

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

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

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Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Debate

World Refugee Day

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11615&i=105296#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Motions

S5M-12891 Angela Constance (SNP): World Refugee Day: Supporting People to Settle in Scotland – That the Parliament commemorates World Refugee Day; welcomes people who have sought refuge in Scotland from war and persecution; celebrates the contribution that refugees and asylum seekers have made to Scotland; agrees with the key principle of the New Scots strategy that integration begins from day one of arrival; calls for a more humane asylum system that treats people with dignity and respect at all

times and enables them to rebuild their lives and fulfil their potential, and thanks the local authorities, third sector, community and faith organisations and the many people across Scotland who are supporting refugees and asylum seekers as they settle into their new lives.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-12891>

S5M-12891.1 Ross Greer (Green): World Refugee Day: Supporting People to Settle in Scotland – As an amendment to motion S5M-12891 in the name of Angela Constance (World Refugee Day: Supporting People to Settle in Scotland), insert at end “, and believes that the right to vote is an important component of integration into Scottish society and that refugees and asylum seekers legally resident in Scotland should have the right to vote in all elections and referenda.”

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-12891.1>

S5M-12891.2 Michelle Ballantyne (Conservative): World Refugee Day: Supporting People to Settle in Scotland – As an amendment to motion S5M-12891 in the name of Angela Constance (World Refugee Day: Supporting People to Settle in Scotland), insert at end “; recognises the great efforts that Scotland and the rest of the UK have undertaken in providing funding and support to refugees; acknowledges the Scottish Government on meeting its refugee housing target three years early; understands that the UK has committed to taking in 20,000 refugees fleeing war-torn Syria, including 900 unaccompanied children from Europe; further understands that the UK remains the second largest bilateral donor in humanitarian assistance in the world; notes that the UK Government has pledged over £2.3 billion in aid to Syria alone; further notes that the UK Government has allocated funding of over £420 million through its Official Development Assistance budget and the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement scheme; underlines that the Home Office provides per capita funding to Scottish local authorities to assist with refugee resettlement, and pledges to use its power to ensure that both the Scottish and UK governments continue to maintain their high standards in welcoming refugees and providing funding support to Syria refugees.”

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-12891.2>

S5M-12891.3 Monica Lennon (Labour): World Refugee Day: Supporting People to Settle in Scotland – As an amendment to motion S5M-12891 in the name of Angela Constance (World Refugee Day: Supporting People to Settle in Scotland), insert at end “; recognises the importance of national and local evaluation of all refugee programmes to identify good practice, and agrees that adequately resourced local authorities play a vital role in supporting community cohesion.”

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-12891.3>

S5M-12917: Neil Findlay (Labour): World Refugee Day That the Parliament commends *The Guardian* for marking World Refugee Day by printing the names of 34,000 refugees who have died over the last 25 years trying to get into Europe, and pays tribute to the memory of each and every one; encourages everyone to view the list of names of those lives lost in the pursuit of sanctuary from persecution, which is available at the website, uploads.guim.co.uk/2018/06/19/TheList.pdf; believes that each loss of life is an avoidable tragedy, and calls for European and global action to assist and support displaced people across the world.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-12917>

UK Parliament Debate

Refugee Family Reunion

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-21/debates/1056513E-EA1C-4F05-BDA5-0ACFBA4E2CB7/RefugeeFamilyReunion>

UK Parliament, Ministerial Statement

Immigration

The Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sajid Javid): [HCWS789] Tomorrow, Friday 22 June, will mark the 70th anniversary of the arrival of the Empire Windrush to the UK carrying passengers from various islands across the Caribbean. The Windrush generation arrived in response to Britain's invitation to help rebuild the country after the second world war. The Government value the contribution made to the UK by the Windrush generation and we are committed to do right by those who have faced difficulties in demonstrating their status under the immigration system.

I am leading a series of measures across my Department to help put things right. This includes launching a compensation scheme as quickly and as carefully as possible, to help redress what has gone wrong. The call for evidence for the scheme is now complete, and this has given individuals and community groups the opportunity to share their stories and experiences. A public consultation on the design of the compensation scheme will be opened in due course. We will be announcing details of the final scheme and how to apply as soon as possible after the public consultation has ended.

More widely, it is crucial for the Government to learn from what happened, and it is especially important to do so now. To do this we need to understand more about what happened, why it was not stopped sooner, and how we can ensure that it does not happen again. I have already announced that a thorough lessons learned review is under way within the Department to undertake this incredibly important task. In particular, the review will consider:

- how members of the Windrush generation came to be entangled in measures designed for illegal immigrants;
- why that was not spotted sooner; and
- whether corrective measures are now in place.

I have said from the outset that the lessons learned review needs to have independent oversight to make sure that it is done properly. I am pleased to announce today that I have appointed Wendy Williams to this role. Currently one of Her Majesty's inspectors of constabulary, Wendy brings a wealth of experience, including through her legal background. She was formerly the chief Crown prosecutor for Northumbria and the north-east region. As an HM inspector of constabulary, she has substantial experience of the independent, rigorous and objective assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of the operations of public bodies, in the public interest. I am confident that she will bring those essential characteristics, as well as integrity to the review.

