

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

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

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Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Written Answers

Migration Advisory Committee

S5W-10648 Linda Fabiani (SNP): To ask the Scottish Government what representation (a) it, (b) its agencies and (c) other Scottish bodies have on the Migration Advisory Committee.

Reply from Alasdair Allan): The Scottish Government, our agencies and other Scottish bodies are not represented on the Migration Advisory Committee.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-10648>

Migration Advisory Committee

S5W-10649 Linda Fabiani (SNP): To ask the Scottish Government whether the UK Government has asked it to provide input to the Home Office regarding that department's representation on the Migration Advisory Committee.

Reply from Alasdair Allan: The UK Government has not asked the Scottish Government to provide input to the Home Office regarding Home Office representation on the Migration Advisory Committee.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-10649>

Migration Advisory Committee

S5W-10651 Linda Fabiani (SNP): To ask the Scottish Government what consultation the UK Government had with it or its agencies prior to commissioning the Migration Advisory Committee to carry out an investigation into EU and EEA migration.

Reply from Alasdair Allan: The Scottish Government was not consulted prior to the UK Government commissioning the Migration Advisory Committee to carry out an investigation into EU and EEA migration.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-10651>

Migration Advisory Committee

S5W-10652 Linda Fabiani (SNP): To ask the Scottish Government what consultation the UK Government had with it or its agencies regarding the remit of the Migration Advisory Committee to investigate EU and EEA migration.

Reply from Alasdair Allan: The Scottish Government was not consulted by the UK Government regarding the Migration Advisory Committee's remit to investigate EU and EEA migration.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-10652>

Migration: Brexit

S5W-10653 Linda Fabiani (SNP): To ask the Scottish Government what discussions it has had with the UK Government about migration as part of the Brexit negotiations.

Reply from Michael Russell: The Scottish Government believes that ending free movement of people will have a negative impact on individuals, families and our wider economy and society as a whole.

We have made our position clear during meetings with Home Office and Department for Exiting the European Union counterparts, at both official and Ministerial level. However, we have had no direct and representative role within the UK's negotiation with the EU, despite a written agreement to involve us through meetings of the JMC(EN). Our exclusion from any meaningful influence over the UK negotiating position is unacceptable and I am continuing to press the UK Government to agree a more inclusive approach.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-10653>

EU citizens in the Scottish labour market

S5O-01213 Willie Coffey (SNP): To ask the Scottish Government how many EU citizens work in the Scottish labour market.

Reply from Keith Brown: It is estimated from the National Statistics Source, the Annual Population Survey for January to December 2016, that there are 128,000 EU nationals in employment in Scotland.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5O-01213>

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-07449 Gillian Martin (SNP): Migrants' Rights Network's Concerns Regarding

Details Passed to Immigration Enforcement Hotline – That the Parliament notes reports that the Migrants' Rights Network has expressed concerns that MPs may have passed details of constituents who sought their help to a Home Office hotline for immigration enforcement; understands that the Home Office has confirmed that it received 482 tip-offs from MPs regarding immigration enforcement between 2014 and 2016; acknowledges concerns raised by the Migrants' Rights Network that some MPs may be reporting on their constituents who have sought assistance, and condemns any MP who breaches the trust and confidence of their constituents.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-07449>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

Prime Minister's Questions

Ian Blackford (SNP): Last October, the Prime Minister was forced into a humiliating U-turn on proposals to force companies to disclose how many foreign workers they employed. During the summer, 100 EU nationals resident in the UK received deportation notices in error, which caused alarm to them and many others. We need to cherish those who are here, not chase them away. She must stop dancing to the tune of her right-wing Back Benchers and apologise for the disgraceful treatment her Government have shown migrants in the UK. In the first instance, will she pledge that international students will no longer be included in the net migration figures?

Reply from the Prime Minister: In relation to the error made by the Home Office, every single one of those individuals was telephoned with an apology. It should not have happened in the first place, but the Government did telephone with apologies. As I explained in my first answer to the right hon. Gentleman, however, there is a reason for wanting to control migration. It is because of the impact that net migration can have on people, on access to services and on infrastructure, but crucially also because it often hits those at the lower end of the income scale hardest. I suggest he think about that impact, rather than just standing up here and saying what he has. It is important that we bring in controls, but we want to continue to welcome the brightest and the best here to the UK, and we will continue to do so.

<http://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-09-06/debates/7FC771C4-3D86-4591-A8CB-5FEE951FC7A2/Engagements#contribution-B19AA296-44F7-4188-B4B5-C74092314A56>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Immigration

Alex Sobel (Labour (Co-op)) [7882] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Supreme Court judgment of 22 February 2017 and her Department's subsequent pause on decision-making on certain settlement applications, (a) how many of those applications are waiting to be processed, (b) what the average amount of time taken to process each application is and (c) what the timetable is for coming to a decision on all of those applications.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: The temporary hold in place on applications with which the Supreme Court judgment was concerned was lifted on 10 August when changes to the Immigration Rules came into effect.

As of 30 June 2017, there were around 5000 such applications on hold which are now being decided in accordance with the new Immigration Rules. We are unable to estimate how long it will take to consider the paused applications as it will depend on the individual circumstances of each case.

More information regarding UK Visas and Immigration service standards can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration/about-our-services>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-09-04/7882/>

The Supreme Court judgment referred to above can be read at

<https://www.supremecourt.uk/cases/docs/uksc-2015-0011-judgment.pdf>

Immigration: Legal Aid Scheme

Kate Green (Labour) [6305] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many children under 18 (a) applied for and (b) were granted legal aid through the Exceptional Case Funding Scheme in immigration cases in 2016-17.

Reply from Philip Lee: Applications to the Exceptional Case Funding scheme for immigration matters, by age of applicant, April 2016 to March 2017

FY application received	Under 18	18-24	25 and over	Unknown	Total
Apr 2016 - Mar 2017	63	127	807	10	1,007

Applications to the Exceptional Case Funding scheme for immigration matters, which were granted¹, by age of applicant, April 2016 to March 2017

FY application received	Under 18	18-24	25 and over	Unknown	Total
Apr 2016 - Mar 2017	44	98	541	5	688

¹ Granted by 31 May 2017

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-19/6305/>

Immigration

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [6714] To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, pursuant to the Answer of 12 July 2017 to Question 3555, what period of absence from the UK will constitute a gap in continuous residence for the purpose of obtaining settled status.

