

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

### Contents

Immigration and Asylum	Other News
Community Relations	Bills in Progress
Equality	Consultations
Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination	Job Opportunities
Other Scottish Parliament and Government	Events, Conferences, and Training
Other UK Parliament and Government	Useful Links

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

*Please send information for inclusion in MEMO to [MEMO@scojec.org](mailto:MEMO@scojec.org) and [click here](#) to be added to the mailing list.*

## Immigration and Asylum

### Scottish Parliament Debate

#### Migration

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11188&i=101991#ScotParlOR>

### Scottish Parliament Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Relations Committee

#### Immigration Inquiry: evidence session

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11195&i=102035#ScotParlOR>

### Scottish Parliament Written Answers

#### Refugees and Asylum Seekers

**S5O-01482 James Dornan (SNP):** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will

provide an update on the progress that it is making with its work in resettling refugees and asylum seekers.

**Reply from Angela Constance:** Scotland continues to welcome asylum seekers, who arrive in Glasgow under the Home Office's asylum dispersal programme, and Scottish local authorities have now received over 1,900 refugees under the Syrian Resettlement Programme.

We are working with our partners, including COSLA and the Scottish Refugee Council, to develop the next New Scots refugee integration strategy for publication in early 2018. Over 2,000 people participated in engagement during the summer to inform the strategy, including over 700 refugees and asylum seekers.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5O-01482>

### **Asylum: Housing**

**S5W-12279 Liam McArthur (Liberal Democrat):** To ask the Scottish Government what assessment it has carried out of the effectiveness of Compass contracts in Scotland for housing asylum seekers; whether it has made representations it has made to the UK Government to ensure that the accommodation provided under these are fit for habitation, and, if so, whether it will publish any minutes or correspondence regarding this.

**Reply from Angela Constance:** Asylum is a matter reserved to the UK Government. This includes the delivery and management of asylum accommodation.

I have made representations to the UK Government on a number of issues relating to asylum accommodation, including during my meetings with the Immigration Minister on 11 October 2016 and 12 July 2017. I also wrote to the Home Secretary on 23 June 2016 and the Immigration Minister on 27 July 2016 and on 2 March and 7 November 2017. ...

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-12279>

## **Scottish Parliament Motions**

**S5M-08828 Alasdair Allan (SNP): Migration** – That the Parliament supports the evidence in the Scottish Government's submission to the Migration Advisory Committee, which demonstrates the positive contribution of European citizens to Scotland's communities and economy; notes that immigration is crucial to key sectors, including public services, health, higher education, rural industries and financial services; recognises that free movement has allowed UK citizens to travel, live and work across the EU freely; further recognises that EU migration has helped reverse a decline in the Scottish population and that EU citizens' right to live, work, study and invest in Scotland must be protected; notes that the Scottish Government should continue to use its powers to make Scotland an attractive place to live and work; acknowledges the findings of reports from the Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Relations Committee and the UK's Scottish Affairs Committee and All Party Parliamentary Group on Social Integration, which agreed that the current migration system needs to change and reflect local circumstances, and supports calls for a differentiated, more flexible solution, which is tailored to meet Scotland's circumstances.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-08828>

**S5M-08828.1 Jackson Carlaw (Conservative): Migration** – As an amendment to motion S5M-08828 in the name of Alasdair Allan (Migration), leave out from "supports the evidence" to end and insert "notes the evidence in the Scottish Government's

submission to the Migration Advisory Committee, which demonstrates the positive contribution of migrants to Scotland's communities and economy; notes that immigration is crucial to key sectors, including public services, health, higher education, rural industries, the hospitality sector and financial services; acknowledges the important role that migration will continue to have in addressing Scotland's ongoing demographic challenges and skills gaps; notes the evidence that migration from both within and outwith the UK is critical to sustainable population growth in Scotland over the next 25 years; urges the Scottish Government to use its powers to make Scotland a more attractive place to live and work; acknowledges the findings of reports from the Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Relations Committee and the UK's Scottish Affairs Committee and All Party Parliamentary Group on Social Integration; accepts the importance of maintaining the integrity of the UK single market, which is crucial for the Scottish economy, and supports calls for a solution that is tailored to meet sectoral needs in Scotland and the UK."

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-08828.1>

**S5M-08828.2 Willie Rennie (Liberal Democrat): Migration** – As an amendment to motion S5M-08828 in the name of Alasdair Allan (Migration), leave out from “supports calls for” to end and insert “calls on the UK Government to initiate a debate on the future and value of immigration so that all sectors throughout the UK can get the workers that they need.”

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-08828.2>

**S5M-08927 Ash Denham (SNP): 26 Nigerian Women Found Dead at Sea** – That the Parliament notes with great sadness reports that 26 Nigerian women, mainly aged between 14 and 18, were found dead at sea, suspected to have been sexually abused and then murdered; welcomes the reported arrests of two men accused of organising and trafficking at least 150 people from Nigeria and other sub-Saharan countries into Italy; understands that there were 375 further migrant survivors from two separate shipwrecks; is appalled that 90% of female migrants report violence, starvation, torture and/or rape by Libyan militants and various gangs during their journey; understands that Nigeria is the fourth biggest source of slaves trafficked into the UK; has concerns that the majority of women are trafficked into the UK for sexual exploitation; appreciates the Scottish Government's stance that prostitution is violence against women; condemns all kinds of human trafficking, and hopes that Scotland and other European countries will explore legislation that neighbouring countries already have in place, where its shown they have become a hostile place for traffickers.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-08927>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

### British Nationality: Assessments

**Stephen Timms (Labour)** [111389] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applicants (a) took and (b) failed the Life in the UK test in each year since its introduction.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** This information is published quarterly here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data>

On the tab: Temporary and Permanent Migration Data. In summary:

Calendar Year	Total Tests Taken	Total Tests Failed
2005	7,398	2,149

2006	155,879	50,476
2007	308,126	93,421
2008	248,934	70,109
2009	198,656	50,820
2010	183,562	48,919
2011	179,849	41,205
2012	151,036	22,327
2013	152,457	35,332
2014	165,738	64,780
2015	174,923	68,393
2016	133,490	47,312
2017 *	65,946	21,563

\* 2017 up to 30 June in line with published data.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-03/111389/>

### **Immigration: Skilled Workers**

*The following three questions all received the same answer*

**Siobhain McDonagh (Labour)** [112965] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions she has had with Ministers from other Departments on the value to the UK economy of mid-level skills or those skills at Standard Occupational Classification levels 2 and 3; and what plans her Department has to ensure that any future changes to immigration policy allow businesses to continue to access those mid-level skills necessary for growth and employment in the UK.

#### **Skilled Workers**

**Siobhain McDonagh (Labour)** [112963] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment her Department has made of the value to the UK economy of mid-level skills or those at Standard Occupational Classification levels 2 and 3; and if she will make a statement.

**Siobhain McDonagh (Labour)** [112964] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what external engagement her Department is engaged in to improve its understanding of the importance to the UK economy of access to mid-skilled labour or labour rated at Standard Occupational Classification skill levels 2 and 3; and if she will make a statement.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** We are considering a range of options for our future immigration arrangements and are clear that we must manage the process properly so that the system serves the national interest.

On 27 July 2017, we commissioned the independent Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to advise on the economic and social impacts of the UK's exit from the European Union and also on how the UK's immigration system should be aligned with a modern industrial strategy. As part of this, the MAC has been asked to consider a number of factors including skill level.

They are due to report on their findings in September 2018.