The review will take time to do properly. The terms of reference and methodology for the review will be made available to the House before the summer recess.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-21/debates/18062129000021/Immigration>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

Tier 2 Visa Cap

Layla Moran (Liberal Democrat): What discussions has [the Minister] had with the Home Secretary on the effect of the tier 2 visa cap on recruitment in the NHS and social care sector. [905914]

Reply from the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care (Jeremy Hunt):

Last week the Home Secretary removed doctors and nurses from the tier 2 visa cap.

Layla Moran: In Oxfordshire, the situation with social care workers is at least as bad a problem. Of course we all very much welcome the removal of doctors and nurses from the cap, but what about social care workers? Why are we focusing on only half the problem?

Reply from Jeremy Hunt: Perhaps I can help the hon. Lady by pointing out that tier 2 visa cap is specifically for higher-paid workers. We do need to think about social care workers, but a lot of them are lower paid. That is why we are putting together a 10-year workforce plan for the health and social care sectors, both of which are very important. We will make sure that that goes hand in glove with the NHS plan that we announced yesterday.

Gareth Snell (Labour Co-op): The real effect of the cap is that there are not enough staff in the health service, as is shown by “NHS SOS”, a campaign run a few weeks ago in Stoke by *The Sentinel* that highlighted the lack of doctors and nurses. Realistically, what will the Secretary of State do to remedy that situation in Stoke-on-Trent? Will he meet people from *The Sentinel* so that they can present the evidence?

Reply from Jeremy Hunt: Let me tell the hon. Gentleman what we have been doing in the past five years: we have 14,300 more nurses, 10,100 more doctors, and over 40,000 more clinicians across different specialties. He will be very relieved to know that, on top of that, we are promising 50% more than his party did at the last election.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-19/debates/51A68BCE-4BA7-4EA4-AEB9-08C7A9168678/Tier2VisaCap>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Immigration

The following three questions all received the same answer

Stephen Timms (Labour) [153712] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average wait time has been for a person who has lost their UK residency permit abroad to receive a replacement over the last 12 months.

Stephen Timms (Labour) [153713] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average wait time has been for a person who has lost their UK residency permit in the Americas to receive a replacement over the last 12 months.

Stephen Timms (Labour) [153714] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average wait time has been for a person who has lost their UK residency permit in Jamaica to receive a replacement over the last 12 months.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: When the holder of a Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) loses their BRP abroad they are required to report it as lost, stolen or damaged via the www.gov.uk website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/biometric-residence-permits/lost-stolen-damaged>.

They are then required to obtain a ‘replacement BRP visa’ from a Visa Application Centre abroad before returning to the UK. The data requested in relation to average processing times for this type of visa application is not held in the format specified in the questions. However, the service standard for the ‘replacement BRP visa’ application is 15 days from date of application, although this may vary at individual Visa Application Centres.

Once the BRP holder has obtained their ‘replacement BRP visa’ and been able to return to the UK they will be required to apply for a replacement BRP. Further information on how to do this can be obtained from:

<https://www.gov.uk/biometric-residence-permits/replace>.

The data requested in relation to average processing times for the BR P RC

applications is not held in the format specified in the questions.

For those individuals who have limited leave to remain in the UK the service level agreement is to process all BRP RC applications within 8 weeks of receipt. For those with indefinite leave to remain in the UK the service level agreement is to process all BRP RC applications within 6 months of receipt.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-14/153712/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-14/153713/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-14/153714/>

Immigration: Biometrics

The following three questions all received the same answer

Jessica Morden (Labour) [128846] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the number of people born outside the EU who have been residing in the UK since before 2008 who have settlement visas but do not have biometric residency permits.

Jessica Morden (Labour) [128858] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her Department's policy is on providing biometric residency permits to UK residents who are victims of domestic violence and have indefinite leave to remain but have had their proof of identity and passport vignette destroyed by their ex-partner and as a result are unable to receive benefits or be employed.

Jessica Morden (Labour) [128865] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her Department's policy is on assistance with the fee for processing a biometric residency permit where the person has indefinite leave to remain.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We have no current estimate for the number of non-EU nationals born outside the UK who have been residing here since before 2008 with settlement visas but who have not obtained a biometric residence permit (BRP).

The fees for immigration documents are set out in schedule 3 to [The Immigration and Nationality \(Fees\) Regulations 2018](#).

Foreign nationals who are eligible to apply under the domestic violence provisions may, if proven to be destitute, apply for a fee waiver to lodge an application which, if granted, will result in a BRP without being charged.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-02-21/128846/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-02-21/128858/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-02-21/128865/>

Visas: Skilled Workers

Kate Hollern (Labour) [153303] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when the Government plans to make changes to the Tier 2 visa system; and what assessment he has made of the potential merits of introducing specific visa system for the NHS.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: On Friday 15 June, the Government announced changes to the allocation of places within the Tier 2 (General) cap of 20,700. The change – which will be implemented through amended Immigration Rules coming into effect on 6 July – will ensure that all doctors and all nurses needed in the UK

will be able to be recruited to work here without being counted against the cap. This is intended to be a temporary change which recognises the importance of alleviating pressure on the NHS and which creates extra space within the cap for other sectors of the economy.

