), how many unaccompanied refugee children have reached the UK so far this year from (1) Europe, (2) the Middle East, and (3) elsewhere, for family reunion or otherwise for resettlement.

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** In the year ending March 2016 the UK received 3,206 asylum applications from unaccompanied children who had reached the UK.

We continue to fulfil our obligations under the Dublin Regulation to unaccompanied children who qualify for transfer to the UK under family reunification provisions. Since January 2016 our records show that over 60 children have been transferred from other EU countries to the UK.

In addition, the government continues to implement the Immigration Act 2016, including the provision to transfer unaccompanied refugee children to the UK from elsewhere in Europe. We are consulting local authorities as required and are also working closely with relevant Member States and other partners such as UNHCR, UNICEF and Save the Children.

We are working with UNHCR on our Children at Risk Resettlement Scheme to resettle vulnerable children, both unaccompanied and with their family members from the Middle East and North Africa region. We have committed to resettling several hundred individuals in the first year.

Information on the number of unaccompanied children granted under refugee family reunion provisions in the Immigration Rules is not captured in our data and would require a manual review. This information cannot therefore be provided without exceeding proportionate costs.

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-07-06/HL1021/>

### Refugees: Children

**Lord Hylton** [HL1102] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many unaccompanied child refugees have so far been officially identified in Europe, aside from the UK, and how many of those have reached the UK.

**Reply from Lord Ahmad:** The Government is firmly committed to bringing vulnerable unaccompanied refugee children from Europe to the UK, as underpinned by the Immigration Act 2016. Over 20 children who meet the criteria in the Immigration Act have been accepted for transfer from Europe since Royal Assent, the majority of whom have already arrived in the UK.

We are in active discussions with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, UNICEF and Non-Governmental Organisations in addition to the Italian, Greek and French governments to strengthen and speed up mechanisms to identify, assess and transfer children who meet the criteria to the UK where this is in their best interests.

As is required by the Immigration Act 2016, we are consulting with local authorities to confirm available capacity and to ensure appropriate support systems are in place.

We cannot put a fixed number on arrivals at this point. The legislation is clear that consultation with local authorities is needed before any figure is set. It is vital that their capacity and ability to help is taken into account. We must also ensure that we are able to continue to fulfil our obligations to children who are already in the UK.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-07-11/HL1102/>

### Refugees: Education

**Lord Storey** [HL1029] To ask Her Majesty's Government what policies are in place to ensure that refugees face no barriers to assimilation within the education system.

**Reply from Lord Nash:** The government is wholly committed to ensuring that refugees who are resettled in the UK receive appropriate support and have a positive experience while they remain in the UK. Children with refugee or humanitarian protection status have access to the education system in the same way as citizen children.

A key factor in the successful integration of children from overseas into UK schools is their access to English language provision. Local authorities can include an 'English as an additional language' (EAL) factor in their funding formulae. Funding allocated through this factor forms part of the school's core budget and it is for school leaders to determine how best to use their whole budget so that all children can reach their full potential.

Schools will need to demonstrate to Ofsted that any special educational needs of refugee children, as with all other children, are addressed satisfactorily.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-07-06/HL1029/>

### Asylum: Education

**Lord Storey** [HL1030] To ask Her Majesty's Government what policies are in place to ensure that newly arrived asylum seekers placed in Home Office initial accommodation have immediate access to the education system.

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** The issue of education provision for



## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

children seeking asylum is an important one and the Home Office makes every effort to ensure that families with children who claim asylum support have access to education at the earliest opportunity.

To enable access to education, internal checks are in place to triage applications involving children of school age for priority dispersal from initial accommodation facilities into permanent accommodation.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-07-06/HL1030/>

### Refugees: Syria

**Jim Cunningham** [41728] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the potential effect of the UK leaving the EU on funding of the Syrian Vulnerable

**Reply from Richard Harrington:** As the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement scheme is not funded by the EU we do not anticipate any impact. The first 12 months of a refugee's resettlement costs are fully funded by central government using the overseas aid budget. At the Spending Review, the Chancellor announced an estimated £460 million over the spending review period to cover the first 12 months' costs under the scheme. The costs which can be covered from the aid budget include, for example, any education, housing, medical or social care the refugees might need immediately on arrival.