Full details about the MAC commission can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/migration-advisory-committee>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-14/112965/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-14/112963/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-14/112964/>

### Immigration

**Catherine West (Labour)** [112085] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many decisions on applications for leave to remain and further leave to remain were made outside of her Department's six month processing target.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The Home Office regularly publishes performance data as part of the quarterly Home Office Transparency release, including elements such as performance against service standards. A range of key input and impact indicators are currently published by the Home Office on the [Migration transparency data](#) webpage.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-07/112085/>

### Immigration

**Catherine West (Labour)** [112154] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for (a) leave to remain and (b) further leave to remain were not decided within the target six month processing time in each of the last five years.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The Home Office regularly publishes performance data as part of the quarterly Home Office Transparency release, including elements such as performance against service standards. A range of key input and impact indicators are currently published by the Home Office on the [Migration transparency data](#) webpage.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-07/112154/>

### Immigration

**Tulip Siddiq (Labour)** [112540] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what information her Department holds on the number of people in the UK with (a) discretionary and (b) indefinite leave to remain; and how many such people that have been granted such leave in each of the last seven years have previously participated in acts classified as crimes against humanity.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The number of grants of Discretionary Leave and Indefinite Leave to Remain are available in published immigration statistics, which are available at

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/638594/extensions-apr-jun-2017-tables.ods](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/638594/extensions-apr-jun-2017-tables.ods) and

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/638595/settlement-apr-jun-2017-tables.ods](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/638595/settlement-apr-jun-2017-tables.ods).

Statistics on the UK's resident population and its characteristics (where collected) is a matter for the independent Office for National Statistics.

An assessment of previous crimes against humanity is just one element of the application consideration. Serious reasons and evidence for considering if someone has committed such an act would fall under Article 1F of the Refugee Convention or 339D of the Immigration Rules. The Home Office does not separate out data on crimes against humanity from other international crimes. In those cases where the Home Office believes there to be serious reasons for considering they may have participated in international crimes under these provisions, such individuals would not normally qualify for Discretionary Leave or Indefinite Leave to Remain.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-13/112540/>

### Immigration: Glasgow South

**Stewart Malcolm McDonald (SNP)** [112120] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many non-UK citizens in Glasgow South constituency will be required

to apply for (a) settled and (b) temporary status as outlined in the Government's November 2017 technical note, citizens' rights, administrative procedures in the UK.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** All EU nationals and their family members living lawfully in the UK before the specified date will be eligible to apply for status. Subject to security checks, applicants who are able to evidence five years' continuous lawful residence will be given settled status; those who do not will receive a temporary status to enable them to accrue five years' residence and qualify for settled status in due course.

As our reply to HC1275 states, the Home Office does not hold any data on the numbers of EU citizens in Glasgow who may have to apply for settled status. The same is true of temporary status.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-07/112120/>

### **Asylum: Glasgow South West**

**Christ Stephens (SNP)** [112796] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 8 November 2017 to Question 110788, on asylum, for what reasons there were differences between this Answer and the Answer of 29 June 2017 to Question 106 to the hon. Member for Glasgow East; and if she will make a statement.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The answer given on 29 June 2017 triangulated data held for different reasons to provide a number using a range of assumptions. To maintain the highest standards of accuracy the Home Office has come to the view that the methodology used to come to the figure provided does not fully answer the question and providing a full answer could only be done at disproportionate cost.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-13/112796/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-01/110788/>

### **EU Nationals: Emigration**

**Hywel Williams (Plaid Cymru)** [109607] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what recent estimate he has made of the number of non-UK EU citizens who have left the UK since 23 June 2016.

**Reply from Chris Skidmore:** The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the Authority to reply. ... The Office for National Statistics (ONS) released the latest migration statistics on 23 August 2017.<sup>1</sup> The provisional estimate for the year ending March 2017 (the most recent figures available) is that the number of non-UK EU citizens who left the UK is 122,000 with a confidence interval (CI) of + / - 16,000. Provisional estimates for the year ending June 2017 are due to be released on 30 November 2017.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-10-25/109607/>

### **Immigration: EEA Nationals**

**Jacob Rees-Mogg (Conservative)** [111178] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what estimate he has made of the number of EU-EEA citizens living in the UK.

**Reply from Chris Skidmore:** The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the Authority to reply. ... The Office for National Statistics (ONS) publishes estimates of the UK population by Country of Birth and Nationality annually, using data collected from the Annual Population Survey (APS). The latest available data are for the 2016 calendar

year. The APS is a sample survey based on households and so does not include people living in most types of communal establishments.<sup>1</sup> Please note that estimates from the APS are subject to a margin of uncertainty.

From the estimates of Population by Country of Birth and Nationality published in August 2017 we estimate that the number of non-UK EU citizens living in the UK is 3,572,000 with a confidence interval of 89,000.<sup>2,3</sup>

The EEA includes the EU countries plus Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. From the Population by Country of Birth and Nationality underlying datasheets published in August 2017, we estimate that the number of non-UK EEA citizens living in the UK is 3,589,000 with a confidence interval of 89,000.

Though not a member of the EU nor EEA, citizens of Switzerland have the same rights to live and work in the UK as other EEA nationals. Our estimate for Swiss citizens living in the UK is 9,000 with a confidence interval of 4,000. Added to the EEA figures, we estimate that the number of non-UK EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK is 3,598,000 with a confidence interval of 89,000.

<sup>1</sup> The Annual Population Survey is a household survey of people in the UK. It covers people in private households, NHS accommodation and students in halls of residence whose parents live in the UK. However, people in other communal establishments such as prisons and private care homes are excluded.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/internationalmigration/datasets/populationoftheunitedkingdombycountryofbirthandnationality>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/internationalmigration/datasets/populationoftheunitedkingdombycountryofbirthandnationalityunderlyingdatasheets>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-02/111178/>

### **Immigration: Republic of Ireland**

**Jim McMahon (Labour Co-op)** [109190] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what recent estimate his Department has made of the number of Irish nationals living in the UK.

**Reply from Chris Skidmore:** The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the Authority to reply. ... To provide a response to your question we have used data collected from the Annual Population Survey (APS) for the 2016 calendar year, which are the latest data available. The APS is a sample survey based on households and so does not include people living in most types of communal establishments.<sup>1</sup> Please note that estimates from the APS are subject to a margin of uncertainty. From the estimates of Population by Country of Birth and Nationality published in August 2017 we estimate that the total number of citizens of the Republic of Ireland resident in the UK in 2016 was 335,000 with a confidence interval (CI) of +/- 27,000.<sup>2</sup> Confidence intervals are commonly used as indicators of the extent to which the estimate based on a sample differs from the true population value. This means that we expect the true number of citizens of the Republic of Ireland resident in the UK to be within the range 308,000 and 362,000.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-10-23/109190/>

### **Immigration: Married People**

**Keith Vaz (Labour)** [111494] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many cases of leave to remain for the spouse of a British citizen are currently awaiting a decision.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** Data on UK Visas and Immigration temporary and permanent migration activities including In-Country Work In Progress Casework, is published on the .GOV.UK website. The relevant route is 'Spouse' as indicated on worksheet InC\_03.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/in-country-migration-data-august-2017>

As well as being a British citizen, a sponsor on the 'spouse' route may also be a person with indefinite leave to remain (settlement) or with leave to remain as a refugee.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-06/111494/>

### **Immigration: Married People**

**Keith Vaz (Labour)** [111495] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average length of time taken was to process a visa for a spouse of a British citizen.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The published information on processing times for visa applications is published as part of the Migration Transparency data, available at

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/international-operations-transparency-data-august-2017](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/international-operations-transparency-data-august-2017)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-06/111495/>

### **Visas: Skilled Workers**

**Seema Malhotra (Labour Co-op)** [112435] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Tier 2 (General) visa applications her Department has received in each month since January 2016; how many of those applications were (a) applications from outside the UK, (b) extensions within the UK, (c) switches within the UK, (d) extensions within the UK (Premium service) and (e) switches within the UK (Premium service); how much was received in fees to her Department for each of those categories; and what the average waiting time to decision was for each of those categories in each month of that period.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** We are unable to provide all of the specific data requested. In line with published quarterly transparency data we have provided for:

- a) The number of Tier 2 applications made out of country
- b) and c) The number of Tier 2 and 5 applications made in country
- d) and e) The number of Tier 2 and 5 same day premium applications made in country

Link to the latest published data:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data#uk-visas-and-immigration>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-10/112435/>

### **Visas: Skilled Workers**

**Seema Malhotra (Labour Co-op)** [112436] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of Tier 2 (General) visa applications made in each month since January 2016 had a decision made on them within three weeks.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The published quarterly transparency data does not separate out Tier 2 General applications from the wider Tier 2 route. We have therefore provided the published data for all Tier 2 subcategories which includes General, Intra Company Transfers, Minister of Religion and Sportspeople.