Reply from Robin Walker: In line with the current requirements under the Free Movement Directive, a person may be absent for up to 6 months in a year, in order to continue to accrue the five years' continuous residence.

We are prepared to offer flexibility in respect of citizens with strong ties in the UK, for example, students who are studying abroad or workers on an overseas posting if the EU offers similar flexibility on this point.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-20/6714/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-06/3555/>

EU Immigration: Migrant Workers

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [6230] To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, with reference to paragraph 6 of his Department's policy paper Safeguarding the position of EU citizens in the UK and UK nationals in the EU, published on 26 June 2017, what rights will be accorded to frontier workers who work in the UK but live in another EU Member State.

Reply from Robin Walker: We want to reach a reciprocal agreement for EU citizens in the UK and UK nationals in the EU as quickly as possible. We have

now held positive and constructive discussions with the European Union on the issue of frontier workers.

We have agreed those qualifying as frontier workers at the day of exit will be included within the final Withdrawal Agreement, in order to protect their ability to continue to live their lives broadly as they do now. The UK will reflect further on what technical definition should be applied in order to categorise a frontier worker and both the UK and the EU will consider how this will work and be applied in practice.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-19/6230/>

Migrant Workers: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [6824] To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities, whether she has received evidence of an increase in discrimination against non-UK EU nationals seeking employment because of uncertainty on the future status of such nationals in the UK; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Nick Gibb: The United Kingdom has a proud record of promoting equality and some of the strongest laws in the world to prevent and tackle discrimination. We will continue to make sure that these rights are protected.

The Government Equalities Office (GEO) is aware of, and is looking into, the reports of discrimination against non-UK EU nationals seeking employment which the hon Member has recently forwarded to the Secretary of State for Exiting the EU. The GEO sponsors the Equality and Human Rights Commission, which has powers to enforce the Equality Act 2010 in cases where it suspects unlawful discrimination in employment may have occurred.

Anyone who believes that they have experienced unlawful discrimination when seeking employment or when receiving goods or services, should seek advice and support from the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service:

<http://www.acas.org.uk/index.aspx?articleid=1461>.

Additionally, they can also contact the Equality Advisory and Support Service:

<https://www.equalityadvisoryservice.com>.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-20/6824/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [6306] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 18 July 2017 to Question 4802, how (a) employers, (b) landlords, (c) banks and building societies, (d) the DVLA and (e) benefit agencies will be able to distinguish between EU citizens who arrived in the UK before the specified date and those who arrive after the specified date.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: The Government has set out its intention in its published document “Safeguarding the position of EU citizens living in the UK and UK nationals living in the EU” to issue residence documentation to EU nationals who will be granted indefinite leave to remain on the basis of their residence in the UK. The Government will set out its plans in due course for redesigning the immigration system to introduce controls on future migration to the UK by EU citizens, including any plans for adjusting statutory checks by employers, landlords and other service providers.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-19/6306/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-13/4802/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

The following two questions both received the same answer

Tulip Siddiq (Labour) [5693] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether EU nationals who paid £65 for a document to prove permanent residency status will have to pay a fee to apply for settled status.

Tulip Siddiq (Labour) [5694] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether those EU nationals who have successfully applied for a permanent residency document will need to apply for the new settled status to remain in the UK.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: As set out clearly in the Government's (Cm 9464) policy paper, free movement rights will come to an end after the UK leaves the EU and therefore cannot be carried forward, as an EU legal right, into the post-exit UK legal regime.

Therefore all EU citizens (and their families) in the UK, regardless of when they arrived, will need to obtain an immigration status in UK law. As set out in the policy paper, EU citizens will be given adequate time to obtain this documentation through a 'grace period' of up to two years.

While EU documentation certifying permanent residence will not be automatically replaced with a grant of settled status, we will seek to make the application process for settled status as streamlined as possible for those who already hold such documents. Fees and charges are being considered as part of the negotiations and in the Government's engagement with stakeholders, but our aim is to keep fees at a reasonable level.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-18/5693/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-18/5694/>

The policy paper referred to above can be read at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/621848/60093_Cm9464_NSS_SDR_Web.pdf

Immigration: EU Nationals

Tulip Siddiq (Labour) [6714] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether those EU nationals who have successfully applied for a permanent residency document will need to apply for the new settled status to remain in the UK.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: As set out clearly in the Government's (Cm 9464) policy paper, free movement rights will come to an end after the UK leaves the EU and therefore cannot be carried forward, as an EU legal right, into the post-exit UK legal regime.

Therefore all EU citizens (and their families) in the UK, regardless of when they arrived, will need to obtain an immigration status in UK law. As set out in the policy paper, EU citizens will be given adequate time to obtain this documentation through a 'grace period' of up to two years.

While EU documentation certifying permanent residence will not be automatically replaced with a grant of settled status, we will seek to make the application process for settled status as streamlined as possible for those who already hold such documents. Fees and charges are being considered as part of the negotiations and in the Government's engagement with stakeholders, but our aim is to keep fees at a reasonable level.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-18/5694/>

Housing: EU Nationals

Helen Hayes (Labour) [6830] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, whether he has received (a) representations or (b) reports on an increase

in discrimination against non-UK EU nationals in respect of access to housing on account of the lack of legal certainty as to the future status of EU citizens in the UK; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Alok Sharma: My Department has not received any representations or reports raising concerns about discriminations against EU nationals in respect of access to housing.

Our policy paper, “*Safeguarding the position of EU citizens in the UK and UK nationals living in the EU*” published on 26 June, sets out the UK’s fair and serious offer to protect the rights of EU citizens living in the UK. This includes access to social housing for EU nationals.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-20/6830/>

The policy paper referred to above can be read at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/621848/60093_Cm9464_NSS_SDR_Web.pdf

Refugees: Children

Tommy Sheppard (SNP) [8194] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the July 2017 report by Christine Beddoe on separated and unaccompanied minors in Europe, whether the Government plans to create safe travel routes for those minors with a family member in the UK.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: Safe travel routes from unaccompanied children from Europe to the UK are already in place. Our family reunion policy allows a spouse or partner and children under the age of 18 of those granted protection in the UK to join them here, if they formed part of the family unit before the sponsor fled their country.