As part of this announcement, we will be asking the independent Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to review the full composition of the Shortage Occupation List.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153303/>

Visas: Skilled Workers

Matt Western (Labour) [153422] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department has taken to ensure that businesses, including those in the manufacturing sector, can secure Certificates of Sponsorship to benefit from the talent of overseas workers.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Changes to the Tier 2 visa route to allow more highly skilled doctors and nurses to come to the UK mean that as well as providing a boost to the NHS, it will also free up additional places within the cap for other highly skilled occupations, such as engineers, IT professionals and teachers.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153422/>

Visas: Married People

Hannah Bardell (SNP) [153397] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he has plans he has to change the minimum income requirement for spouse visas.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government has no plans currently to change the income requirement for spousal visas. The Supreme Court upheld the lawfulness of the minimum income requirement for spouse visas in February 2017, the current approach ensures that taxpayers are not required to support those settling in the UK on Family visas and the policy promotes integration. The Supreme Court found that our policy strikes a fair balance between the interests of those wishing to sponsor a spouse to settle in the UK and of the community in general.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153397/>

Visas: Married People

Judith Cummins (Labour) [154732] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications have been made for spouse visas through the priority settlement programme; and how many of those applications were processed within 30 days.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Information on processing of settlement visas against performance standards is published in the Migration Transparency data at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/international-operations-transparency-data-may-2018>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-18/154732/>

Doctors: Migrant Workers

Catherine McKinnell (Labour) [153271] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the UK's requirement for international doctors specialising in mental health after the UK leaves the EU; and whether that

requirement will form part of his Department's review of the Tier 2 visa cap.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government is considering a range of options for the future immigration system and will set out initial plans in due course. We will build a comprehensive picture of the needs and interests of all parts of the UK and look to develop a system which works for all.

We will ensure that decisions on the long-term arrangements are based on evidence. The commission that we asked the MAC to undertake is very much part of this. The MAC are due to report back by September 2018.

The Government has separately commissioned the MAC to undertake a review of the composition of the Shortage Occupation List.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153271/>

Health Professions: Migrant Workers

The following two questions both received the same answer

Catherine McKinnell (Labour) [153272] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will make an assessment of the potential effect of the review of the Tier 2 visa cap on healthcare in the North East.

Psychiatry: Migrant Workers

Catherine McKinnell (Labour) [153273] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will make an assessment of the potential merits of adding child and adolescent psychiatrists, including higher trainees, to the Shortage Occupation List.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: On Friday 15 June, the Government announced changes to the allocation of places within the Tier 2 (General) cap of 20,700. The change – which will be implemented through amended Immigration Rules coming into effect on 6 July – will ensure that all doctors and all nurses needed in the UK will be able to be recruited to work here without being counted against the cap. This is intended to be a temporary change which recognises the importance of alleviating pressure on the NHS and which creates extra space within the cap for other sectors of the economy.

As part of this announcement, we will be asking the independent Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to review the full composition of the Shortage Occupation List.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153272/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153273/>

Overseas Students: India

The following three questions all received the same answer

Gordon Marsden (Labour) [154601] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions he and his officials have had in the last six months with the Indian High Commissioner on the current visa requirements for Indian students studying at higher education institutions in the UK.

Visas: Overseas Students

Gordon Marsden (Labour) [154602] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what additional criteria will be used to decide whether (a) India and (b) other additional countries will be eligible for inclusion in the low-risk Tier 4 visa category for overseas students.

Gordon Marsden (Labour) [154603] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what criteria were used to determine which countries were included in the low-risk Tier 4 visa category for overseas students.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We have regular discussions with the Indian Government on a range of issues including on visas and UK immigration policy.

Careful consideration is given to which countries could be added to Appendix H of the Immigration Rules, taking into account objective analysis of a range of factors including the volume of students from a country and their Tier 4 immigration compliance risk.

The list of countries in Appendix H will be regularly updated to reflect the fact that countries' risk profiles change over time.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-18/154601/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-18/154602/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-18/154603/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

The following four questions all received the same answer

Daniel Zeichner (Labour) [153314] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the Government's effectiveness in communicating the need for EU citizens to have had a record of comprehensive sickness insurance as a qualifying criterion for permanent residency.

Daniel Zeichner (Labour) [153315] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what guidance his Department has provided to universities on advising EU students of their requirement to hold comprehensive sickness insurance as a precursor to qualifying for permanent residency.

Daniel Zeichner (Labour) [153316] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he has plans to remove the requirement to prove Comprehensive Sickness Insurance for EU nationals seeking permanent residency in advance of 2020.

Daniel Zeichner (Labour) [153317] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reason non-UK EU nationals that cannot access Permanent Residency as a result of a gap in their Comprehensive Sickness Insurance policy are charged for Settled Status certification.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Guidance on which groups of EU citizens require comprehensive sickness insurance as well as the types of documents accepted to meet this condition has always been publicly available to all parties. This can currently be found from page 30 onwards of the guidance on 'qualified persons' available on the Gov.uk website via the link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/european-economic-area-nationals-qualified-persons>.