Link to the latest published data:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data#uk-visas-and-immigration>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-10/112436/>



### **Visas: Married People**

**Christ Stephens (SNP)** [111996] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to ensure UK residents are not being charged £1.37 a minute rate applied to non-UK residents over and above network charges to access her Department's spousal visa helpline.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** For overseas customers, UK Visas and Immigration have a chargeable call rates of £1.37 per minute, this charge is levied to fund the contact centre commercial contract as the UK government believes it is right that those who use and benefit directly from the UK immigration system make an appropriate contribution towards meeting the costs of the immigration system. Those who use the services from outside the UK are predominantly prospective customers and in many cases no application will be made and no application fee collected.

For UK Visas and Immigration in-country customers the contact centres provide information about the Immigration Rules and the Points Based System requirements via a number of published customer enquiry line numbers. In 2014, in line with Cabinet Office guidance, UKVI changed all 0845 and 0870 prefix helpline numbers to lower call tariff rate 0300 prefix numbers. UKVI do not generate any income from these non-geographic numbers enquiry lines.

UKVI have in place self selection pages on the Gov.uk website (see link below), as well as effective use of informative telephony message on our help lines to further ensure and assist customers wanting to contact UKVI. This initial triaging activity on our website ensures customers are provided with the correct point of contact within our business regarding their in country or overseas application enquiry.

<https://www.gov.uk/contact-ukvi-inside-outside-uk>

UKVI have no imminent plans to increase the call charges on either the in country or overseas enquiry line numbers.

Our web site [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) is the main source of information and is free of charge.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-07/111996/>

### **Refugees: Children**

**Tim Farron (Liberal Democrat)** [111408] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to reduce dangerous journeys for unaccompanied child refugees with family in the UK.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The Government strongly supports the principle of family unity, and we have a comprehensive framework in place for refugees and their families to be safely reunited in the UK without the need for dangerous journeys.

Our family reunion policy allows children to join their refugee parents, and there are also specific provisions in the Immigration Rules that allow extended family members lawfully resident in the UK to sponsor unaccompanied children where there are serious and compelling circumstances.

We have reunited over 24,000 partners and children with their families under our family reunion policy in the last five years. Further, those children recognised by UNHCR as refugees can join close family members in the UK through our Mandate resettlement scheme.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-03/111408/>

### **Refugees: Children**

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Stephen Timms (Labour)** [111663] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how her Department manages the Dubs scheme for child refugees; and if

she will make a statement.

**Stephen Timms (Labour)** [111669] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what plans her Department has to use data on identities and current whereabouts gathered from children in the Jungle refugee camp in Calais before its demolition; and if she will make a statement.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** In March, the Government published the basis upon which further referrals under section 67 will be made:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/policy-statement-section-67-of-the-immigration-act-2016>. We remain committed to transferring unaccompanied children from Europe under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 up to the specified number of 480. We are working closely with Member States, as well as the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and NGO partners to identify and transfer children to the UK in line with each individual Member State's national laws. If it is determined that transfer to the UK is in the child's best interests, a referral will be made under the National Transfer Scheme for a placement with a local authority in the UK. Transfers are ongoing.

However, the primary responsibility for unaccompanied children in France lies with the French government. As I set out in the Backbench Business debate of 2 November, the French authorities have in recent weeks established additional welcome centres to those already in place across the country. Four new centres have recently opened, away from the juxtaposed ports, where those wishing to claim asylum will be supported through the asylum process. There is regular transportation provided to these centres. It is vital that children claim asylum in France; that is the fastest route to safety.

According to Eurostat data, 63,300 unaccompanied children claimed asylum in the EU in 2016:

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/2995521/8016696/3-11052017-AP-EN.pdf/30ca2206-0db9-4076-a681-e069a4bc5290>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-06/111663/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-06/111669/>

### **Refugees: Children**

**Shabana Mahmood (Labour)** [112550] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to reduce dangerous journeys for unaccompanied child refugees with family in the UK.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The Government strongly supports the principle of family unity, and we have a comprehensive framework in place for refugees and their families to be safely reunited in the UK without the need for dangerous journeys.

Our family reunion policy allows children to join their refugee parents, and there are also specific provisions in the Immigration Rules that allow extended family members lawfully resident in the UK to sponsor unaccompanied children where there are serious and compelling circumstances. We have reunited over 24,000 partners and children with their families under our family reunion policy in the last five years. Further, those children recognised by UNHCR as refugees can join close family members in the UK through our Mandate resettlement scheme.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-13/112550/>

### Refugees: Children

**Jim Cunningham (Labour)** [112618] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department has received any representations from Coventry City Council on the provision of more places for unaccompanied child refugees under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** We are grateful to Coventry City Council for their work in looking after unaccompanied asylum seeking children, including their active participation in the National Transfer Scheme (NTS).

Any offers of further placements for unaccompanied asylum seeking children will be utilised to fulfil all of our existing commitments, including under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 and our broader work through the NTS of ensuring a more equal allocation of the approximately 4,500 unaccompanied children already in care in the UK.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-13/112618/>

### Refugees: Sexual Offences

**Catherine West (Labour)** [112940] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the recommendation of page 5 of the Women for Refugee Women's report, We are still here, published in November 2017, if she will implement a proactive screening process to ensure that survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, and others who are vulnerable are identified before detention.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** Home Office immigration policy operates with a presumption against detention. If people are detained, it is for the minimum time possible, and their dignity and welfare is of the utmost importance.

The adults at risk in immigration detention policy, which came into force in September 2016, considers individual circumstances and strengthens the presumption against detention to ensure that vulnerable people are not detained inappropriately.

The Home Office has in place arrangements for identifying and assessing vulnerable individuals, including victims of sexual or gender-based violence. For example, the single gatekeeper function independently assesses the suitability of individuals for immigration detention, with a focus on the presumption of liberty, alternatives to detention and voluntary return.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-14/112940/>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.refugeewomen.co.uk/2016/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/We-are-still-here-report-WEB.pdf>

### Asylum: Appeals

**Jared O'Mara (Independent)** [111736] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many immigration cases involving rejected claims for asylum were overturned on appeal in the last 12 months.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The Home Office published data on initial decisions for asylum applications and the number of allowed appeals for applications made in each year to 2016. This can be found in table as\_06 published at the link below. The data do not distinguish between appeals resulting from rejected claims and refer to all allowed appeals, regardless of initial decision. Data for 2017 are due to be published in August 2018.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/638598/asylum2-apr-jun-2017-tables.ods](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/638598/asylum2-apr-jun-2017-tables.ods)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-06/111736/>

## Asylum

**Jared O'Mara (Independent)** [111951] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to ensure that immigration caseworkers fully comply with guidance on handling medical evidence for asylum seeker applications.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** All officials making decisions on asylum claims receive a dedicated five-week foundation training programme which incorporates all relevant aspects of international and domestic law.

Within this programme there are specific sections on torture and medical reports, and how they should be considered and analysed in asylum claims. Medical reports will be considered together with other written and oral evidence in determining an asylum claim to ensure alleged victims of torture have their claims assessed fairly and sensitively.

Furthermore there is a robust quality assurance process in place involving technical specialists which ensures that all policies are complied with when decisions are made.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-07/111951/>

## Asylum

**Dan Carden (Labour)** [112122] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 12 September 2017 to Question 9634, on asylum, (a) when and (b) where the information on the number of people claiming asylum on the basis of sexuality or gender identity in each year since 2011 will be published.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The Home Office remains committed to publishing information on the number of people claiming asylum on the basis of sexual orientation. Work is ongoing to assure the quality of the data for publication in line with reporting standards.

The Home Office is also considering the most suitable vehicle for publishing the data.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-07/112122/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-09-08/9634/>

## Asylum: Females

**Christine Jardine (Liberal Democrat)** [112265] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps the Government is taking to ensure that women seeking asylum in the UK are treated with justice and dignity.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** We are committed to delivering an asylum process that is gender sensitive and have developed an asylum gender action plan to achieve this building on the wider Government strategy to tackle violence against women and girls.

All decision-makers receive extensive training on considering asylum claims and must follow published Home Office policy guidance, including specific guidance on gender issues, which covers specific forms of gender based persecution.