In addition, the Dublin Regulation allows unaccompanied children who have claimed asylum in another Member State to be transferred here to have their asylum claim assessed if they have a qualifying family member legally present in the UK and transfer would be in their best interests. In order for the Dublin Regulation to apply, an unaccompanied child must first claim asylum in the Member State in which they are located and that Member State must issue a Take Charge Request to the UK. The UK is working closely with other Member States as well as intergovernmental organisations and NGOs to ensure the effective operation of the Dublin Regulation.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-09-04/8194/>

The report referred to above can be read at

<http://humantraffickingfoundation.org/sites/default/files/HTF%20Separated%20%26%20Unaccompanied%20Minors%20Report%20%5BHi-Res%5D.pdf>

Refugees: Children

Tommy Sheppard (SNP) [8195] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether officials are working with French authorities to ensure that unaccompanied child refugees in France have information about their legal rights and options.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: UK and French officials are working together to review the processes and procedures in place for the provision of information to children in northern France.

The primary responsibility for unaccompanied children in France lies with the French authorities. The UK cannot operate on the territory of another sovereign nation without a specific request to do so.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-09-04/8195/>

Refugees: Children

Jim Cunningham (Labour) [8417] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many councils have (a) ended their involvement in the voluntary national transfer scheme to take child refugees and (b) suspended involvement in the Dubs Scheme.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: The National Transfer Scheme was launched on 1 July 2016 and has been working to ensure a fairer allocation of unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) across the UK. A significant number of local authorities have participated in the scheme and enabled the transfer of children away from local authorities with a disproportionate number of UASC in their care. The Government welcomes all offers from local authorities with capacity to look after unaccompanied asylum seeking children. We will continue to engage with local authorities across the country to encourage further participation. The Government will also utilise all offers to fulfil all of our existing commitments including the transfer of children to the UK under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-09-04/8417/>

Asylum: EU Law

Catherine McKinnell (Labour) [8163] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if the UK will continue to apply the Dublin III Regulation when the UK leaves the EU.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: The UK's future co-operation with the EU on the area of asylum and migration will be a matter for the negotiations. The UK remains fully committed to co-operation with Member States of the EU on migration and asylum.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-09-04/8163/>

Asylum: Children

Paul Williams (Labour) [8318] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many children have been transferred to the UK under the Dublin III Regulation since January 2017; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: The Dublin Regulation allows unaccompanied children who have claimed asylum in another Member State to be transferred here to have their asylum claim assessed if they have a qualifying family member legally present in the UK and transfer would be in their best interests. In order for the Dublin Regulation to apply, an unaccompanied child must first claim asylum in the Member State in which they are located and that Member State must issue a Take Charge Request to the UK.

The Government has committed to publishing regular updates on the number of unaccompanied asylum seeking children transferred to the UK from Europe. This data will be published in the coming months.

Statistics on transfers under the Dublin Regulation are already available here:

http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Asylum_quarterly_report

Asylum statistics are published quarterly in the Home Office Immigration Statistics release, which can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-april-to-june-2017/how-many-people-do-we-grant-asylum-or-protection-to>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-09-04/8318/>

Asylum: Children

Paul Williams (Labour) [8317] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the number of children is who were transferred under the Dublin III Regulation in 2016 by nature of the relative they were reunited with.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: At present we do not publish data on cases covered by the Dublin Regulation. Eurostat, the EU's statistics agency, regularly publishes Member State figures, which can be found at:

http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Dublin_statistics_on_countries_responsible_for_asylum_application

The Government has committed to publishing regular updates on the number of unaccompanied asylum seeking children transferred to the UK from Europe, including those transferred under the Dublin Regulation. This data will be published in the coming months.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-09-04/8317/>

UK Parliament Early Day Motions

Gavin Newlands (269) Parliamentarians reporting constituents to the Home Office for deportation – That this House is concerned by recent Freedom of Information reports revealing that on 482 occasions between 2014 and 2016 hon. Members of the House have been informing the Home Office of undocumented migrants; believes that to inform on a constituent would be a fundamental betrayal of trust, acting against the interests of those it is an hon. Member's duty to represent, as well as a failure of confidentiality and a potential breach of the Data Protection Act 1998; is further concerned by the Home Office response that hon. Members would only be identified as an MP if they declared themselves on the form, which allows someone remain anonymous; further believes that the risk that this is but the tip of iceberg; and notes that this information comes amid a year and a decade when the Home Office has been increasingly hostile to those who have chosen to make the UK their home.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2017-19/269>

Stuart McDonald (293) Immigration detention – That this House welcomes the undercover journalism that led to the harrowing and disturbing footage broadcast during the BBC Panorama programme, Undercover: Britain's Immigration Secrets, on 4 September 2017; urges G4S to fully investigate any and all incidents of abuse and mistreatment by its staff towards people detained at Brook House Immigration Removal Centre; is concerned that the UK remains the only country in Europe not to have a maximum time limit on the length of time an individual can be detained, despite the evidence that indefinite detention has a deleterious impact on the mental health of those detained; notes that in a Written Statement made in response to Stephen Shaw's report into the welfare in detention of vulnerable persons on 14 January 2016, the then Immigration Minister set out a number of reforms that would lead to a reduction in the number of those detained, and the duration of detention before removal, in turn improving the welfare of those detained; further notes that in the year to June 2017, the Government detained 27,819 solely for immigration purposes, and more than 200 were detained for longer than one year; and calls on the Government urgently to implement reform of the use of immigration detention, introducing the introduction of a 28 day time limit and greater use of community-based alternatives to detention.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2017-19/293>

Press Releases

Human trafficking is closer to home than most Scots think

<https://news.gov.scot/news/human-trafficking-is-closer-to-home-than-most-scots-think>

European Agenda on Migration: Good progress in managing migration flows needs to be sustained

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-3081_en.htm

New Publications

List of Refugee-led Community Organisations

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0001/4401/Refugee-led-Community-Organisations-Key-Contacts-Aug-2017.pdf>

List of Integration Networks in the Greater Glasgow area

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0001/4145/Integration-Networks-Aug-2017.pdf>

News

Government immigration proposals ‘morally bankrupt’ – Nicola Sturgeon

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/504226/labour-urges-uk-government-to-restart-brexit-talks-with-devolved-administrations/>

‘Door open’ for separate Scots immigration system

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/door-open-for-separate-scots-immigration-system-k8g79n5wx>

Brexit: Leaked immigration documents ignite row in Commons

<http://www.scotsman.com/business/markets-economy/brexit-leaked-immigration-documents-ignite-row-in-commons-1-4552033>

Brexit: Businesses warn over 'UK workers first' proposal

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-41172505>

Theresa May says immigration must be brought down to help low earners after huge Home Office leak revealed controversial plans to curb arrivals

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4857784/May-says-immigration-come-help-low-earners.html>

European students will have to prove they speak English

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/european-students-will-have-to-prove-they-speak-english-t09t0qbwb>

EU threatens to sue member states for not accepting their quota of refugees

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/eu-refugees-migrants-crisis-quotas-legal-challenge-hungary-poland-slovakia-dimitris-avramopoulos-a7932376.html>

We help storm victims ... so why not refugees?