At the Spending Review the Government committed £129 million to assist with local authority costs over years 2-5 of the scheme. This will be allocated on a tariff basis over four years, tapering from £5,000 per person in their second year in the UK, to £1,000 per person in year five.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-04/41728/>

### Syrian Refugees

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to fulfil their pledge to accept 20,000 refugees from Syria into the United Kingdom by 2020.

**Reply from the Advocate-General for Scotland (Lord Keen of Elie):** My Lords, the Syrian vulnerable persons resettlement scheme is on track to deliver the Government's commitment. The most recent statistics published on 26 May 2016 show that a total of 1,854 people have been resettled in the United Kingdom under the scheme since it began in March 2014.

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno:** My Lords, I thank the Minister for his disappointing reply. In February, there were 1,194 people under the scheme. The number has risen by only 700. To reach the number of 20,000 by 2020 means that we will have to take 4,000 a year, not 700. How on earth will the Government keep their promise when they are unable even at the beginning to fulfil their pledge?

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** It is important that we understand the facts. The scheme began in March 2014, when it was decided that a number of hundreds of vulnerable Syrians would be resettled here. It was on 1 September 2015 that the Prime Minister determined to increase the number to 20,000, and it is since that date that the numbers have been increasing. As I said, it is anticipated that within the life of this Parliament, which will be until 2020, we will resettle 20,000.

**Lord Wright of Richmond:** My Lords, does the Minister agree that, in addition to the need for generosity towards Syrian refugees, it is important that we and our existing European partners use our diplomatic strength to help the Syrians and others to reach a solution to this dreadful civil war in the hope that some refugees will start to return to their

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

beloved country?

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** I entirely concur with the observations of the noble Lord. Of course, we are not only making efforts to bring vulnerable refugees into Europe and into the United Kingdom but also expending vast sums—£2.3 billion—to assist those refugees who are determined to remain in the vicinity of their homeland in Syria. We continue with these efforts.

**Baroness Berridge:** My Lords, since the introduction of this scheme, the Chilcot report, which your Lordships' House will debate this afternoon, has left considerable unease about how we are ever going to reconcile ourselves to the effects of our actions. So will the Minister ask the Prime Minister, in the light of the attitude that has been created to some extent with regard to refugees, whether she would use her first day in office to extend the Syrian vulnerable persons resettlement scheme to include a few thousand Iraqis who are currently ineligible merely because they hold the wrong passport, but who have suffered the same injustice as the Syrians at the hands of Daesh?

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** Of course, the observations of the noble Baroness will be noted by the present Prime Minister—and, no doubt, by the future Prime Minister—but I cannot give a further commitment at this time.

**Lord Newby:** My Lords, the report said that there had been 1,700 people coming into the scheme in 10 months. By my calculation, that means that at current rates of progress, by the end of the five-year period, 10,200 will have been given admittance to the UK. In the light of that arithmetic, can the Minister explain what he means when he says that the programme is on track?

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** Of course, because it is necessary to distinguish between simple arithmetic and administration and policy. We are working with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to ensure that appropriate numbers are brought in. The numbers vary from quarter to quarter, depending on those who are determined by the commissioner to be available for resettlement. The numbers vary.

**Lord Alton of Liverpool:** My Lords, at a meeting in your Lordships' House this morning with the Red Cross and UNICEF we were told that the figure of 10,000 unaccompanied minors who had disappeared in Europe is an underestimate. We were told that there is no system, that it is hit and miss and that many are still falling through the cracks. Will the Minister tell the House how many unaccompanied minors have so far arrived in the United Kingdom under the terms of the Dubs amendment, which was approved by the House of Commons and has now been enacted?

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** At the present time, we are still in negotiations with the Commissioner for Refugees and local authorities in this country to determine the transfer of these children. It is anticipated that the first transfers will take place before the end of the year.

**Lord Rosser:** Why are the negotiations on unaccompanied child refugees taking as long as they are? I ask that because the *Observer* said, on Sunday, that not a single unaccompanied child refugee has been brought into the UK from continental Europe, or even identified by the British Government, since Mr Cameron promised two months ago that vulnerable minors would be offered sanctuary. The same article said that the Government are struggling to encourage local councils to accept more child refugees. Although they have increased the money they are offering to support child refugees, the funding is guaranteed for only a year. Is that true?