All available evidence is carefully and sensitively considered in light of published country information, which covers country specific issues relating to gender based harm, including female genital mutilation (FGM), sexual exploitation, violence in conflict and domestic violence.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-10/112265/>

## Immigrants: Detainees

**Catherine West (Labour)** [112911] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home

Department, what steps she has taken to develop alternatives to immigration detention on the basis of support and engagement in the community.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The Home Office is clear that in tackling immigration abuse we will use alternatives to immigration detention wherever possible. This includes community engagement by our immigration enforcement teams, and the development of the compliant environment to prevent access by illegal migrants to work, services and benefits, designed to encourage compliance and maximise voluntary returns. A Voluntary Return Service exist to support those wishing to leave the UK, and can include assistance with organising travel and reintegration support in their country of return. Whilst detention will continue to be used to enforce returns where necessary, depriving someone of their liberty will always be subject to careful consideration and will take account of individual circumstances. Our aim is to focus on developing an immigration enforcement system founded upon compliance and less reliant upon detention.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-14/112911/>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

### Dublin Regulations

**Lord Kennedy of Southwark (Labour)** [HL3111] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the need for a replacement for the Dublin III Agreement on refugees when the UK leaves the EU.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Dublin III Regulation concerns asylum seekers, not refugees. It is the mechanism by which the Member State responsible for considering an asylum claim is identified.

The Government has been clear that it is in both the UK and the EU's best interests to continue to cooperate on asylum and illegal migration issues when we leave the EU. We are ready to discuss the exact nature of this cooperation with our European partners.

As a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention, we will continue to honour our international obligations when we leave the EU.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-11-13/HL3111/>

### Immigration: Adoption

*The following three questions all received the same answer*

**Lord Eatwell (Non-affiliated)** [HL2899] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they treat children who claim to be adopted differently from those who are not adopted in determining immigration cases; and if so, how many instances of such different treatment there have been in the last five years.

### Adoption

**Lord Eatwell (Non-affiliated)** [HL2900] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 26 October (HL2021), which member states of the UN have adoption laws that are not recognised as lawful in the UK.

**Lord Eatwell (Non-affiliated)** [HL2901] To ask Her Majesty's Government what proof of adoption is required for a child adopted in a foreign jurisdiction to be deemed lawfully adopted by the UK authorities.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Children who claim to be adopted are not treated differently to biological children in determining immigration cases.

The UK automatically recognises adoptions from the list of designated countries that can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/intercountry-adoption-information-for-adoption-agencies>. The adoption order is required as proof of such adoptions.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-11-06/HL2899/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-11-06/HL2900/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-11-06/HL2901/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-10-16/HL2021/>

### **Entry Clearances: Overseas Students**

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Lord Kennedy of Southwark (Labour)** [HL3108] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 10 October (HL Deb, col 106), what assessment they have made of the compatibility of their commitments (1) not to limit the number of genuine international students who come to the UK to study, and (2) to reduce net migration whilst including international students in their net migration target.

**Lord Kennedy of Southwark (Labour)** [HL3109] To ask Her Majesty's Government what consideration they have given to excluding international students from their net migration target.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** There is no limit on the number of international students who can come to the UK and there are no plans to change this. So long as students are compliant with immigration rules they should make a very limited contribution to net migration numbers.

The independent Office for National Statistics is responsible for the production of the net migration statistics. In line with the internationally agreed UN definition these statistics define a migrant as someone changing their normal place of residence for more than a year. Students are therefore included in the same way as other migrants. International students who stay for longer than 12 months, like other migrants, have an impact on communities, infrastructure and services while they are here so it is right that they are included in the net migration count.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-11-13/HL3108/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-11-13/HL3109/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<http://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2017-10-10/debates/A3A924B8-C457-44C1-83B2-43030A5ADBA7/ImmigrationInternationalStudents#contribution-2D520415-8B7B-4D68-9D4B-3BD872F90DA7>

### **Immigration: Children**

**Lord Hylton (Crossbench)** [HL2929] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the reply by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 2 November (HL Deb, col 1508), of the more than 9,000 children granted asylum or other leave to remain in 2016–2017, how many already had parents in the UK; and where the other children were located immediately before admission to the UK, broken down by country of birth or origin.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** In the year to June 2017, the UK granted asylum or another form of leave to over 9,000 children. This figure includes children granted asylum or another form of leave following an asylum claim, children resettled under our resettlement programmes and those children who were granted family reunion visas.

The forms of leave granted to children who have made an asylum claim can include Refugee Leave, Humanitarian Protection, UASC Leave, Discretionary Leave, Grants of Family or Private Life Leave To Remain or Leave Outside The Rules. Children who are resettled to the UK under our resettlement programmes are granted Refugee status or Indefinite Leave to Remain depending on the specific resettlement programme. Family reunion visas can be granted to family members of those granted Refugee Status or Humanitarian Protection in the UK, and are granted Leave in line with their relative.

The Home Office publishes the number of Asylum applications made in the UK from main applicants, by age, sex and country of nationality in the Immigration Statistics release. The latest figures are available at the following link:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/593028/asylum2-q4-2016-tables.ods](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/593028/asylum2-q4-2016-tables.ods)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-11-06/HL2929/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<http://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2017-11-02/debates/12AC247A-E161-494A-9336-4BE334BF0D0D/CalaisRefugees#contribution-B5DD8A35-2A31-4A60-8908-57FE3A2D0A64>

### **Refugees: Social Security Benefits**

**Baroness Smith of Basildon (Labour)** [HL2963] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answers by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 25 July 2016 (HL1295) and 1 November (HL2214), whether it is still their intention to publish an evaluation of the scheme, given their earlier stated intention to publish that evaluation in 2016; and if so, when that evaluation will be published.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The scheme is intended to ensure that refugees who wish to apply for benefits are assisted with their application and receive prompt payment of any benefit for which they qualify. We will make information available about the scheme in due course.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-11-06/HL2963/>

*The answers referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-07-18/HL1295/>

*and*

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-10-18/HL2214/>

### **Immigrants: Detainees**

**Lord Scriven (Liberal Democrat)** [HL2824] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many people held in immigration detention (1) self-harmed, and (2) tried to commit suicide, in the years (a) 2015, (b) 2016, and (c) 2017, to date.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** All incidents of self harm are treated very seriously and every step is taken to prevent incidents of this nature.

Staff at all immigration removal centres (IRC) are trained to identify those at risk of self harm so that action can be taken to minimise the risk. Formal risk assessments on initial detention and systems for raising concerns at any subsequent point feed into established self harm procedures in every IRC, which are in turn underpinned by the Home Office Operating Standard on the prevention of self-harm and detention services order 06/2008 Assessment Care in Detention Teamwork (ACDT).

The Home Office requires IRC service providers to record management information on the number of incidents of self harm that have required medical

treatment. Information on incidents of self harm which do not require medical treatment, or where the intent of the self harm attempt is suicide, is not readily available from central statistical records and could only be obtained at disproportionate cost through a manual search of individual case files.

Provisional management information for the period from 1 January 2015 to 30 June 2017 shows that in 2015 there were 411 incidents of self harm requiring medical attention, in 2016 there were 342 incidents and 224 incidents in 2017 (to 30 June). These numbers do not necessarily equate to the numbers of detainees requiring medical treatment. One individual may have received medical treatment on more than one occasion. 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/Lords/2017-11-01/HL2824/>

### **Immigrants: Detainees**

**Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour)** [HL2940] To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their response to the finding in the report by Women for Refugee Women, We are still here, published on 1 November, that survivors of sexual and gender-based violence continue to be routinely held in immigration detention in apparent contravention of Home Office policy.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Home Office immigration policy operates with a presumption against detention. When people are detained, it is for the minimum time possible, and their dignity and welfare is of the utmost importance.