The requirement for EU self-sufficient persons and students to hold comprehensive sickness insurance is set out in the Free Movement Directive (2004/38) which is implemented in the UK via the Immigration (EEA) Regulations 2016. We have no plans to change this requirement. However, we will not require any applicants to prove that they have held comprehensive sickness insurance when they apply for settled status in the UK. Students and self-sufficient people living here can still be granted settled status even if they have never held comprehensive sickness insurance.

For those who already hold a valid EU permanent residence (PR) document there will be a simple process to exchange this for settled status free of charge. Those who do not qualify for a PR document because they do not have comprehensive sickness insurance will be able to apply for settled status once the scheme opens later this year. The application fee for settled status will not exceed the cost charged to British citizens for a UK passport.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153314/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153315/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153316/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153317/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Ronnie Cowan (SNP) [153365] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent assessment has he made of the adequacy of the new process for non-UK EU citizens resident in the UK to apply for settled status.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The EU Settlement Scheme will be a simple and streamlined application process, drawing on existing government data and processes to minimise the administrative burden on applicants. We are building an application process which is fit for purpose, and we are engaging with stakeholders who represent EU citizens in the UK to discuss and understand their needs.

We will be providing further detail on the scheme in due course.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153365/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Ronnie Cowan (SNP) [153366] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what plans his Department has for engagement with community groups on facilitating settled status applications for non-UK EU citizens.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The EU Settlement Scheme is being designed with users in mind, and we are engaging with stakeholders who represent EU citizens in the UK to discuss and understand their needs. Our regular stakeholder groups include community representatives, employers, the EU27 consulates, and organisations representing vulnerable groups.

We will be providing further detail on the scheme in due course.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153366/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Ronnie Cowan (SNP) [153367] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department plans to take in relation to non-UK EU citizens who do not apply for settled status by the UK Government's deadline.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: EU citizens, and their family members, who are resident in the UK before the end of the implementation period on 31 December 2020 will have until 30 June 2021 to make their application to the EU settlement scheme. We will take a proportionate approach to those who miss this deadline where they have a good reason for doing so. Those who do will be given a reasonable further period in which to apply.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153367/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [154694] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what provision he plans to make for carers in the test for self-sufficiency for EU nationals applying for settled status.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: There will be no test for self-sufficiency for those

applying for settled status. As a matter of domestic policy, we have decided that the main requirement for eligibility under the EU Settlement Scheme will be continuous residence in the UK. Applicants will not need to demonstrate that they met the relevant requirements in the Free Movement Directive as to permitted activity.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-18/154694/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Gill Furniss (Labour) [153905] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether EU citizens who have been resident in the UK for five years or more but have not been in employment or in receipt of benefits are eligible for settled status after the UK leaves the EU.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We have agreed with the EU that the eligibility criteria for UK settled status will be the same as, or more favourable than, those set out in the Free Movement Directive for acquiring permanent residence after five years. The criteria will include those EU citizens who have resided here as self sufficient persons and so have never worked or been in receipt of benefits. As a matter of domestic policy, we have decided that the main requirement for eligibility under the settlement scheme will be continuous residence in the UK. Applicants will not need to demonstrate that they met the relevant requirements in the Free Movement Directive as to permitted activity.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-14/153905/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

Gareth Snell (Labour Co-op) [139023] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Windrush generation arrival records were included in the national archive; what arrival dates they covered; and which ports of entry covered.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The National Archives holds arrival records comprising passenger lists arranged by port of arrival, from 1890 to 1960, which includes lists of the MV Empire Windrush and other ship arrivals outside of Europe. All of these lists are available to the public at The National Archives in Kew.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-27/139023/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

The following two questions both received the same answer

Gareth Snell (Labour Co-op) [139024] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department sought advice from the National Archives in advance of the destruction of records on the Windrush generation.

Gareth Snell (Labour Co-op) [139025] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what advice her Department requested from the National Archives on the (a) disposal and (b) destruction of Windrush generation records in advance of the destruction of those records.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: No decision was taken to destroy 'Windrush migrant' information specifically and records were not categorised as being related to a 'Windrush migrant' or the 'Windrush generation'. Any Windrush papers would have been destroyed in line with the retention and disposal periods set for the wider records collections in which they were located.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-27/139024/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-27/139025/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

Gareth Snell (Labour Co-op) [139026] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, on how many occasions Windrush records were used to confirm the immigration status of UK citizens in advance of the disposal of those records; and which (a) agencies of her Department and (b) Ministers of her Department received that information on immigration status.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: No decision was taken to destroy 'Windrush records' specifically and records were not categorised as being related to a 'Windrush migrant' or the 'Windrush generation'. Any Windrush papers would have been destroyed in line with the retention and disposal periods set for the wider records collections in which they were located.

When making immigration decisions, officials will have regard to a wide range of information and evidence. It is not possible to assess the full range of information considered in a case without an examination of each paper file (where these are available). This could only be done at disproportionate cost.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-27/139026/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

Gareth Snell (Labour Co-op) [139027] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, who ordered a review of the Windrush papers prior to their disposal; when that review was carried out; and what the criteria for that review were.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: No decision was taken to destroy Windrush information specifically. Immigration records are destroyed in line with the retention and disposal policy. Retention and disposal periods are set on the basis of business need and whether they are likely to be of historical interest.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-27/139027/>

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Kate Hollern (Labour) [153302] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the potential merits of establishing a hardship fund to help the Windrush generation migrants with legal costs and other bills as a result of his Department's immigration policy.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The first priority for any Windrush migrants that may have experienced problems in obtaining documents confirming their immigration status is to help them secure that status. That is why the Government quickly established the Windrush Taskforce, which has a dedicated team for vulnerable people.