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** On the question of funding, the Government provide funding for the first year directly and fund indirectly thereafter. On the question of bringing children here, it is not the case that we can go out to Europe and kidnap the children. We have to negotiate with the authorities there, with the Commissioner for Refugees and with the local authorities in this country to ensure

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

a sensible and civilised transfer of these children.

**Baroness Goldie:** My Lords, Scotland has been able to accept, I am very proud to say, over a third of the Syrian refugees rehomed here under the resettlement scheme. That has been working very well in Scotland—apart, perhaps, from the need to become familiar with the Scottish midge. But does the Minister agree that this scheme may proceed in a more fruitful manner if there is continued discussion with the devolved legislators? Certainly, in the case of Scotland, I understand that there is a willingness to try to accommodate more of our share of the Syrian refugees, and this could act as a catalyst to help the scheme to work more productively.

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** My noble friend is quite right: some 38% of resettled Syrian refugees have been resettled in Scotland. We are, however, dealing with 71 local authorities which have so far taken resettled refugees and we continue in discussions with all local authorities, in all areas of the United Kingdom, to ensure a sensible and equitable spread of these refugees throughout the country. I have no doubt that if matters can be advanced by discussions with the devolved Administrations, those discussions will take place in addition to the discussions with local authorities.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-07-12/debates/16071260000379/SyrianRefugees>

### Asylum: France

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno** [HL904] To ask Her Majesty's Government what legal resources are being provided to refugees in the camps in Calais and Dunkirk to make asylum applications to the UK.

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** The provision of legal resources in France is a matter for the French Government.

Asylum seekers cannot claim asylum in the UK if they are in France. If a person requires international protection they should claim asylum in France, which is bound by the same EU and international obligations as the UK.

If after claiming asylum in France it is established that the UK is the state responsible for examining their claim on the basis of the Dublin regulation, including under its family unity provisions, a take charge request may be submitted to the Home Office.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-30/HL904/>

### Immigrants: Detainees

**Paul Blomfield** [41903] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what contractual obligations on the handling of potential victims and victims of human trafficking are placed on her Department's contractors operating Immigration Removal Centres.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** There is a general duty of care on contractors to highlight to the Home Office any concerns they have about the welfare of detainees, but there are no specific contractual obligations for service providers operating immigration removal centres (IRCs) to report or manage individuals as potential victims or victims of trafficking.

The decision to refer a person as a potential victim of trafficking or slavery into the National Referral Mechanism (NRM), which identifies and supports potential victims, is made by a First Responder. Home Office staff working in IRCs can act as First Responders. Potential victims and Serco staff or any other contractor working in an IRC are not defined as First Responders but they may highlight a trafficking/slavery claim to Home Office staff who will then determine what action

## Immigration and Asylum UK Parliament Questions (continued)

needs to be taken.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-05/41903/>

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

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Deidre Brock** [42243] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether it is her Department's policy that women detained at Yarl's Wood are handcuffed when attending hospital.

**Deidre Brock** [42244] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many incidents there have been of women detained at Yarl's Wood being handcuffed while attending hospital.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** Home Office policy remains that there should be a presumption against using handcuffs to escort detainees for medical visits. The decision to use handcuffs is made on the basis of an individual risk assessment, and we monitor the use of restraint by custody officers closely to ensure that the use of restraint is reasonable, necessary and proportionate. Management information shows that from May 2015 to May 2016 there have been 31 incidents when a woman has been handcuffed when attending hospital from Yarl's Wood immigration removal centre.

Month	Incidents of handcuff use
May-15	0
Jun-15	0
Jul-15	0
Aug-15	0
Sep-15	1
Oct-15	6
Nov-15	6
Dec-15	4
Jan-16	5
Feb-16	5
Mar-16	1
Apr-16	3
May-16	0

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/2016-07-08/42243/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-08/42244/>

## Immigration and Asylum (continued)

### UK Parliament Early Day Motions

**Alex Salmond (311) Status of EU citizens in the UK** – That this House demands from the incoming Prime Minister urgent and clear assurances to be given to protect the status of citizens of other EU countries who are contributing massively to the UK and require commitments as to their future.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2016-17/311>