As part of its response to Stephen Shaw's review of the welfare of vulnerable persons in immigration detention, the Government introduced the adults at risk in immigration detention policy, which came into force on 12 September 2016. The policy introduced a case-by-case evidence-based assessment of the appropriateness of detention for any individual who is considered vulnerable, balanced against the immigration control considerations that apply in their case. Having been a victim of sexual or gender based violence (including female genital mutilation) is expressly included as an indicator of risk for the purposes of the policy. This means that any such victim will be detained only when the immigration control considerations that apply in their case outweigh the risk factors. The policy is supported by the cross-cutting gatekeeper, which assesses vulnerability and provides challenge to decisions about who enters immigration detention, and scrutinises prospects and speed of removal.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-11-06/HL2940/>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.refugeewomen.co.uk/2016/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/We-are-still-here-report-WEB.pdf>

### **Immigrants: Detainees**

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

**Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour)** [HL3121] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many assessments of the suitability of detention made by the Detention Gatekeeper have resulted in (1) the detention of an individual, and (2) an individual not being detained, since that post was established.

**Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour)** [HL3122] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether any individuals have been detained after the Detention Gatekeeper has assessed that detention is not suitable for that individual, since that post was established; and if so, how many.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Home Office information management systems do not accurately record and report on the data requested,



but work is underway to ensure they do. Provisional management information that is subject to change and has not been assured to the standard of Official Statistics can be provided.

The Detention Gatekeeper considers immigration detention primarily based on removability and vulnerability. It is not possible for an individual to be detained having been assessed as unsuitable for detention by the Detention Gatekeeper unless a change in circumstances later arises that could for example include the availability of travel documentation.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-11-13/HL3121/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-11-13/HL3122/>

### **Deportation: EU Nationals**

**Lord Kennedy of Southwark (Labour)** [HL3110] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of their enforcement of Article 45 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union which permits member states to remove EU citizens after three months if they are not exercising a treaty right to freedom of movement; whether they plan to change their enforcement of that article; and whether they have made any estimate of the impact that a stricter enforcement of that article would have on the number of EU citizens in the UK.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Article 45 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union guarantees the free movement rights of workers. The conditions a worker, or any other EU citizen or their family member, must satisfy in order to enjoy their rights of entry and residence in a host member state are set out in the Free Movement Directive (2004/38/EC). If an EU citizen does not meet the requirements for residence as set out in the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2016, the UK's implementing legislation, then they will not have a right to reside in the UK, and may be liable to removal. Removal is considered on a case by case basis.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-11-13/HL3110/>

## **Press Releases**

### **Government doubles exceptional talent visa offer**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-doubles-exceptional-talent-visa-offer>

### **Supreme Court Judgement: Right to welfare benefits of non-EU carers whose dependents are British citizens**

<https://www.supremecourt.uk/cases/docs/uksc-2015-0215-press-summary.pdf>

### **Court of Justice of the European Union: A non-EU national may benefit from a right of residence in the Member State in which his EU citizen family member resided before acquiring the nationality of that Member State in addition to her nationality of origin**

<https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/upload/docs/application/pdf/2017-11/cp170121en.pdf>

### **European Agenda on Migration: Consolidating progress made**

[https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/news/european-agenda-migration-consolidating-progress-made\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/news/european-agenda-migration-consolidating-progress-made_en)

### **DG JUST awards grant to UNHCR for the protection of children in migration**

[http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/just/item-detail.cfm?item\\_id=607382](http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/just/item-detail.cfm?item_id=607382)

**Wikström: asylum seekers should be fairly distributed in EU**

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/society/20171012STO85934/wikstrom-asylum-seekers-should-be-fairly-distributed-in-eu>

## New Publication

**We are still here: The continued detention of women seeking asylum in Yarl's Wood**

<http://www.refugeewomen.co.uk/2016/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/We-are-still-here-report-WEB.pdf>

## News

**MSPs back calls for immigration to be devolved to Holyrood**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/15660703.MSPs\\_back\\_calls\\_for\\_immigration\\_to\\_be\\_devolved\\_to\\_Holyrood/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/15660703.MSPs_back_calls_for_immigration_to_be_devolved_to_Holyrood/)

**MSPs back calls for immigration to be devolved to Holyrood**

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/scotland/545334/msps-back-calls-for-immigration-to-be-devolved-to-holyrood/>

**EU citizens keep immigration rights in UK, court rules**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-41985002>

**Number of EU nationals working in Britain reaches record level, official statistics show**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/11/15/number-eu-nationals-working-britain-reaches-record-level-official/>

**EU citizens who become British can bring non-EU spouses to UK, court rules**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/nov/14/eu-citizens-become-british-non-eu-spouses-live-with-them-court>

**EU nationals still allowed to bring foreign partners to UK despite Government ruling, European court rules**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/eu-nationals-spouses-married-rules-uk-ecj-ruling-a8055121.html>

**EU citizens who become British will keep family immigration rights**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/eu-citizens-who-become-british-keep-family-immigration-rights-qmkmbzvst>

**Number of EU workers in UK rises by 112,000 since Brexit vote**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/nov/15/number-european-union-workers-britain-rises>

**Record number of EU workers in Britain despite Brexit vote**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/record-number-of-eu-workers-in-britain-despite-brexit-vote-xvgwmsgjt>

**Scots NHS faces doctor Brexit crisis as half of EU consultants and GPs could leave**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/scots-nhs-faces-doctor-brexit-crisis-11522479>

**Brexit: One in five EU doctors make plans to leave NHS because of withdrawal**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/health/brexit-nhs-doctors-leave-eu-uk-health-service-latest-germany-spain-australia-a8053011.html>

**Nearly half NHS doctors from EEA considering leaving the UK, survey reveals**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/pa/article-5080121/Nearly-half-NHS-doctors-EEA-considering-leaving-UK-survey-reveals.html>

**First child refugee from Greek camps comes to UK**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/nov/18/refugee-child-14-month-delay-dubs-amendment>

**Moderator urges government to help stateless people**

[http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/news/2017/moderator\\_urges\\_government\\_to\\_help\\_stateless\\_people](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news_and_events/news/2017/moderator_urges_government_to_help_stateless_people)

**Ten Vietnamese children are abandoned in rural Shropshire: Council faces £1m bill to help teens smuggled into Britain in a lorry**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5091103/Ten-Vietnamese-children-abandoned-rural-Shropshire.html>

**Protesters urge government to close Dungavel Detention Centre immediately**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15669869.Protesters\\_urge\\_government\\_to\\_close\\_Dungavel\\_Detention\\_Centre\\_immediately/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15669869.Protesters_urge_government_to_close_Dungavel_Detention_Centre_immediately/)

**Home Office 'locking migrants in rooms for more than 13 hours a day' in breach of human rights**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-migrants-locked-room-human-right-day-exercise-detention-centres-refugees-brook-house-a8058486.html>

**Brook House asylum seekers in legal fight over lock-in procedures**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/nov/16/brook-house-asylum-seekers-in-legal-challenge-over-lock-in-procedures>

**More rape and torture victims being held at Yarl's Wood, report says**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/nov/15/yarls-wood-chief-inspector-prisons-report-rape-torture>

**Trafficking victims 'being wrongly sent to immigration detention centres'**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/nov/15/trafficking-victims-being-wrongly-sent-to-immigration-detention-centres>

**Unfair detention of immigrants is a stain on our nation**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/law/unfair-detention-of-immigrants-is-a-stain-on-our-nation-77lnsjrww>

**Refugee family 'overwhelmed' by support after St Helens firebombing**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/nov/16/refugee-family-overwhelmed-by-support-after-st-helens-firebombing>

**Arson drives Syrian refugee family from their Merseyside home**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/nov/15/arson-drives-syrian-refugee-family-from-their-merseyside-home>

**How dropping cigarette butt left asylum seeker with risk of deportation**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/nov/12/how-dropping-cigarette-butt-left-asylum-seeker-facing-risk-of-deportation>

TOP

## Community Relations

### Scottish Parliament Motion

**S5M-08916 John Mason (SNP): Scottish Interfaith Week 2017** – That the Parliament welcomes the celebration of Scottish Interfaith Week 2017, which was officially launched on 13 November; notes that the week aims to provide an opportunity for people from all backgrounds to celebrate Scotland’s religious heritage and diversity; understands that Scottish Interfaith Week has been celebrated since its inauguration in 2004; further understands that the theme for this year’s week is “creativity and the arts”, which aims to highlight the positive impact that the arts can have in breaking down barriers between people; wishes the event every success, and hopes that it will achieve its goal of helping foster a more tolerant and connected society.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-08916>

### News

**Staffordshire schools told to offer virtual tours of mosques after parents ban children from visits**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-11-14/news/staffordshire-schools-told-to-offer-virtual-tours-of-mosques-after-parents-ban-children-from-visits-6plzct02w>

**Let’s be clear: Muslims are neither good nor bad. We’re just human**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/nov/14/muslims-neither-good-nor-bad-human-islamophobia-britain>

TOP

## Equality

### Scottish Parliament Oral Answers

#### **Gypsy Traveller Strategy and Action Plan**

**Mary Fee (Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the implementation of the Gypsy Traveller strategy and action plan. (S5O-01474)

**Reply from the Cabinet Secretary for Communities, Social Security and Equalities (Angela Constance):** The Scottish Government recognises that Gypsy Traveller communities are among the most disenfranchised and discriminated against in Scotland. We will publish a race equality action plan by the end of this year that will include specific Scottish Government-led activities for Gypsy Travellers, and which will be followed by a detailed programme of work for the community. I look forward to informing Parliament about our proposals for work in this important area when we do so.