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/help-storm-victims--not-11096856>

Landlords admit turning away EU citizens to avoid Government regulations
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/landlords-rejecting-eu-citizens-homes-avoid-regulations-brexite-a7933411.html>

'I'm on the verge of losing everything': EU nationals respond to leaked Home Office plans for migration crackdown
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/eu-nationals-uk-immigration-plans-workers-europe-home-office-ban-union-a7932806.html>

EU citizens in disbelief over UK's leaked Brexit proposals
<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2017/sep/06/eu-citizens-in-disbelief-over-uks-leaked-brexite-proposals>

EU migrant numbers will be capped after Brexit under leaked Home Office plans
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/09/05/revealed-eu-migrant-numbers-will-capped-brexite-leaked-home-office/>

Here's all you need to know about the leaked Home Office post-Brexit migration plans
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/09/06/need-know-leaked-home-office-post-brexite-migration-plans/>

UK high court blocks deportation of man who accuses G4S of abuse
<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2017/sep/07/uk-high-court-g4s-deportation-brook-house-irc>

Panorama's exposé of immigration centre abuse is no surprise. I saw it for myself
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/sep/07/panorama-g4s-abuse-expose-immigration-centre-brook-house>

Home Office worker held after 'migrant abuse' at G4S centre
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/immigration-removal-centre-scandal-g4s-staff-accused-of-abusing-migrants-before-deportation-alleges-bbc-panorama-zs892qzpz>

G4S guards filmed 'choking' and mocking detainee who self-harmed at immigration centre
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/g4s-migrant-abuse-guards-immigration-centre-panorama-home-office-brook-house-samim-bigzad-panorama-a7929491.html>

'F* off back to your country': Former Brook House detainee speaks out about staff brutality and neglect**
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/brook-house-detainee-g4s-staff-treatment-racism-immigration-removal-centre-abuse-panorama-home-a7930646.html>

The refugee doctors learning to speak Glaswegian
<http://www.bbc.com/news/health-41160013>

May's deportation scheme is a failure, says report
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/may-s-deportation-scheme-is-a-failure-says-report-8t8jh958k>

'Destitution is routine': refugees face homelessness even after gaining asylum
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/sep/08/destitution-is-routine-refugees-face-homelessness-even-after-gaining-asylum>

A refugee's tale: they gave me asylum - and then made me homeless
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/sep/08/uk-refugee-story-you-get-the-papers-but-you-dont-know-what-to-do>

Where teen refugees learn to laugh again

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-09-04/times2/where-teen-refugees-learn-to-laugh-again-78spsxt35>

Refugees targeted by 'deliberate' fire in Edinburgh

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-41140649>

Turkish Airlines pilot refuses to deport asylum seeker to Kabul

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/turkish-airlines-pilot-refuses-to-deport-asylum-seeker-samim-bigzad-to-kabul-cgjk706r2>

Teen 'slave' bride calls for end to marriage under 18

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/teen-slave-bride-calls-for-end-to-marriage-under-18-pk9lv3tqb>

British-born man who has lived in UK all his life ordered to leave country in Home Office blunder

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/08/31/british-born-man-has-lived-uk-life-ordered-leave-country-home/>

Joiner, 21, who was born and bred in Lancashire is allowed to stay in the UK as officials admit threats to deport him to Australia were an 'error' and apologise for 'distressing' him

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4836896/English-born-joiner-makes-TV-plea-stay-UK.html>

'Brilliant student' Brian White can stay in UK

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-birmingham-41152694>

'Exceptionally bright' Zimbabwean orphan, 21, who was adopted by a British family nine years ago wins battle to stay in the UK and can FINALLY take up his place at Oxford

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4851920/Orphan-adopted-British-family-wins-battle-stay-UK.html>

Student Brian White wins fight to stay and take Oxford place

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-09-05/news/student-brian-white-of-wolverhampton-wins-fight-to-stay-and-take-oxford-place-nhrq0k65d>

Polish man dies after 'hanging himself' at Harmondsworth immigration detention centre

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/harmondsworth-death-suicide-polish-man-detention-centre-a7936811.html>

Polish immigrant dies after suicide attempt in UK detention centre

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/sep/09/polish-immigrant-dies-after-suicide-attempt-in-uk-detention-centre>

Curry house immigration raids 'unfair', say restaurant owners

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/sep/09/uk-curry-house-owners-say-immigration-raids-unfair>

Trafficking victims found in remote Scottish communities

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-41075042>

Human trafficking uncovered length and breadth of Scotland

http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/15502405.Human_trafficking_uncovered_length_and_breadth_of_Scotland/

Human trafficking affects villages as well as cities, campaigners warn

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/scotland/499661/human-trafficking-affects-villages-as-well-as-cities-campaigners-warn/>

New map shows Scotland's human trafficking hotspots

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/new-map-shows-scotland-s-human-trafficking-hotspots-1-4545247>

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Community Relations

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-07419 Jeremy Balfour: Edinburgh Interfaith Association – That the Parliament congratulates the Edinburgh Interfaith Association on being awarded £9,750 by the Big Lottery Fund; understands that the group aims to promote and facilitate positive engagement between the various faith communities of Edinburgh, and acknowledges that the funding will be used to run the Faithful Friends Befriending Service, which will involve volunteers building relationships with vulnerable and lonely people across different faiths.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-07419>

Press Releases

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon sends Eid ul Adha greetings

<https://firstminister.gov.scot/eid-ul-adha/>

Roma inclusion: More effort needed to improve access to schooling and employment

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-2961_en.htm

New Publications

The Social Mobility Challenges Faced by Young Muslims

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/642220/Young_Muslims_SMC.pdf

Gypsies and Travellers

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-8083/CBP-8083.pdf>

News

Can't talk about Muslims? It seems we do little else in the UK

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/sep/05/muslims-criticism-religion-right-left-gag-debate>

Ruling over 'Muslim foster case' girl

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-41091300>

'My Muslim family and our foster kids'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-41085638>