**Thangam Debbonaire (308) Treatment of non-UK citizens and refugees and EU referendum** – That this House notes with deep concern that the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) noted a five-fold increase in the number of hate crimes reported in the week following the EU referendum; further notes that the head of the NPCC has said that reported attacks include verbal abuse, attacks on social media, anti-migrant leafleting and physical assaults; believes that such attacks are completely unacceptable; calls on hon. Members from both sides of the referendum campaign and from all political parties and none to condemn such behaviour in the strongest possible terms; further believes that whatever the future of the UK may hold it must include upholding British values of a compassionate, tolerant and inclusive society; believes that the next Prime Minister must make it clear at the earliest opportunity that the UK will continue to welcome those who come to live in the UK, including those fleeing persecution, human rights violations, conflict, violence and hardship around the world; and believes that the next Prime Minister must attend the summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants in the UN General Assembly on 19 September 2016 and the Leaders' Summit on Refugees to be hosted by President Obama on 20 September 2016 and commit to making a new and significant contribution to providing safe and legal routes for refugees.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2016-17/308>

## Press Releases

**The status of EU nationals in the UK**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/statement-the-status-of-eu-nationals-in-the-uk>

**Human trafficking: "Few victims go to court because we don't protect them enough"**

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/20160707STO36368/Human-trafficking-Few-victims-go-to-court-as-we-don't-protect-them-enough>

**Completing the reform of the Common European Asylum System: towards an efficient, fair and humane asylum policy**

[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-16-2433\\_en.htm?locale=en](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-2433_en.htm?locale=en)

## New Publications

**What does Brexit means for EU migrants and their family members?**

[https://www.jcwi.org.uk/sites/default/files/2016\\_07\\_12\\_INT%20FACTSHEET%20What%20does%20Brexit%20mean%20for%20EU%20migrants.pdf](https://www.jcwi.org.uk/sites/default/files/2016_07_12_INT%20FACTSHEET%20What%20does%20Brexit%20mean%20for%20EU%20migrants.pdf)

**Supreme Court decision about the legality of attempts by the Lord Chancellor to introduce a residence test for civil legal aid by amending the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012**

<https://www.supremecourt.uk/cases/docs/uksc-2015-0255-press-summary.pdf>

## Immigration and Asylum (continued) News

### **SNP 'scaremongering' over post-Brexit letter to EU nationals**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/snp-scaremongering-over-post-brexit-letter-to-eu-nationals-1-4176986>

### **SNP letters 'scaring' EU nationals**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/snp-letters-scaring-eu-nationals-87mlnz0hm>

### **Big profit for criticised asylum housing firm**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-07-13/scotland/big-profit-for-criticised-asylum-housing-firm-d8hltmwnj>

### **Limited protection for foreign migrant workers**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/law/limited-protection-for-foreign-migrant-workers-rh5h6r00k>

### **Net migration fuels increase in households**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-07-13/news/net-migration-fuels-increase-in-households-7lbvr2nwj>

### **More than 20 refugees rehoused after 'vile' and 'hateful' protest by locals in Sidcup**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/refugee-crisis-asylum-evictions-sidcup-vile-hateful-protest-against-asylum-seekers-a7135291.html>

### **Refugee family ask to return to Syria within hours of being housed in Stoke after neighbours' comments**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/refugee-family-ask-return-syria-8414562#qseAOOPMd0ThclbR.97>

### **Syrian refugees move out of home on 'BNP estate'**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-07-13/news/syrian-refugees-move-out-of-home-on-bnp-estate-fj6r9xwfj>

### **Norwich residents cover Romanian shop window in supportive notes after it was smashed by 'racist' vandals**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/norwich-romanian-shop-window-racist-vandals-brexit-eu-referendum-arson-a7134676.html>

### **Deportation family accuse Home Office of 'breach of trust'**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-36774451>

### **Brain family attack Home Office as they tell MPs of deportation fight**

[http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/14614513.Brain\\_family\\_attack\\_Home\\_Office\\_as\\_they\\_tell\\_MPs\\_of\\_deportation\\_fight/](http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/14614513.Brain_family_attack_Home_Office_as_they_tell_MPs_of_deportation_fight/)

### **Family faced with deportation appeal to MPs**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-07-13/scotland/family-faced-with-deportation-appeal-to-mps-fcqrbnwwt>

### **Migration and high birth rates put pressure on school places as 750,000 extra needed in next decade**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2016/07/15/migration-and-high-birth-rates-put-pressure-on-school-places-as/>

## Immigration and Asylum

### News (continued)

#### Thousands of child migrants travelling alone to win asylum

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/world/thousands-of-child-migrants-travelling-alone-to-win-asylum-05qnnwlfq>

#### 'London isn't just one people': the international families at home in the capital

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/jul/15/london-one-world-in-one-city-all-nationalities-in-photographs-magnum>

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## Equality

### UK Parliament Question

#### Travellers: Health

**Grant Shapps** [42164] To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps his Department has taken under the National Roma Integration Strategy to enhance the health integration of Gypsy Traveller Roma people.