**Mary Fee:** Gypsy Travellers are a protected group under equalities legislation. Despite that, they remain one of the most marginalised and discriminated-against groups in Scotland. Social attitudes studies show little change in the deeply entrenched views against them. The first inquiry into Gypsy Travellers that the Scottish Parliament carried out was in 2001, and subsequent inquiries have shown little change in their living conditions or their lives. The Gypsy Traveller community feels let down and ignored by politicians nationally and locally. Will the cabinet secretary agree to meet representatives of the Gypsy Traveller community to hear at first hand about the issues that they face? Will she also agree to take direct control of the issue to make some progress to help this community?

**Reply from Angela Constance:** I thank Mary Fee, who has been a champion and advocate for the Gypsy community for many years now; we need more people to act in that fashion. Mary Fee is absolutely correct to underline the issues that are often raised in the Scottish social attitudes survey. The Equality and Human Rights Commission describes attitudes towards the Gypsy Traveller community as “the last bastion of respectable racism”.

I will indeed meet members of the community and, as I indicated in my first answer, there will be Scottish Government-led action. I am very conscious that there have been two previous committee inquiries and we now need to get on with the delivery of that action. I look forward to informing Parliament of that work in due course, but I can say to Mary Fee and others that we have been working very hard on the race equality delivery plan. We have been open to the advice, support and, indeed, challenge of our race equality framework adviser, Kaliani Lyle, among others.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11196&i=102058#ScotParlOR>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

### Apprentices: Ethnic Groups

**Gordon Marsden (Labour) [112295]** To ask the Secretary of State for Education, whether it remains Government policy to increase BAME participation in apprenticeships by 20 per cent by 2020.

**Reply from Anne Milton:** The Government is still planning to increase the proportion of apprenticeships started by those who are Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) by 20% by 2020.

Provisional data for 2016/17 showed 11.2% of starts were by people from BAME backgrounds which is up from 10.5% the previous year.

The Government has encouraged a higher representation of BAME apprentices through our marketing campaign, ‘Get in Go Far’. This has included recognising BAME apprentices in high status professional roles.

We have also launched the Apprenticeships Diversity Champions Network. The Network, comprised of 27 employers, has been developed to engage employers and communities to ensure apprenticeships are undertaken by those from a range of peoples, including BAME.

We are currently working with Local Enterprise Partnerships to help improve BAME representation in apprenticeships at a local level.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-10/112295/>

## Press Release

**Charities must do more to promote diversity on their boards, new research shows**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/charities-must-do-more-to-promote-diversity-on-their-boards-new-research-shows>

## News

**Our research shows austerity is hitting ethnic minorities and the disabled harder – ministers cannot claim they were not warned**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/comment/cuts-austerity-ethnic-minorities-disabled-theresa-may-portes-equality-human-rights-commission-a8059931.html>

**Dawn Butler: Austerity 'hits ethnic minority women hardest'**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-42025485>

**Don't tell me black cover models don't sell – editors have the power to change cultural perceptions**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/nov/14/dont-tell-me-black-cover-models-dont-sell-editors-have-the-power-to-change-cultural-perceptions>

TOP

## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### Scottish Parliament Debate

**Prejudice-based Bullying and Harassment in Schools, and Personal and Social Education**

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11193&i=102029#ScotParLOR>

### Scottish Parliament Motion

**S5M-08846 John Mason (SNP): Religious Persecution #RedWednesday** – That the Parliament notes the #RedWednesday event being held on 22 November across Scotland and around the world to stand in solidarity with persecuted Christians and all who suffer for their peacefully held beliefs; understands that a week of events will take place from 19 to 26 November to raise awareness of religious persecution; further notes that the #RedWednesday campaign honours Christians and other faith groups who suffer and die due to their faith; welcomes the participation of churches and others across Scotland, led especially by Aid to the Church in Need and Christian Solidarity Worldwide; further notes that anyone can get involved by simply wearing red, and hopes that the #RedWednesday campaign will achieve its aim of respect and tolerance for people of faith and between different faith traditions.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-08846>

### UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

#### **Hate Crime: Prosecutions**

**Lord Vinson (Conservative)** [HL2876] To ask Her Majesty's Government under what authority the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) has agreed a definition of racially and religiously aggravated crime that is wider than the legal definition under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and Criminal Justice Act 2003, as indicated in the CPS Public statement on prosecuting racist and religious hate crime published in August.

**Reply from Lord Keen of Elie:** In order to charge and prosecute hate crimes, the CPS uses the legal definition provided by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and Criminal Justice Act 2003. The shared police and CPS definition of hate crime is based on the perception of the victim or any other person and allows for case flagging and monitoring as well as appropriate victim support, it does not affect the charge.

This flagging definition comes from the recommended definition in the Macpherson report which was published in 1999 as a result of the inquiry into the murder of Stephen Lawrence. The Macpherson Report found a lack of confidence within communities that hate crime was being treated seriously by the police and Criminal Justice System and recommended that the definition of a racist incident

should be, 'any incident which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person'. Putting the victim's perception at the heart of the definition gives a clear signal that, once flagged as a hate crime, an appropriate investigation will follow and evidence to support the law on hostility will be proactively sought. The definition seeks to encourage victims to report and to increase confidence in the Criminal Justice System.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-11-02/HL2876/>

*The Macpherson report referred to above can be read at*

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/277111/4262.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/277111/4262.pdf)

## UK Parliament Early Day Motion

**John Mann (528) Tackling antisemitism on university campuses** – That this House believes that university campuses should be a safe space for all students no matter their race, religion, sexuality or gender; welcomes the change of leadership in the National Union of Students (NUS); notes the improved relations between Jewish students and their representative body, the Union of Jewish Students and the current NUS president; further notes the need for a consistent approach by the NUS and vice-chancellors to deal with antisemitism and other forms of racism on campus; encourages universities and student unions to consult the Universities UK and NUS guidance on external speakers in order to inform their approach to managing difficult events on campus; further believes that the higher education sector has a duty to facilitate reporting systems and encourage reporting from students subjected to abuse on campus; calls on universities to put procedures in place to address violent protests; and further calls on universities to adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of antisemitism.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2017-19/528>

## Press Release

**ODIHR publishes hate crime data on International Day for Tolerance, emphasizing need for close co-operation between states and civil society**

<http://www.osce.org/odihr/357046>

## New Publications

**Respect for All: The National Approach to Anti-bullying for Scotland's Children and Young People**

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00527674.pdf>

**Who experiences ethnic and racial harassment?**

<https://www.iser.essex.ac.uk/files/projects/health-and-harassment/Health%20and%20Harassment%20Briefing%20Note%20Oct2016.pdf>

**Islamophobia Still a challenge for us all**

<https://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/Islamophobia%20Report%202018.pdf>

**What works? Eight principles for meaningful evaluation of anti-prejudice work**

[https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/prejudice-unlawful-behaviour-guide-to-evaluation\\_1.pdf](https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/prejudice-unlawful-behaviour-guide-to-evaluation_1.pdf)

**Tackling prejudice and discrimination: summary report**

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/prejudice-unlawful-behaviour-tackling-prejudice-discrimination-summary-report.pdf>