Christian girl has 'crucifix necklace removed by Muslim foster carer and is asked to learn Arabic'

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/christian-girl-crucifix-necklace-removed-11069486>

Ofsted steps into battle over hijab

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/ofsted-steps-into-battle-over-hijab-6cmdnxcvj>

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Equality

Scottish Parliament Oral Answers

Gypsy Travellers (Parking Sites)

Stewart Stevenson (SNP): To ask the Scottish Government what information it has regarding the provision by local authorities of parking sites that are suitable for Gypsy Travellers. (S5O-01219)

Reply from the Minister for Local Government and Housing (Kevin Stewart): The provision of Gypsy Traveller sites is a matter for the relevant local authority. The Scottish Government does not routinely collect information concerning sites in Scotland. All Scottish local authorities must, by law, produce local housing strategies that set out their priorities and plans for delivering housing and related services. Those strategies should include plans for meeting any Gypsy Traveller housing needs, including addressing any requirement for provision of suitable sites.

Stewart Stevenson: While noting the particular difficulties in Moray, where Tory part-time MP Douglas Ross was recently a member of the council administration that has failed to provide any such parking sites, does the minister believe that rather than vilifying Travellers—who make a valuable contribution to society—as a “top priority” problem, as he described it, Mr Ross and others in his party should work to address that deficiency?

Reply from Kevin Stewart: Yes, I agree with Mr Stevenson. As I set out in my first answer, the provision of suitable Gypsy Traveller sites in Moray is a matter for Moray Council, based on its local housing strategy. Councillors should look at the needs that are highlighted in their local housing strategy and address the issue accordingly. Gypsy Traveller communities are among those that are most disenfranchised and discriminated against in Scotland. The Scottish Government values the Gypsy Traveller community, the contribution that it makes and the important role that it plays in enriching Scotland socially, culturally and economically. We are committed to tackling all forms of discrimination and to promoting a multicultural society that is based on mutual trust, respect and understanding.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11060&i=101012#ScotParlOR>

News

Where are the black voices of rural and suburban Britain? We need to hear them

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/sep/07/black-voices-rural-suburban-britain>

White children less likely to have private tutors than those from ethnic minorities, study finds

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2017/09/07/white-children-less-likely-have-private-tutors-ethnic-minorities/>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Written Answers

Hate Crime

S5W-10811 Ross Greer (Green): To ask the Scottish Government, further to its news release of 13 June 2017, *Next steps on tackling hate crime*, what action it has taken to address anti-Catholic hate crime that does not take place within football stadiums.

Reply from Angela Constance: I refer the member to the answer to questions S5W-10389 on 9 August 2017, and S5W-10012 on 18 July 2017, which outline some of the action we have taken to address anti-Catholic hate crime in Scotland. It is available on the Parliament's website, the search facility for which can be found at:

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx>

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-10811>

The answers referred to above can be read at

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-10389>

and

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-10012>

The press release "Next steps on tackling hate crime" can be read at

<https://news.gov.scot/news/next-steps-on-tackling-hate-crime>

Press Releases

Lammy publishes historic review

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/lammy-publishes-historic-review>

Antisemitic Discourse Report 2016

<https://cst.org.uk/news/blog/2017/09/06/antisemitic-discourse-report-2016>

Man who called for Muslims to be killed after Manchester bombing jailed

http://www.cps.gov.uk/news/latest_news/man-who-called-for-muslims-to-be-ki/

New Publications

The Lammy Review

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/643001/lammy-review-final-report.pdf

Independent Review of Hate Crime Legislation (Bracadale Review)

Analysis of Questionnaire Responses

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00524057.pdf>

A Comparative Analysis of Hate Crime Legislation

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00524056.pdf>

Antisemitic Discourse in Britain 2016

<https://cst.org.uk/public/data/file/6/7/Antisemitic%20Discourse%20Report%202016%20final.pdf>

Hate is hate, even when it's online

http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/7ec2e5_0f1a11968eaa4885981874e15d0d2747.pdf

News

Force calls for amendment, not repeal of Scotland's anti-sectarian law

<https://twitter.com/PoliceP/status/902918718036078592>

Scotland's Offensive Behaviour at Football Act branded "unusual" in international study by Glasgow University expert

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/crime_courts/15508257.Scotland_hate_crime_laws_branded_quot_unusual_quot_in_international_study/

Sarah Champion: Labour's 'floppy left' falls silent when issues touch on race

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2017/sep/02/sarah-champion-labours-floppy-left-falls-silent-when-issues-touch-on-race>

Sarah Champion attacks 'floppy left' and says people too scared to speak out about racial aspect of sex gangs

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/sarah-champion-floppy-left-islamophobia-the-sun-pakistani-men-rape-white-girls-grooming-a7925446.html>

'Floppy left' will not speak out for fear of being branded racist, MP says

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15511194.Floppy_left_will_not_speak_out_for_fear_of_being_branded_racist_MP_says/

Sarah Champion interview: 'I'd rather be called a racist than turn a blind eye to child abuse'

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/sarah-champion-mp-i-d-rather-be-called-a-racist-than-turn-a-blind-eye-to-child-abuse-96s0fbm22>

Rotherham MP Sarah Champion: Left 'failing to confront truth of sex crimes'

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/left-failing-to-confront-truth-of-sex-crimes-says-sacked-labour-frontbencher-sarah-champion-mp-for-rotherham-dismissed-by-jeremy-corbryn-after-writing-for-the-sun-gbbm8p837>

Prevent scheme 'built on Islamophobia and should be axed'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-41082086>

BAME offenders: Bias 'needs to be tackled'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-41191311>

Exposed: 'racial bias' in British criminal justice system

<https://www.theguardian.com/law/2017/sep/08/racial-bias-uk-criminal-justice-david-lammy>

The racial bias in our justice system is creating a social timebomb

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/sep/08/david-lammy-review-bame-children-face-prejudice-flawed-criminal-justice-system>

How 'racial bias' at the heart of criminal justice system means black people in UK more likely to be in prison than those in US

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/black-people-prison-uk-more-likely-us-lammy-review-a7935061.html>

Let me take a wild guess as to why Muslims are overrepresented in prison

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/lammy-review-prisons-bame-islamophobia-rehabilitation-discrimination-a7937746.html>

Criminals could sidestep the courts... by agreeing to therapy instead: Defendants would go free if they successfully complete their course