**Reply from Jane Ellison:** We have taken steps to improve the health of Gypsies, Travellers and Roma people as part of our broader social inclusion policies. The inclusion health programme sought to identify and promote good practice across the National Health Service and elsewhere. It has included: developing practical guidance on the commissioning of more inclusive services to help ensure the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups are taken into account in shaping local plans and priorities; working with primary health care professionals and others to improve access to services for these groups; and supporting the education and training of health professionals to enable them to work more effectively with these groups. This work is being carried forward across the health system.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-07/42164/>

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## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### UK Parliament Debate

#### Caste-based Discrimination

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-07-11/debates/16071120000176/Caste-BasedDiscrimination>

### UK Parliament Questions

#### Hate Crime

**Baroness Boothroyd:** To ask Her Majesty's Government what action they propose to take to deal with the recent increase in hate crimes and community tensions reported by the National Police Chiefs Council.

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for**

## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

**Transport and Home Office (Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon):** My Lords, we have one of the strongest legislative frameworks in the world to tackle hate crime. We are also working across government and with the police, the Crown Prosecution Service and, importantly, community partners to provide reassurance and to send out a very clear message to anyone: hate crime will not be tolerated and that we will take action against those who promote hatred.

**Baroness Boothroyd:** My Lords, this year is the 50th anniversary of the Race Relations Act and the Government are still talking about action plans to tackle what that Act failed to do then, and what we are still failing to do now. Will the Government's proposed action plan curtail the widespread use of the internet to spread racial abuse and discord? Is the Minister aware that the current training for police officers has been judged to bear little resemblance to working on the front line? May I pass to the Minister evidence I have of a race-hate statement on the internet, coming from a named person in a named town in Lancashire? When my informant passed all the information to the Lancashire Constabulary, it said it could not deal with it until it had been reported to the Metropolitan Police. Presumably, the Met would then pass it back to Lancashire. Will the Government stamp out this bureaucratic and buck-passing behaviour by the police, when the crisis calls for resolute action?

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** On the final point, if the noble Baroness shares that evidence with me, we will of course follow it up. As I have already indicated, the hate crime action plan is imminent; it has cross-government approval and will be looking to tackle some of the very issues the noble Baroness has highlighted. I would also highlight a few of the steps the Government have already taken. From this Dispatch Box I have previously spoken about both race and religious hate crime, which we have seen increase over recent years. From 1 April this year, for example, every police force across the country is now required to record race and religious hate crime for what it is, by category. The important thing, which I know as someone who has been subjected to this crime both on the internet and elsewhere, is that we communicate. We need to have the confidence of communities, so that they know they can report hate crime. As the noble Baroness has highlighted, the most important area is follow-up action.

**Lord Watts:** My Lords, why does the Minister believe there has been a recent increase in these crimes? Is it anything to do with the recent referendum, or is it for some other reason? What will the Government do now to address the problems that have been created over the last few months?

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** The noble Lord raises an important point. We have seen even in recent history that, regrettably, there were some who used the referendum result to invoke and incite hatred against different communities. I myself visited the Polish centre in west London. Thankfully, these remain sporadic attacks. We have also seen a rise in attacks on particular communities; particular BME communities have been targeted. Recently I met religious faith leaders as well. We talked about reassurance and the importance of reporting religious hate crime, race hate crime or any kind of hate crime, and then following it up practically. This is an evolving area. It is unfortunate that there are many in society who suffer this from the few who seek to make an issue of race, religion or any other issue. We need to stamp it out and send a clear message in that respect.

**Lord Ouseley:** My Lords, it is easy enough to focus on the statistics that clearly show that race and other hate crimes have been on the increase over the past few years. What we are not focusing on is the increase in prejudice and the way we have been feeding it in recent years and even before that. If you analyse all the national newspaper coverage of political statements that are made almost every day, you will see what we have been



## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

feeding young people daily: a diet of xenophobic and anti-immigrant sentiments, which has created not only the responses we see on social media but what is happening on our streets. What are we doing to educate current and future generations so that we can create cohesive and peaceful communities? What encouragement will be given to politicians and leading influential figures in our society to stop using their cleverness to conceal the xenophobic and other nasty messages that are part of what they are saying?