**Research report of Kumon Y'all befriending project**

[https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/prejudice-unlawful-behaviour-anti-prejudice-projects-kumon-yall\\_0.pdf](https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/prejudice-unlawful-behaviour-anti-prejudice-projects-kumon-yall_0.pdf)

**One Globe Kids: Evaluating an online platform for changing social attitudes in young children**

[https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/prejudice-unlawful-behaviour-anti-prejudice-projects-one-globe-kids\\_0.pdf](https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/prejudice-unlawful-behaviour-anti-prejudice-projects-one-globe-kids_0.pdf)

**Empowerment and confidence in the Equality Act 2010: Evaluating the impact of training by Race on the Agenda**

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/prejudice-unlawful-behaviour-anti-prejudice-projects-race-on-the-agenda.pdf>

**Show Racism the Red Card: Evaluating the impact of anti-racism educational interventions on the attitudes of young people in secondary school education**

[https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/prejudice-unlawful-behaviour-anti-prejudice-projects-show-racism-the-red-card\\_0.pdf](https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/prejudice-unlawful-behaviour-anti-prejudice-projects-show-racism-the-red-card_0.pdf)

**Encouraging flexible recruitment: an email trial**

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/prejudice-unlawful-behaviour-bit-trials-encouraging-flexible-recruitment.pdf>

**Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights: 2016 Hate Crime Data**

<http://hatecrime.osce.org/2016-data>

## News

**Emma Dent Coad MP accused of writing 'racist' blog post**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-london-41976865>

**'Hitler wasn't the bad guy': Labour faces new anti-Semitism storm after mother who posted vile Facebook rants is short-listed for party safe seat**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5071619/Labour-faces-new-anti-Semitism-storm.html>

**Senior Police Scotland officer Ruth Gilfillan demoted three ranks to constable after sectarian comment probe**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15670134.Senior\\_Police\\_Scotland\\_officer\\_demoted\\_three\\_ranks\\_after\\_sectarian\\_comment\\_probe/?ref=mr&lp=3](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15670134.Senior_Police_Scotland_officer_demoted_three_ranks_after_sectarian_comment_probe/?ref=mr&lp=3)

**Police watchdog 'racist and corrupt'**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/police-watchdog-racist-and-corrupt-tfsc9xnbq>

**Swastikas and anti-Semitism rife on campus: MPs hear how image is now seen as a 'casual symbol of fun' and Holocaust denial literature is being handed out**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5087463/Swastikas-anti-Semitism-rife-university-campuses.html>

**Man jailed for Paisley mosque fake bomb scare**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-42010425>



**Man jailed for 32 months over 'revenge' fake bomb at Paisley mosque**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-11-17/scotland/man-jailed-for-32-months-over-revenge-fake-bomb-at-paisley-mosque-w8c3rh85k>

**Chinese report highest levels of racial harassment in UK**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/nov/19/chinese-community-reports-highest-proportion-of-racial-harassment-in-britain>

**We need to change the way we talk about Islamophobia**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-11-14/news/we-need-to-change-the-way-we-talk-about-islamophobia-0f3vvn9x>

**This Islamophobia obsession does Muslims no favours**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-11-14/comment/this-islamophobia-obsession-does-muslims-no-favours-djrj5mxwk>

**Fears far-right are planning to clash with traditional anti-racist march**

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/15669519.Fears\\_far\\_right\\_are\\_planning\\_to\\_clash\\_with\\_traditional\\_anti\\_racist\\_march/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/15669519.Fears_far_right_are_planning_to_clash_with_traditional_anti_racist_march/)

**Twitter gives neo-Nazis and extremists a deadline to quit hate groups or risk being barred**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/twitter-neo-nazi-deadline-crackdown-hate-speech-december-a8062556.html>

**Gay Times sacks editor after antisemitic and offensive tweets emerge**

<https://www.theguardian.com/media/2017/nov/16/gay-times-sacks-editor-josh-rivers-after-antisemitic-and-offensive-tweets-emerge>

**Gay Times editor suspended over racist, antisemitic and transphobic tweets**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/gay-times-editor-josh-rivers-suspended-tweets-racist-antisemitic-a8057331.html>

**Gay Times editor sacked after anti-Semitic and sexist tweets discovered**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/11/16/gay-times-editor-sacked-anti-semitic-sexist-tweets-discovered/>

**Gay Times' new editor is sacked over tweets slamming Jews, lesbians, straight women, Egyptians, Asians, Chinese, transgender people, fat people, mothers and bus drivers**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5088701/Gay-Times-new-editor-SACKED-tweets.html>

**The Simpsons accused of racism over Indian shopkeeper Apu**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/the-simpsons-accused-of-racism-over-running-joke-indian-shopkeeper-apu-ld3mxfbjh>

**Apu makes me laugh, but I can see the harm such stereotypes do**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/nov/18/apu-stereotypes-documentary-the-simpsons-character-racist>

**Much Apu about nothing: why calling The Simpsons racist misses the point**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/tv/0/much-apu-nothing-calling-simpsons-racist-misses-point/>

TOP

## Other Scottish Parliament and Government

### Press Releases

#### **The spirit of St Andrew**

<https://news.gov.scot/news/the-spirit-of-st-andrew>

#### **Launch of 2018 as Year of Young People**

<https://firstminister.gov.scot/launch-of-2018-as-year-of-young-people/>

#### **'UK Ministers should not be able to make law in devolved areas without the consent of the Scottish Government' a Committee of MSPs says**

<http://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/106741.aspx>

### New Publication

#### **Scottish Parliament Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee Report: Legislative Consent Memorandum on the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill**

<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdneq.azureedge.net/published/DPLR/2017/11/17/Legislative-Consent-Memorandum-on-the-European-Union--Withdrawal--Bill/DPLRS52017R54.pdf>

TOP

## Other UK Parliament and Government

### Debate

#### **Referendum on Scottish Independence**

<http://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-11-13/debates/42449346-E2BE-4429-921B-3F72D50E27B9/ReferendumOnScottishIndependence>

### Press Release

#### **PM meeting with Nicola Sturgeon: 14 November 2017**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-meeting-with-nicola-sturgeon-14-november-2017>

### New Publication

#### **European Union (Withdrawal) Bill: Implications for devolution**

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmsscotaf/375/375.pdf>

TOP

## Other News

#### **School inspectors to question Muslim girls who wear hijabs amid concerns they are being forced to wear headscarf**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/muslim-girls-hijab-headscarf-primary-school-inspectors-amanda-spielman-a8063386.html>

## School inspectors to quiz girls in hijabs

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/school-inspectors-to-quiz-girls-in-hijabs-3fl2h1kjv>

## Six in 10 Muslim wives not legally married

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/six-in-10-muslim-wives-not-legally-married-j9r2qvtgm>

## Judge bans British Muslim wife of Egyptian man from taking their young daughter abroad over fears the toddler is at risk of female genital mutilation

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5090065/Judge-bans-wife-Egyptian-taking-daughter-abroad.html>

TOP

## Bills in Progress

\*\* new or updated this week

### Scottish Parliament

#### \*\* Domestic Abuse Bill

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

State 2 Notice of amendments

<http://www.parliament.scot/Domestic%20Abuse%20Scotland%20Bill/SPBill08MLS052017.pdf>

#### 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>

Notice of amendments

[https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2017-2019/0005/amend/euwithdrawal\\_rm\\_cwh\\_1115.1-7.html](https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2017-2019/0005/amend/euwithdrawal_rm_cwh_1115.1-7.html)

and

[https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2017-2019/0005/amend/euwithdrawal\\_rm\\_cwh\\_1117.1-7.html](https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2017-2019/0005/amend/euwithdrawal_rm_cwh_1117.1-7.html)

Committee Stage, House of Commons

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-11-14/debates/B9A99D17-80B2-43F4-BFD8-620E40A24EE9/EuropeanUnion\(Withdrawal\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-11-14/debates/B9A99D17-80B2-43F4-BFD8-620E40A24EE9/EuropeanUnion(Withdrawal)Bill)

and

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-11-15/debates/7A700C0E-8BA2-4EEC-B53D-997028C06900/EuropeanUnion\(Withdrawal\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-11-15/debates/7A700C0E-8BA2-4EEC-B53D-997028C06900/EuropeanUnion(Withdrawal)Bill)

### **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>

### **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>

[TOP](#)

## **Consultations**

\*\* new or updated this week

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

### **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>

### **Enabling Gypsies, Roma and Travellers [Welsh Government consultation]**

(closing date 21 December 2017)

<https://consultations.gov.wales/consultations/enabling-gypsies-roma-and-travellers>

### **International students: economic and social impacts** (closing date 26 January 2018)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/international-students-economic-and-social-impacts>

### **Empowering Schools** (closing date 7 January 2018)

<https://consult.gov.scot/learning-directorate/education-scotland-bill/>

### **Charitable giving by Muslims** (no closing date given)

[https://cardiffunipsych.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9ZRSLmNhpyNY63j](https://cardiffunipsych.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9ZRSLmNhpyNY63j)

### **Police Scotland: Your view counts** (open all year)

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/decision-making/public-consultation/local-policing-consultation>

[TOP](#)

## **Job Opportunities**

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

[Click here](#) to find out about Graduate, Modern, and Foundation Apprenticeship opportunities.