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4863732/Criminals-ditch-court-agreeing-therapy-instead.html>

Call for comprehensive race strategy after Lammy review

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/pa/article-4864652/Call-comprehensive-race-strategy-Lammy-review.html>

Race inequality in the criminal justice system demands a comprehensive strategy

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/blogs/race-inequality-criminal-justice-system-demands-comprehensive-strategy>

Lammy Review: need for race strategy increases

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/news/lammy-review-need-race-strategy-increases>

Neo-Nazi soldier arrests: Two men released by police

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-41218006>

Neo-Nazis on the march as up to 10 extremists infiltrate army

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/neo-nazis-on-the-march-as-up-to-10-extremists-infiltrate-army-h6s5ksjkt>

National Action: Banned neo-Nazi terrorist group still active in UK after finding loophole

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/nazi-group-uk-national-action-banned-still-operating-loophole-soldiers-arrested-terrorism-plot-a7937206.html>

The chilling resurgence of Britain's Far Right: UK extremists are on the march again - and they're recruiting middle-class female graduates to push their warped ideology

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4866926/The-chilling-resurgence-Britain-s-Far-Right.html>

Islamophobia holding back UK Muslims in workplace, study finds

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2017/sep/07/islamophobia-holding-back-uk-muslims-in-workplace-study-finds>

'I don't see how you can succeed': discrimination faced by would-be teacher

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2017/sep/07/i-dont-see-how-you-can-succeed-discrimination-faced-by-would-be-teacher>

Of course British Muslims are being held back. This is an Islamophobic country
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/sep/08/british-muslims-islamophobic-country-jobs>

Young British Muslims 'hampered by discrimination', finds report
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/british-muslims-young-racial-discrimination-report-islamophobia-social-mobility-commission-a7933701.html>

Islamophobia is holding back Muslims in the workplace with ethnic-sounding names cutting chance of getting an interview, study finds
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4860994/Islamophobia-holding-Muslims-workplace-says-study.html>

Muslims 'face discrimination and glass ceiling at work'
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/muslims-face-discrimination-and-glass-ceiling-at-work-t75n0twqd>

'British jobs for British workers' is back, a fascist incursion into mainstream politics
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/sep/08/british-jobs-workers-fascist-government-brexit-plan>

Tory MP rejects meeting with racial equality group over 'gypsy' quotes
http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15526004.Tory_MP_rejects_meeting_with_racial_equality_group_over_39_gypsy_39_quotes/?ref=mr&lp=4

Violent scenes expected in Perth when right-wing SDL hold mosque protest
http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/15525984.Violence_fears_as SDL_and_anti_fascist_protestors_face_off_in_Perth/

The grooming of girls in Newcastle is not an issue of race – it's about misogyny
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/sep/08/grooming-girls-newcastle-race-misogyny-religion-operation-sanctuary>

Bradford Muslims receive acid attack threat letters
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-leeds-41084922>

Racist and Islamophobic graffiti house owners receive 'apology'
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-41178811>

Man who called for all British Muslims to be killed after Manchester attack on Facebook jailed for a year
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/man-british-muslims-killed-manchester-attack-facebook-post-keegan-jakovlevs-jailed-wrexham-wales-a7933896.html>

Man jailed over threat to Muslims after Manchester bombing
<http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/man-jailed-over-threat-to-muslims-after-manchester-bombing-1-4553654>

Tory MP who called for Gypsy crackdown is defended by Ruth Davidson
http://www.thenational.scot/news/15510746.Tory_MP_who_called_for_Gypsy_crackdown_is_defended_by_Ruth_Davidson/

Police raid Kurdish community centre in Edinburgh during PKK funding probe
http://www.thenational.scot/news/15508216.Police_raid_Kurdish_community_centre_in_Edinburgh_during_PKK_funding_probe/

White supremacist has jail sentence cut as court hears he was 'not as racist as his Facebook friends'

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/09/07/white-supremacist-has-jail-sentence-cut-court-hears-not-racist/>

500 Muslims attend anti-terror training camp

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-08-29/news/500-muslims-attend-anti-terror-training-camp-7p7q20zkd>

Channel 4 faces backlash for giving voice to racist Islamist

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/channel-4-faces-backlash-for-giving-voice-to-racist-islamist-50g57dpvn>

Pig's head impaled on railings outside mosque

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-08-30/news/pig-s-head-impaled-on-railings-outside-mosque-xg2png5k8>

Don't let religious apartheid infect our faith schools

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-09-01/comment/don-t-let-religious-apartheid-infect-our-faith-schools-3pjrmtqkl>

Asian grooming gang's rape of white girls not racist, rules judge

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/09/05/asian-grooming-gangs-rape-white-girls-not-racist-rules-judge/>

Trojan horse: the real story behind the fake 'Islamic plot' to take over schools

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/sep/01/trojan-horse-the-real-story-behind-the-fake-islamic-plot-to-take-over-schools>

Fostering row exposes how words fail us when we talk about Muslims in Britain

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/sep/02/words-fail-us-when-we-attempt-to-talk-about-muslims-in-britain>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

First Minister's Statement followed by Debate

First Minister's Statement: Programme for Government 2017–18

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11054&i=100957&c=2016892#ScotParlOR>

Debate: Programme for Government 2017–18

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11054&i=100958#ScotParlOR>

and

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11058&i=100998#ScotParlOR>

and

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11060&i=101026#ScotParlOR>

Press Releases

Programme for Government

<https://news.gov.scot/news/programme-for-government-1>

2017-18 Programme for Government: First Minister's Statement to Parliament

<https://news.gov.scot/speeches-and-briefings/2017-18-programme-for-government>

Resignation of Kezia Dugdale MSP from the post of Scottish Labour Leader

<http://www.scottishlabour.org.uk/blog/entry/full-text-of-kezia-dugdales-resignation-letter>

New Publications

A Nation With Ambition: The Government's Programme for Scotland 2017-18

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00524214.pdf>

Summary

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00524209.pdf>

New Bills that the Scottish Government plans to introduce in the Scottish Parliament during 2017-2018

Budget Bill

Climate Change Bill

Crown Estate Bill

Damages Bill

Education Bill

Land and Buildings Transaction Tax Bill

Management of Offenders Bill

Minimum Age of Criminal Responsibility Bill

Organ and Tissue Donation Bill

Planning Bill

Prescription Bill

Safe Staffing Bill

Sexual Offences (pardons and disregards) Bill

Transport Bill

Vulnerable Witnesses and Pre-recorded Evidence Bill

Warm Homes Bill

Scottish Parliament: Who Does What

http://www.parliament.scot/PublicInformationdocuments/FINALWeb_YourRepresentative2.pdf