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** The noble Lord speaks from experience and I appreciate his expertise in this area. We have talked of education before, and it is important that that forms a central, core part of what we teach in our schools and colleges. At the same time, we need to recognise that co-operation between communities needs to be heightened. Finally—this applies not just to this subject—we still have to exert positive optimism about our country. We remain one of the most successful, multicultural, multifaith societies, in which people are proud of their identity, regardless of cultural, community or religious background. We must all stand up—politicians, the press, and anyone involved with this—to ensure that wherever we find xenophobic hate, we stamp it out.

**Baroness Hussein-Ece:** My Lords, I concur absolutely with the noble Lord's final statement; nevertheless, we have seen a 500% increase in reported hate and race crime, and many more incidents are not reported. What is being done, for example, in schools where people from Eastern European, Muslim and Jewish backgrounds are being targeted? What support is being given to schools to make sure that this is reported and dealt with, so that schools get the support they need to tackle this terrible iniquity in our society?

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** The noble Baroness is right to raise the issue of reported hate crime, and we have all seen such incidents reported since the EU referendum. Thankfully, over the last week or two there has been a slight decrease compared to the initial response, but even so, she raises an important point. We are working with schools in partnership, and most recently we are exploring ways in which the police can base themselves in community centres to build reassurance that such crimes should be reported. The police are working hand in hand with schools and local communities to ensure that all hate crime is reported.

**Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean:** My Lords, much of what has happened in schools is of course not hate crime, because the children involved are under the age of criminal responsibility. A number of anecdotes have been relayed to me, largely from members of my family who are teachers, about increases in racial abuse among very young schoolchildren. Are the Government keeping a record so that we know statistically whether there has been an increase in racial abuse among children who are still of junior school age?

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** I will need to follow up that specific point with colleagues in the Department for Education, but I agree with the noble Baroness. I have three children of my own, and I know of the kinds of comments that are sometimes made. Children are far too innocent to know that comments are being made which may not be race hate crime—she is quite right on that—but which have undertones of racism or religious prejudice. On training and education, it is important that we consider not just the children, but that teachers are also well-equipped to deal with such issues in schools.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2016-07-14/debates/16071437000286/HateCrime>

### Racial Hatred

**Lord Pendry [HL970]** To ask Her Majesty's Government, in the light of report by the National Police Chiefs' Council suggesting a 57 per cent increase in hate crimes in the

## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

UK since the referendum on UK membership of the EU, what steps they intend to take to tackle intolerance and racially motivated crime.

**Reply from Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon:** We are concerned by the increase in reported hate crime in recent days. We are working alongside communities and police to and monitor the situation and encourage people who may be subject to racist or religious abuse of any kind to report it to the police.

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.

We will shortly be publishing a new Hate Crime Action Plan, covering all forms of hate crime, including xenophobic attacks. The plan has been developed in partnership with communities and departments across Government.

We want to ensure victims of hate crime are supported and in December 2013, we brought into force a new Code of Practice for Victims of Crime which includes an enhanced level of service for victims of the most serious crime, including victims of hate crime.

We will continue to work across Government, the criminal justice system and with community partners to provide support for victims and put a stop to hate crime in all its forms.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-07-04/HL970/>

#### Racial Harassment

**Vernon Coaker** [42266] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what guidance the Government has issued to local police forces in response to the recent increase in reported racist incidents.

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** We have been working with the police at national level to monitor the increase in reported hate crime over the past few weeks and to ensure that local forces have the necessary guidance and assistance to respond. Operational guidance on hate crime was issued by the College of Policing to all forces in 2014.

Police forces are responding robustly to recent incidents, and victims can be reassured that their concerns about hate crime will be taken seriously by the police and courts. Any decisions regarding resourcing of front-line policing are a matter for chief constables in conjunction with their police and crime commissioner.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-08/42266/>

#### Hate Crime: Prosecutions

**Vernon Coaker** [42267] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, under what legislation prosecutions are brought against perpetrators of hate crime and racist abuse.

**Reply from Mike Penning:** Hate crimes are criminal behaviour and may be prosecuted in England and Wales using the full range of criminal offences.