The Taskforce has established a fast-track service for the payment of benefits, working closely in a co-ordinated manner with DWP.

The Government continues to urge any affected people to come forward to the Taskforce so that we can help them. Where people are identified as being homeless, wherever possible the Home Office has worked with Local Authorities to secure temporary accommodation.

A compensation scheme for those of the Windrush generation that might have been affected is in the process of being established. The call for evidence for that scheme ended on 8 June and the Home Office are now preparing to launch the next stage of consultation, working with affected communities. The scheme will be set up as soon as possible after we have consulted.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153302/>

Overseas Students and Migrant Workers: Universities

Layla Moran (Liberal Democrat) [152285] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many foreign (a) members of staff and (b) students have been reported to the UK Border Agency for failure to declare their (i) attendance and (ii) time spent off campus to their academic institution in the last two years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Guidance for universities on fulfilling their responsibilities towards international employees and students on sponsored visas is available on the UK Visas and Immigration website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sponsor-a-tier-2-or-5-worker-guidance-for-employers> and

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sponsor-a-tier-4-student-guidance-for-educators> respectively.

Information on the number of foreign members of staff and students reported to UK immigration authorities for failing to declare their attendance and time spent off campus is not collated on Home Office systems in a manner which can be reported on, and to do so could only be achieved at disproportionate cost by examination of thousands of records.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-11/152285/>

Refugees

Douglas Chapman (SNP) [153332] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what plans his Department has to create a refugee integration strategy.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office does not collect the information required to calculate the total number of people granted refugee status who are in employment in the UK for any point in time.

We recognise the difficulties refugees can face when looking for work. We have funded a pilot project to provide additional employment support to refugees resettled through the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme and we will share the learning from this pilot with the Department for Work and Pensions and others. We continue to work closely with colleagues in the Department for Work and Pensions to ensure that refugees are aware of, and receive, the support they are entitled to.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153332/>

Homelessness: Refugees

Ruth Cadbury (Labour) [153848] To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, what steps he is taking to ensure that local authorities provide adequate support for newly-recognised refugees to prevent them becoming homeless.

Reply from Nigel Adams: No one should ever have to sleep rough and this Government is determined to break the homelessness cycle once and for all.

The Government will release a strategy in July which will lay out how we will meet our commitment to halve rough sleeping by 2020 and end it altogether by 2027.

To meet this commitment, we will need adequate support for all of those at risk, which is why on 8 June my Department announced £1.75 million to help new refugees, by funding 35 officers in 19 areas with some of the highest numbers of asylum seekers. The officers will support people granted asylum into housing, education and work.

We will use the evidence gathered from this work to inform future provision for this cohort, and to ensure that no-one leaves Government supported accommodation with nowhere to stay.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-14/153848/>

Refugees: Families

Ronnie Cowan (SNP) [153364] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he is taking steps to expand the scope of the refugee family reunion rules.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government's approach to refugee family reunion has provided a safe and legal route for more than 25,000 partners and children of those granted protection here in the last five years. Our family reunion policy allows immediate pre-flight family members of those granted protection here to reunite with them. The Immigration Rules also provide for relatives with protection in the UK to sponsor children in serious and compelling circumstances and there is provision in the policy to grant visas outside the Rules in exceptional circumstances, which caters for family members who otherwise do not qualify under the Rules.

We are listening carefully to calls to expand the scope of the refugee family reunion rules and are reviewing our approach as part of the Government's wider asylum and resettlement strategy. We continue to follow the passage of two Private Members' Bills on refugee family reunion closely and will continue our productive discussions with non-governmental organisations in this area.

However, expanding the policy without careful thought could risk more people being put in harms' way. We also remain committed to focussing our support, and local authority resources, on the most vulnerable refugees. It is important that we think carefully before expanding the scope of family reunion to those who may not need protection.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153364/>

Refugees: Children

Hannah Bardell (SNP) [153398] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied children were transferred under section 69 of the Immigration Act 2016.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We are grateful to the local authorities who continue to support unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, including those who have participated in the National Transfer Scheme (NTS).

The Home Office publish the number of NTS transfers between participating local authorities as part of the quarterly asylum transparency release. The latest publication was on 24 May 2018 and can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/asylum-transparency-data-may-2018>.

Transfer volumes dating back to the inception of the NTS can be found in earlier releases on the same website.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153398/>

Refugees: Children

Hannah Bardell (SNP) [153399] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she plans to enable unaccompanied refugee children to sponsor their parents for the purpose of refugee family reunion.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: There is currently no provision in the Rules for children with refugee status in the UK to sponsor family members to join them. The Government believes the best interests of children are reflected in remaining with their families, claiming asylum in the first safe country they reach – that is the fastest route to safety – and relying on resettlement schemes to travel safely.