Scottish Parliament: Your Representatives

http://www.parliament.scot/PublicInformationdocuments/FINALWeb_YourRepresentatives1.pdf

News

At-a-glance: Scotland's legislative programme 2017-18

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-41162058>

At-a-glance: Nicola Sturgeon's "Programme for Government"

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/at-a-glance-nicola-sturgeon-s-programme-for-government-1-4551662>

First Minister reveals legislative programme with pledge to 'refresh agenda'

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15515886.First_Minister_reveals_legislative_programme_with_pledge_to_refresh_agenda/

'Bold and ambitious' legislative programme unveiled by Nicola Sturgeon

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/503547/first-minister-to-unveil-most-ambitious-plan-ever-in-programme-for-government/>

Nicola Sturgeon paves way for tax hikes as she unveils 'most ambitious' programme for Scottish Government

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/nicola-sturgeon-paves-way-tax-11117847>

Kezia Dugdale quits as Scottish Labour leader

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-41082916>

Kezia Dugdale quits as Scottish Labour leader

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15502369.Kezia_Dugdale_quits_as_Scottish_Labour_leader/?ref=mr&lp=2

Kezia Dugdale quits as Scottish Labour leader saying party needs fresh energy

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/500225/kezia-dugdale-quits-as-scottish-labour-leader-saying-party-needs-fresh-energy/>

Kezia Dugdale resigns as Scottish Labour leader two years after taking over party

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/kezia-dugdale-resigns-scottish-labour-11078316>

Kezia Dugdale quits as leader of Scottish Labour

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/kezia-dugdale-quits-as-leader-of-scottish-labour-1-4545894>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Charter of Fundamental Rights (EU)

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [6712] To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, pursuant to the Answer of 20 July 2017 to Question 5540, whether he plans for there to be a free-standing right to equal treatment in UK law once the UK has left the EU.

Reply from Robin Walker: The Charter of Fundamental Rights simply reaffirms rights which already exist in EU law, including the principle that everyone is equal before the law. As EU law and Court of Justice EU case law will be preserved as provided for in the EU (Withdrawal) Bill: it is the Government's intention that the

removal of the Charter from UK law will not affect the substantive rights that individuals already benefit from in the UK, as the Charter was never in itself the source of those rights.

The protections covered in domestic equality legislation, such as the Equality Act 2006, the Equality Act 2010 and equivalent legislation in Northern Ireland, will continue to apply once the UK has left the European Union.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-20/6712/>

The answer referred to above can be read at
<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-07-17/5540/>

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New Publications

Minority Ethnic Communities and Volunteering in Scotland

http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/b0353f_c9d97d4789b548a2a60c85eac4eb581c.pdf

Counted Out: Black, Asian and minority ethnic women in the criminal justice system

<http://www.prisonreformtrust.org.uk/Portals/0/Documents/Counted%20Out.pdf>

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Other News

British Social Attitudes: Record number of Brits with no religion

Press release

<http://natcen.ac.uk/news-media/press-releases/2017/september/british-social-attitudes-record-number-of-brits-with-no-religion/>

Data

<http://natcen.ac.uk/media/1469605/BSA-religion.pdf>

Questions raised about prominent FGM campaigner

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-41159096>

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Bills in Progress ** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

Domestic Abuse Bill

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/103883.aspx>

Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Repeal) Bill

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/105269.aspx>

UK Parliament

Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/immigrationcontrolgrosshumanrightsabuses.html>

Children Act 1989 (Amendment) (Female Genital Mutilation) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/childrenact1989amendmentfemalegenitalmutilation.html>

EEA Nationals (Indefinite Leave to Remain) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/eeanationalsindefiniteleavetoremain.html>

**** European Union (Withdrawal) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/europeanunionwithdrawal.html>

Second Reading Briefing paper

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-8079/CBP-8079.pdf>

Human Trafficking (Child Protection) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/humantraffickingchildprotection.html>

**** Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/humantraffickingchildprotection.html>

Bill as introduced

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2017-2019/0017/18017.pdf>

First Reading (House of Lords)

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2017-06-28/debates/6B1507B0-25AA-46B3-9FF3-123E67CB333F/ImmigrationControl\(GrossHumanRightsAbuses\)Bill\(HL\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2017-06-28/debates/6B1507B0-25AA-46B3-9FF3-123E67CB333F/ImmigrationControl(GrossHumanRightsAbuses)Bill(HL))

Modern Slavery (Transparency in Supply Chains) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/modernslaverytransparencyinsupplychains.html>

Modern Slavery (Victim Support) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/modernslaveryvictimsupport.html>

Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/refugeesfamilyreunionbill.html>

Refugees (Family Reunion) (No. 2) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/refugeesfamilyreunionno2.html>

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (Legal Advice and Appeals) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/unaccompaniedasylumseekingchildrenlegaladviceandappeals.html>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

The Socio-Economic Duty (closing date 12 September 2017)

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00522478.pdf>

Caste in Great Britain and Equality Law (closing date 18 September 2017)
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/caste-in-great-britain-and-equality-law-a-public-consultation>

European Union's (EU) legislation on the legal migration of non-EU citizens (closing date 18 September 2017)
https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/content/consultation-european-unions-eu-legislation-legal-migration-non-eu-citizens-fitness-check-eu_en

**** Working across the lines: Enabling joint work for racial justice, migrants' rights and faith-based activism** (closing date 27 September 2017)
http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Working_Across_Lines/?mc_cid=859c92dd24&mc_eid=ae74a1e475

European Union (Withdrawal) Bill (closing date 29 September 2017)
<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/105772.aspx>

Evaluation of the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020 (closing date 25 October 2017)
http://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/public-consultation-evaluation-eu-framework-national-roma-integration-strategies-2020_en

EEA-workers in the UK labour market (closing date 27 October 2017)
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/call-for-evidence-and-briefing-note-eea-workers-in-the-uk-labour-market>

**** Independent Review of Hate Crime Legislation (Bracadale Review)** (closing date 23 November 2017)
<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/hate-crime/independent-review-of-hate-crime-legislation>

There are three versions of the consultation paper:

- a full version, aimed mainly at a technical, legal audience
<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00524055.pdf>
- a non-technical version, aimed at the general reader with no specialist legal knowledge
<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00524070.pdf>
- an easy read version using simple language and pictures
<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00524076.pdf>