Sections 29 to 32 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 set out racially and religiously aggravated offences covering wounding, assault, damage, harassment (including stalking) and threatening/abusive behaviour which carry higher sentences than equivalent non-aggravated offences. Sections 18 to 23 of the Public Order Act 1986 contain offences of stirring up racial hatred and sections

## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### UK Parliament Questions (continued)

29B to 29G contain offences of stirring up hatred on grounds of religion or sexual orientation. There is also an offence of racist chanting at football matches in section 3 of the Football Offences Act 1991.

Sections 145 and 146 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 make it an aggravating factor for the purposes of sentencing if at the time of committing the offence, or immediately before, the offender demonstrated hostility towards the victim on the basis of their race, religion, disability, sexual orientation or transgender identity or that the offence was motivated by hostility towards persons who had that characteristic. Under paragraph 5(2)(g) of Schedule 21 to the 2003 Act., murder motivated by hostility on the grounds of any of these characteristics attracts a life sentence with a 30 year starting point for the minimum term.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-08/42267/>

## Press Releases

### Commission calls for a full-scale review of Britain's hate crime strategy

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/news/commission-calls-full-scale-review-britain%E2%80%99s-hate-crime-strategy>

### More hate crimes prosecuted by the Crown Prosecution Service than ever before

[http://www.cps.gov.uk/news/latest\\_news/more\\_hate\\_crimes\\_prosecuted\\_by\\_the\\_crown\\_prosecution\\_service\\_than\\_ever\\_before/](http://www.cps.gov.uk/news/latest_news/more_hate_crimes_prosecuted_by_the_crown_prosecution_service_than_ever_before/)

### A company policy requiring an employee to remove her Islamic headscarf when in contact with clients constitutes unlawful direct discrimination

<http://curia.europa.eu/jcms/upload/docs/application/pdf/2016-07/cp160074en.pdf>

## New Publications

### What to do if you're worried about racism

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/what-to-do-if-youre-worried-about-racism-eu-referendum-factsheet.pdf>

### Equality and Human Rights Commission letter to employers

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/david-isaac-hate-crime-letter-to-employers-13-july-2016.pdf>

### Hate Crime Report 2014/2015 and 2015/2016 (England and Wales)

[http://www.cps.gov.uk/publications/docs/cps\\_hate\\_crime\\_report\\_2016.pdf](http://www.cps.gov.uk/publications/docs/cps_hate_crime_report_2016.pdf)

### Infographic: Recognising hate crime

[http://www.cps.gov.uk/publications/docs/hate\\_crime\\_infographic.pdf](http://www.cps.gov.uk/publications/docs/hate_crime_infographic.pdf)

## News

### Sharp rise in hate crime since Brexit vote

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2016-07-11/news/sharp-rise-in-hate-crime-since-vote-2zdxxn9r6>

## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### News (continued)

**So, where are you from?**

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/brexit-so-where-are-you-from-jdksqs2s8>

**A boy of three is quizzed by police for racism as number of children accused of hate crimes soars**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3694123/A-boy-THREE-investigated-hate-crime-numbers-children-accused-racial-abuse-soars.html>

**Ice cream van man's racist tirade against Edinburgh professor**

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/ice-cream-van-man-s-racist-tirade-against-edinburgh-professor-1-4179492>

**Senior EU lawyer backs French woman sacked for wearing hijab**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jul/13/european-court-backs-french-women-sacked-hijab-asma-bouagnaoui>

**EU set for U-turn over whether firms can legally ban Muslim headscarves after senior legal officer rules it IS discriminatory**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3688183/EU-set-U-turn-firms-legally-ban-Muslim-headscarves-senior-legal-officer-rules-discriminatory.html>

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## Other Scottish Parliament and Government

### Parliamentary Motions

**S5M-00778 Annie Wells: Congratulations to Theresa May** – That the Parliament congratulates Theresa May on her appointment as Prime Minister; notes what it sees as the significance of this for women's equality in the UK and further afield, and believes that it further acknowledges the role women are playing throughout the world with three of Scotland's main party political leaders being female, as well as Northern Ireland's First Minister, Arlene Foster, and Germany's Chancellor, Angela Merkel.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-00778&ResultsPerPage=10>