We are listening carefully to calls to expand the scope of the refugee family reunion rules and are reviewing our approach as part of the Government's wider asylum and resettlement strategy.

However, expanding the policy without careful thought could risk more children being put in harms' way, risking dangerous journeys in the hope of sponsoring

relatives later. We continue to follow the passage of two Private Members' Bills on refugee family reunion closely and will continue our productive discussions with non-governmental organisations in this area

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153399/>

Refugees: Syria

Douglas Chapman (SNP) [153328] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department is taking to (a) review the operation of the Syrian Vulnerable person relocation scheme and (b) ensure best practice in resettlement is shared and implemented as widely as possible.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office continuously reviews the operation of the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme and uses feedback from delivery partners and stakeholders to drive improvements.

The Department has mechanisms in place to identify and share best practice and will continue to do this. For example, as part of the consultation on the Integrated Communities Strategy, the Department has consulted with NGOs and other stakeholders on best practice for refugee integration, including refugees already resettled.

Additionally, Ipsos Mori have been commissioned to produce a qualitative evaluation and the emerging findings will help shape ongoing improvements on the delivery of the scheme and facilitate the sharing of learning across areas about what is and isn't working well to inform local discussions.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153328/>

Asylum: Finance

The following three questions all received the same answer

Lisa Nandy (Labour) [154697] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent assessment he has made of the adequacy of weekly asylum support rates.

Lisa Nandy (Labour) [154698] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the effect of prolonged periods of time on asylum support on the integration outcomes of new refugees.

Lisa Nandy (Labour) [154699] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what plans he has to improve the methodology for calculating asylum support rates.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The most recent assessment of the adequacy of the asylum support rates is set out in a report published in March 2018, which can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-on-review-of-cash-allowance-paid-to-asylum-seekers>.

The methodology used in the assessment takes account of the views of stakeholders and has been approved by the courts as lawful. There are no plans to change the methodology, but a further review of the rates will take place later this year and stakeholders will be consulted in the normal way.

No assessment has taken place about the impact of the time people spend on asylum support on the integration of new refugees. At the point those receiving support are granted refugee status they are able to take employment or apply for mainstream benefits.

The Integrated Communities Strategy Green Paper sets out our commitment to working with civil society and other partners to increase the integration support for refugees in the United Kingdom. The consultation on the Green Paper closed on 5 June and we are considering the responses.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-18/154697/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-18/154698/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-18/154699/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Luciana Berger (Labour Co-op) [154693] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment his Department has made of the psychological impact of detention on women released from immigration removal centres; and what support his Department provides to those women.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The health and welfare of detainees is of the utmost importance. All individuals have ready access in immigration removal centres to medical professionals and health care, including mental health services. Decisions to maintain detention are reviewed at regular intervals, and also whenever new information or evidence comes to light that may be relevant to the individual's detention, especially in respect of their vulnerability and the prospects for removal.

Immigration removal centres holding women are required to make information readily available to them on organisations that provide gender specific support, and on organisations that support the needs of women detainees who have experienced violence or abuse. In cases where detainees are being released and there are ongoing health concerns, the removal centre healthcare provider will inform the relevant healthcare service in the community to ensure continuity of care, where possible, and records will be forwarded as appropriate on release.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-18/154693/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

Home Office: Immigration

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat): To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to improve performance on immigration matters by the Home Office.

Reply from The Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Williams of Trafford): My Lords, the Home Secretary has publicly stated that he is committed to a fair and humane immigration system. Although the latest published data shows that the immigration system is meeting published service standards on the majority of high-volume routes and at the border, we are continually seeking to improve our performance. We are reviewing the operational assurance regime across the immigration system to ensure that it is effective and reflects best practice.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno: Is the Minister not ashamed that three young Eritrean men in their late teens who came to the UK committed suicide because of our immigration procedures? Is she not ashamed that 40% of immigration decisions made by the Home Office are overturned on appeal? Is it not time that this was looked at, possibly by an outside agency independent of government, to overhaul the procedures and bring us an immigration system that is fit for purpose?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The case raised by the noble Lord is obviously very sad, but he will understand that I cannot comment on individual cases, other than by saying that 94% of straightforward asylum claims are processed within service standards. However, we are committed to reaching asylum decisions as quickly as we can, while ensuring that those often complex cases are given proper consideration. He talked about appeals, and I do not

disagree with him: we wish that the appeals rate was better. However, I am sure he understands that quite often information is brought at the last minute which enables an appeal to be granted.

Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour): My Lords, given the support last week from around the House during the debate on a Motion on this, what steps are the Government now taking to ensure that no child who belongs in this country is dragged into the immigration control system because they cannot afford the fee to register their entitlement to citizenship, which the Home Secretary himself described as “huge”?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: ... The Home Secretary has made it very clear that there will be a far more humane system in the Home Office. I know that children who come here and who are under local authority care are treated as they would be if they were citizens of this country. There is complexity in this, obviously, and when a child turns 17 and a half, their case has to be looked at again. However, I cannot give her any further update on fees for children.