[TOP](#)

## **Events, Conferences, and Training**

\*\* new or updated this week

### **\*\* this week!**

#### **New Scots: Refugees and VPRS Resettlement**

23 November 2013 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](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

### **\*\* this week!**

#### **Women in politics: Becoming an MSP**

23 November 2017 in Edinburgh (6.30-8.30)

Inclusion Scotland workshop to explore what it takes to become an MSP, including the stages involved in getting elected; joining a party, becoming an activist, through to selection and election and how women can best prepare for this role. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/y7szoxce>

### **\*\* this week!**

#### **Equality law training: Discrimination in Education**

24 November 2017 in Edinburgh (10.00-3.45)

Equality and Human Rights Commission event aimed at advisers, equality officers,

solicitors and those with an interest in education, to examine what discrimination is, how it can arise in an education context, and provide information about the Commission's Discrimination in Education project. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/y9gut8sf> or contact [equalityactscotland@equalityhumanrights.com](mailto:equalityactscotland@equalityhumanrights.com)

**\*\* this week!**

### **One-Stop-Shop for Mobile EU Citizens**

25 November 2017 in Edinburgh (5.30-9.30)

Workshops and free legal advice about the political and legal position is for EU nationals who want to live and work in the UK after Brexit. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/yd2hplh8>

### **UK Parliament Scottish Affairs Committee public meeting**

29 November 2017 in Inverness (9.00-11.00)

The UK Parliament Scottish Affairs Committee is holding a meeting to discuss ideas for topics the Committee should explore. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/y9twqn2e> or contact 020 7219 1650

### **Working with Interpreters**

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/zy436gr> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / [martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

### **\*\* Lunchtime Equality Workshop**

29 November 2017 in Kirkcaldy (12.00-1.30)

Fife Centre for Equalities workshop about the Equality Act 2010, in particular "Accessibility and Reasonable Adjustments). For information contact 01592 645 310 / [elric@centreforequalities.org.uk](mailto:elric@centreforequalities.org.uk)

### **Hate Crime and 3<sup>rd</sup> party reporting advisory panel**

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 3<sup>rd</sup> party reporting. For information see [https://scojec.org/memo/files/17-18\\_wsrec.pdf](https://scojec.org/memo/files/17-18_wsrec.pdf) or contact Rabeea [rqureshi@wsrec.co.uk](mailto:rqureshi@wsrec.co.uk) / 0141 337 6626.

### **The New Scots – Immigrant Communities since c1950**

30 November 2017 in Edinburgh (6.00-8.00)

St Andrew's Day lecture presented by Professor Tom Devine as part of the BEMIS 'Scotland's Diverse History' Series. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/yaadfhc2>

### **\*\* Community Empowerment Act and Participation Requests**

5 December 2017 in Glasgow (5.00-7.00)

13 December 2017 in Glasgow (10.00-12.30)

BEMIS workshops providing an opportunity to learn more about how the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 can impact your community. The Act empowers community bodies to get involved in local issues and participate in the decision-making

process for public services. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/y8rc8mn3>

### **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](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

### **Scottish Human Rights Commission National Participation Event**

12 December 2017 in Glasgow (10.00-4.00)

Event to mark International Human Rights Day 2017 and the end of the first four years of Scotland's National Action Plan for Human Rights (SNAP). For information contact [actionplan@scottishhumanrights.com](mailto:actionplan@scottishhumanrights.com) or see <http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/news/national-participation-event/> of

### **Rights and Entitlements of EEA Nationals**

12 December 2017 in Glasgow (9.30-12.30)

13 December 2017 in Perth (9.30-12.30)

PAiH training to explain fundamental issues of housing, employment and welfare entitlements of EEA nationals and explore ways to avoid possible threats of Brexit. For information see <http://www.paih.org/training/> or contact [training@positiveactionh.org](mailto:training@positiveactionh.org)

### **Scotland's National Action Plan (SNAP) for Human Rights**

12 December 2017 in Glasgow (10.00-4.00)

Scottish Human Rights Commission event to mark International Human Rights Day 2017 and the end of SNAP's first four years, and providing an opportunity to reflect on SNAP's successes and challenges, guide what comes next, and inform the final evaluation and report on SNAP's first four years. For information see <http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/news/national-participation-event/> or contact [actionplan@scottishhumanrights.com](mailto:actionplan@scottishhumanrights.com)

### **Rights of Refugees and Asylum Seekers**

12 December 2017 in Glasgow (1.30-4.30)

13 December 2017 in Perth (1.30-4.30)

PAiH training to explore how the asylum system works from the perspective of a claimant, the process involved in making a claim for asylum, barriers faced by both refugees and asylum seekers building a new life in Scotland, and their respective entitlement to services. For information see <http://www.paih.org/training/> or contact [training@positiveactionh.org](mailto:training@positiveactionh.org)

### **Self-Creative Writing to explore and celebrate integration**

15 December 2017 in Glasgow (2.00-3.30)

12 January 2018 in Glasgow (2.00-3.30)

Creative writing workshops organised by the UNESCO Chair in Refugee Integration Through Language and Art at Glasgow University. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/y77alnbx> or contact Aimee Ottroh [ottroh@icloud.com](mailto:ottroh@icloud.com)

### **New Scots: Refugees and the Asylum Process**

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](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

### **Holocaust Memorial Day 2018**

24 January 2018 at Glasgow Caledonian University

Details will be available in due course. For information contact the Scottish Interfaith Council [admin@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:admin@interfaithscotland.org) / 0141 558 0778.

### **\*\* Discrimination Law in 2018: The authoritative review of the most dynamic area of employment law**

29 January 2018 in Edinburgh (9.00-4.00)

Equality and Human Rights Commission conference to provide an update on discrimination in relation to employment law. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/y6vxwcb> or contact Ross Mathers 0141 228 5919 / [equalityactscotland@equalityhumanrights.com](mailto:equalityactscotland@equalityhumanrights.com)

### **Unaccompanied Refugee Children**

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/y7mz5uuv> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / [martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

### **Age Assessment Awareness**

21 February 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

The Age assessment process is used to establish the approximate age of an unaccompanied young person who may have been trafficked or otherwise separated from their families, so that their Rights and entitlements can be fulfilled. This Scottish Refugee Council course provides social workers and other relevant staff with an awareness of the components that are used to build a picture of a person's age. Reduced rates available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/y8f2z7p4> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / [martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

### **Refugee Rights to Housing**

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](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

### **First World Congress on Migration, Ethnicity, and Health**

17-19 May 2018 in Edinburgh

(closing date abstracts for posters, presentations and workshops: 6 October 2017)

The aims of the Congress include improved research, population health and health care for migrants and other discriminated-against populations, and considering the health effects of social, environmental and demographic change associated with population migration, and the effects on diseases and their causes. For information see <http://www.merhcongress.com/> or contact [merh@in-conference.org.uk](mailto:merh@in-conference.org.uk) / 0131 336 4203.

TOP



## Useful Links

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

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

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

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

**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](http://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](http://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/>

[TOP](#)



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



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

The copyright of each article belongs to the publisher on whose website it appears, and it may only be copied or reproduced in accordance with the relevant terms and conditions. Full details of these, and the publisher's contact information, are available on each website.