**S5M-00773 John Lamont: Tribute to David Cameron** – That the Parliament pays tribute to the outgoing Prime Minister, David Cameron; notes that he leaves Scotland with 143,000 more people in work, a Scottish Parliament that is now one of the most powerful devolved parliaments in the world, the two biggest warships ever built in the UK's history built in Scotland and massive investment in renewables and city deals for Aberdeen, Inverness and Edinburgh; believes that, putting political differences aside, it is right to commend David Cameron for years of dedicated public service, and wishes him and his family well for the future.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-00773&ResultsPerPage=10>

## Other Scottish Parliament and Government (continued) Press Releases

### First Minister meets the Prime Minister

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/First-Minister-meets-the-Prime-Minister-2706.aspx>

### Transfer of new powers

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/News/Transfer-of-new-powers-26e4.aspx>

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## Other UK Parliament and Government

### Home Affairs Committee

#### Roundtable Discussion on Female Genital Mutilation

<http://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/home-affairs/160706%20FGM%20Roundtable%20Transcript.pdf>

#### Evidence from Karen Bradley MP, Minister for Preventing Abuse, Exploitation and Crime

<http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/home-affairs-committee/female-genital-mutilation/oral/35054.pdf>

### Parliamentary Questions

#### Female Genital Mutilation

**Thangam Debbonaire** [42562] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the modal age is of girls experiencing female genital mutilation; whether and how this modal age has changed over the last 15 years; and if she will make a statement.

**Reply from Karen Bradley:** 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.

As set out in the new statutory multi-agency FGM guidance, FGM is usually carried out between infancy and the age of 15, however the age at which it is carried out varies enormously according to the community.

We will not stop FGM until we have changed attitudes within communities. We are working closely with community organisations, faith groups and survivors through the FGM Unit which is carrying out an ongoing programme of outreach with local community groups and professionals across England and Wales.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-07-12/42562/>

### Press Releases

#### Statement from the new Prime Minister Theresa May

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/statement-from-the-new-prime-minister-theresa-may>

#### David Cameron's departing words as Prime Minister

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/david-camerons-departing-words-as-prime-minister>

## Other UK Parliament and Government Press Releases (continued)

**Prime Minister to visit Scotland and underline commitment to "preserving this special union"**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-to-visit-scotland-and-underline-commitment-to-preserving-this-special-union>

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## New Publication

**Guidance for Social Enterprises thinking about becoming a charity**

[http://www.oscr.org.uk/media/2306/v10\\_social-enterprise-fags\\_web-copy\\_pdf.pdf](http://www.oscr.org.uk/media/2306/v10_social-enterprise-fags_web-copy_pdf.pdf)

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## Other News

**FGM: 'More community funding needed' to maintain progress**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/health-36749725>

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## Bills in Progress

\*\* new or updated this week

### **Bills in Progress UK Parliament**

**Ethnicity Pay Gap Bill**

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

**\*\* EU Citizens Resident in the United Kingdom (Right to Stay)**

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

First Reading, House of Commons

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2016-07-12/debates/16071252000002/EUCitizensResidentInTheUnitedKingdom\(RightToStay\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2016-07-12/debates/16071252000002/EUCitizensResidentInTheUnitedKingdom(RightToStay))

**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/studentssupportnoninterestbearingfinance.html>

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## Consultations

\*\* new or updated this week

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

**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](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>

**\*\* Scotland's place in Europe** (closing date not listed, but responses received by 31 August will inform the Committee's work in October)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/scottish-affairs-committee/inquiries/parliament-2015/scotland-place-europe-16-17/>

**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](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](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BME_suicide_NorthEastGlasgow)

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## Job Opportunities

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

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## Funding Opportunities

\*\* new or updated this week

### **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>.

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>.

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

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## Events/Conferences/Training

\*\* new or updated this week

**\*\* next week!**

### **Welcoming and Working with Syrian Families**

26 July 2016 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to explore the issues facing Syrian refugees as they move from countries around Syria to the UK, and highlights the challenges and opportunities for them as they build a new life here in Scotland. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/zwuucfa> or contact Martha Harding [train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) / 0141 223 7982

**\*\* next week!**

### **Working with Interpreters**

27 July 2016 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to build confidence, knowledge and skills to work effectively with spoken language interpreters. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/jt93fog> or contact Martha Harding [train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) / 0141 223 7982



## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### 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/>

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## Useful Links

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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



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

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