Lord Suri (Conservative): My Lords, I am pleased that the Home Office has made efforts to improve its performance in assessing claims for asylum based on religious persecution by developing a dedicated training model with the help of the APPG for International Freedom of Religion and Belief and the asylum advocacy group. To ensure that this knowledge is integrated into departmental work, will my noble friend include this training in the compulsory foundation training course provided to all Home Office caseworkers?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: On a number of occasions over the past couple of weeks, I have described the types of decision-making in UKVI that we are seeking to improve. That includes improving the training and mentoring programmes for new caseworkers, as well as the wider assurance process, which my noble friend would expect us to do. The assurance process follows the three lines of defence and at each stage of an assessment there is scrutiny of the effectiveness of the decision-making process.

Baroness Hayman (Crossbench): My Lords, last week’s announcement of the changes in the tier 2 visa regime for NHS staff was urgently necessary and much appreciated. Will the Minister now look at some of the bureaucratic processes of the Home Office which are still causing problems, particularly for general practitioners already working in this country, and providing valuable services to patients, when their continued service is at risk? Will she also take the opportunity to confirm that the Department of Health and the NHS have a clear code of conduct on international recruitment to prevent unethical recruitment from developing countries, a concern which has been raised in the House?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I thank the noble Baroness for that question. In and of itself, the fact that doctors and nurses have been taken out of the cap will improve the bureaucratic processes and help decisions to be made more quickly. As to those doctors and nurses who are not in the occupation shortage list, the sponsor still has to go through the resident labour market test. I expect this to go more smoothly and to free up the numbers within the cap for other occupations.

Lord Rosser (Labour): In response to a question from my noble friend Lord Davies of Stamford about tier 2 visas and recruiting medical professionals from overseas, the Government said: “It is appropriate to take doctors only from countries that have their own very effective medical systems. To take them from third-world and developing countries is not acceptable”.—[*Official Report*, 12/6/18; col. 1575.]

That reply indicates there must be a government list of some sort of both third-world and developing countries from which it is deemed not acceptable to take doctors. There will be interest in which nations are included in the list of developing countries, in particular, from which it is considered not acceptable by the Government to take doctors; and, not least, how many and which countries from the Indian subcontinent are on that government list. Can the Minister make sure that the government list in question—in whatever form it exists and to which reference on this issue was made by the

Government last week—is made available to Members of this House.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I can answer the question about doctors from India because we issue a huge number of visas to them. As to recruitment from third- world countries—I did not answer the question from my noble friend Lord Cormack—rather than guess at it I shall get back to the noble Lord on those countries, although I suspect that there is not such a list.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-06-18/debates/C2840A14-4AE0-4276-8F2F-9DE916C7DF11/HomeOfficeImmigration>

MV “Empire Windrush”

Baroness Berridge (Conservative): To ask Her Majesty’s Government what plans they have to introduce an annual celebration of the anniversary of the arrival of the MV Windrush on 22 June 1948.

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and Wales Office (Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth): My Lords, the Windrush generation answered the call to help the mother country in rebuilding our nation after the war. They and their descendants have contributed massively to national life; for example, they have inspired and entertained as British entrepreneurs, nurses, musicians and athletes. I have had the pleasure of working with key stakeholders, including my noble friend Lady Berridge and the noble Baroness, Lady Benjamin, to celebrate this landmark moment. On Monday, I was pleased to announce that we will continue to celebrate Windrush Day every year on 22 June, starting tomorrow. We will work with the Windrush Day panel of key stakeholders to provide a £500,000 grant every year to support these celebrations and ensure a lasting legacy.

Baroness Berridge: My Lords, I am delighted that Her Majesty’s Government have announced 22 June as Windrush Day every year and significant funding to match that. I am grateful to my noble friend the Minister for mentioning the contribution of nurses because, less than a fortnight after the arrival of the MV Windrush, the National Health Service was founded. I would be grateful if the Minister could outline what plans Her Majesty’s Government have to add Windrush, as such a significant marker in our country’s history, to the national curriculum so that its contribution can be taught to the next generation.

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: As I said, my noble friend has contributed massively in this area. She is absolutely right about the continuing importance of those people to our great National Health Service, which is celebrating 70 years this year, just as Windrush landed here 70 years ago tomorrow. On education, I have been speaking with the Department for Education, which is keen to ensure that we recognise this as a part of all our histories. Arthur Torrington from Windrush 70, who gave a hallmark lecture in St Margaret’s Church yesterday, has been supplying materials to the Department for Education, so that is being taken forward.

Baroness Benjamin (Liberal Democrat): My Lords, on behalf of Windrush pioneers and the Windrush Foundation, of which I am a patron, I congratulate the Government and the Minister on answering our pleas to create an annual Windrush Day as a legacy of the Windrush generation. This will make Caribbean people, who for not just the last 70 years but centuries have worked hard to make Britain great and prosperous, despite suffering indignity, abuse and heartache, finally feel appreciated. Will the Government consider commissioning a Windrush memorial, perhaps at Tilbury Docks, as a permanent reminder of this important part of our history, especially for the sake of our children?

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: My Lords, the noble Baroness is a magnificent example of the people of Caribbean descent in this country. Throughout this campaign, her smiling presence has been very welcome. She makes powerful points. Of course, our £500,000 budget will be significant in ensuring a lasting legacy. Obviously, her points will be heard and we always pay

great attention to what the noble Baroness says.