**** Fundraising guidance consultation** (closing date 1 December 2017)
<https://www.oscr.org.uk/news/fundraising-guidance-consultation>

Hate Crime and Prejudice Scotland Mapping Exercise (no closing date given)
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BJPT5PL>

Impact of the 2016 EU referendum on EU citizens (no closing date given)
https://lse.eu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_8qflh2MsoQ4agZf&Q_JFE=0

Police Scotland: Your view counts (open all year)
<http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/decision-making/public-consultation/local-policing-consultation>

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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

Scotland's Winter Festivals 2017/2018

No set closing date – applications will be accepted until the fund has been fully allocated

BEMIS Scotland in collaboration with the Scottish Government is once again offering a small grants programme which invites multicultural communities across Scotland to join in with Scotland's Winter Festivals 2017/18 and host events for St Andrew's Day, Hogmanay and Burns Night.

Community groups, unincorporated associations, charities, and not for profit organisations working in, with, or for Scotland's diverse communities, can apply for grants of between £250 and £1,000 to put on events that engage, inspire, and mobilise communities across Scotland in the celebration of Scotland's national days.

For more information see

<http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/swf-2017-guidelines.pdf>

For an application form see

<http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/swf-2017-application-form.docx>

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Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Unaccompanied Refugee Children

12 September 2017 in Glasgow (9.30-4.30)

15 November 2017 in Glasgow (9.30-4.30)

8 February 2018 in Glasgow (9.30-4.30)

2 May 2018 in Glasgow (9.30-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council Course to better understand where unaccompanied refugee children are, and how you can help them in their journey. Reduced rates available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/y7mz5uuu> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

**** this week!**

BME Health and Wellbeing Survey Launch

14 September 2017 in Glasgow (4.00-6.00)

Information about the 2016 Black and Minority Ethnic Study which was carried out in Glasgow. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/y9bcbjt4>

New Scots: Refugees and the Asylum Process

20 September 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

2 November 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

23 January 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

1 March 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

17 May 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine why people might need to flee their own country, how they seek asylum in the UK and what opportunities they have for rebuilding their lives here in Scotland. Reduced rates available for small voluntary organisations.

For information see <http://tinyurl.com/z68a5k8> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Big Lottery funding surgery

27 September 2017 in Glasgow (10.00-12.00)

25 October 2017 in Glasgow (10.00-12.00)

BEMIS funding surgeries in partnership with the Big Lottery, to develop potential projects and help secure funding. For information contact events@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

Equality Workshop

27 September 2017 in Kirkcaldy (12.00-1.00)

Fife Centre for Equalities workshop to improve understanding of the Equality Act 2010, and how it applies to you and your organisation. For information contact Elric Elric@centreforequalities.org.uk / 01592 645 310.

Hate Crime and 3rd party reporting advisory panel

28 September 2017 in Glasgow (10.30-12.30)

30 November 2017 in Glasgow (10.30-12.30)

1 February 2018 in Glasgow (10.30-12.30)

West of Scotland Regional Equality Council are setting up an advisory panel to challenge issues and barriers around under-reporting of hate crime, and 3rd party reporting. For information see https://scojec.org/memo/files/17-18_wsrec.pdf or contact Rabeea rqureshi@wsrec.co.uk / 0141 337 6626.

**** Black History Month**

October 2017

Black History Month provides an opportunity to learn, understand, and honour the role that black and minority ethnic men, women, and children have played in shaping Scotland's history. The full programme of events is available at <http://tinyurl.com/y8ua5xk6>

New Scots: Refugees and VPRS Resettlement

3 October 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

23 November 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

6 February 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

19 April 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine the issues facing Syrian refugees as they move from countries around Syria to the UK, and highlight the challenges and opportunities they face as they build new lives in Scotland. Reduced rates available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/jt93fog> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Working with Interpreters

5 October 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

29 November 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

31 January 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

8 March 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

22 May 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine the process of using an interpreter, where the responsibility lies for the success of the interpreted session, examines the pitfalls and their consequences, and sets out best practice for using interpreters. Reduced rates available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/zy436qr> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Festival of Politics

19-21 October 2017 at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh

<http://festivalofpolitics.scot/>

Festival of Politics: Black History Month 2017

19 October 2017 at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh (6.00-7.30)

Festival of Politics event to discuss Scotland's role and the legacy of slavery and colonialism in the acknowledgement of an uncomfortable history. For information see

<http://festivalofpolitics.scot/events/black-history-month-2017/>

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust Workshop

25 October 2017 in Glasgow (10.00-1.00)

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust workshop to provide practical help and advice on how to create a meaningful Holocaust Memorial Day activity. Includes information about the Holocaust, Nazi Persecution and subsequent genocides, as well as challenges, such as hate crime, facing the UK today. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/ydegrweb> or

contact Rhys Prosser enquiries@hmd.org.uk

Refugee Rights to Housing

9 November 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

21 March 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council Course to identify the different groups of asylum seekers and refugees most likely to seek housing in Scotland, learn how to identify their legal rights, and the duties and obligations on local authorities and other housing organisations towards them. Reduced rates available for small voluntary organisations. For information see

<http://tinyurl.com/y9pvpl5r> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Scottish Interfaith Week

12-19 November 2017

This year's theme is Creativity and the Arts; through art, poetry, music, and dance we can break down barriers and celebrate the creative and cultural diversity within our local communities. For information contact info@scottishinterfaithweek.org or see

<http://scottishinterfaithweek.org/about-sifw>. For resources to help you plan your event see

<http://scottishinterfaithweek.org/resources>, and to have your event listed in the Interfaith Week programme see <http://scottishinterfaithweek.org/submit-an-event>.

Engaging Hard to Reach Groups

12 December 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

28 March 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council Course looking at the various approaches, tools and techniques we can adopt to reach out to people who are seldom heard. Reduced rates available for small voluntary organisations. For information see

<http://tinyurl.com/y8tg2x4k> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

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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>

UK Government Honours system <https://www.gov.uk/honours/overview>

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 <http://www.volunteerscotland.net/>

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

Scottish Fundraising Standards Panel <https://www.goodfundraising.scot/>

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

Disclosure Scotland <https://www.mygov.scot/working-jobs/finding-a-job/disclosure/>

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

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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. (Scottish Charity, no. SC027692) <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://www.gov.scot/>

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