Lord Morris of Handsworth (Labour): My Lords, while I appreciate the need for some recognition of the day, the fact of the matter is that the Windrushers I spoke to in Speaker's House earlier this week, one of whom was actually on the ship, want reparation and the opportunities they have lost to be taken into consideration.

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: The noble Lord is, again, a marvellous example in our national life of what many of Caribbean descent have succeeded in doing in this country. I too had the great privilege of meeting the Windrush survivor—very few people who were on that boat are still alive, but he was very much alive and it was great to see him in Speaker's House. The noble Lord will know that compensation is being made available for some of the issues that arose relating to Windrush, about which we have all been outraged. The Home Secretary has made it very clear that he is also looking at a hardship fund, in response to a point that the right honourable Member David Lammy raised in the other place.

Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne (Conservative): Would the Minister agree that, since the Windrush generation has made such a unique contribution to British life—I speak as someone who succeeded with the very first Windrush case approximately 10 years ago, which gave me some astonishment; when other cases followed I was amazed—and given their tremendous success, particularly with the hostility they faced at the very beginning, which I recall well, because they came from a different place, is it possible to use their skills and experience to broaden British tolerance? We are, after all, approximately the most tolerant nation on the globe, but given the very great variety of our nation we can always use more understanding of tolerance. This generation and its descendants are uniquely positioned. They faced hostility, overcame it and made huge contributions.

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: The noble Baroness is absolutely right. There are many issues that we still have to deal with. We should not be too complacent. We have a great record on tolerance, but the Prime Minister has been very keen, for example, to proceed with the race disparity audit. We are considering responses on consultation to an integration Green Paper. But it is absolutely right that we celebrate the magnificent contribution of this community. Later on today I will be in Tilbury; tomorrow I will be in Lambeth. Activities are going on around the country to mark Windrush Day this week and certainly tomorrow on Windrush Day itself.

Lord Wallace of Saltaire (Liberal Democrat): My Lords, the Minister will recall that well before the Windrush arrived, people from the Caribbean contributed a great deal to our war effort in both world wars, with several thousand members of the West Indies regiment, particularly in the Palestine campaign, in the First World War and in all three services in the second. Given that one of our major aims in our commemoration of the centenary of the First World War has been to educate the younger generation about the contributions their ancestors made, is he confident that in our commemoration so far and in how we are planning the end of the First World War's commemoration, we are paying sufficient attention to the role of not only Caribbeans but the 1.5 million members of the Indian army in the First World War?

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: My Lords, yes I am. The noble Lord is absolutely right to stress that. As he says, there is another great celebration this year—the 100th year commemoration of the end of the First World War. It is important that that is carried forward. It is also important in terms of education, which was touched on earlier by the noble Baroness, Lady Berridge.

Lord Bassam of Brighton (Labour): The Minister said earlier that there would be a hardship fund. We understood that a compensation scheme was being established. Can he give some details of that compensation scheme, because that confusion needs to be clarified?

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: My Lords, I think that the record will

say that there is a compensation scheme and a hardship fund is being looked at. If I did not say that, it is certainly what I should have said—but I believe that I did. The Home Secretary is looking at that. Compensation is in progress. I will ensure that a letter giving details of how that is operating is sent to noble Lords and a copy placed in the Library.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat): My Lords, would it not be good to have a total reform of the Home Office immigration procedure to make sure that the Windrush dilemma never happens again?

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: My Lords, the noble Lord speaks powerfully on immigration and refugees, but it is well beyond my pay grade to rewrite Home Office procedures, not least since it is not my ministry.

Baroness Smith of Basildon (Labour): My Lords, I am grateful to the Minister. I think that we all welcome the celebration of the Windrush generation and the recognition of their work and their contribution to this country. However, as he will have heard, there is still great concern about the scandalous treatment of people of that generation. For many, the scars of that will take a long time to heal. How many cases remain outstanding and how many people have been deported where their cases have been resolved or deportation notices have been withdrawn?

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: My Lords, as I have indicated to the noble Lord, Lord Bassam, I will cover in writing the detail of some of the points that the noble Baroness raises. She will be aware that the Home Office and the present Home Secretary are setting about putting this right with some gusto and determination. Sixty-three cases were initially identified. Not all those are necessarily of people who had British nationality, but the Government are looking at 63 Windrush cases in some detail. The noble Baroness is right that this needs putting right, and successive Governments have not done that. From the outrage that was rightly expressed about this, there is a clear message from the British people that we need to get it put right. I do want in any way to minimise the challenge, but, meanwhile, an important celebration and commemoration will be going on every year on Windrush day.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-06-21/debates/EB04F1A3-0EAF-4CA1-90A3-25E7BACF2174/MV%E2%80%9CEmpireWindrush%E2%80%9D>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Visas: Skilled Workers

The following two questions both received the same answer

Lord Warner (Crossbench) [HL8334] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many Tier 2 visa refusals have been issued in the last six months for which information is available; and how this compares with the previous six months.

Doctors: Migrant Workers

Lord Warner (Crossbench) [HL8335] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many applications for Tier 2 visas have been made for doctors in each of the last 12 months for which information is available; how many have been refused; and what proportion of refusals were to applications for positions (1) London, (2) the rest of England, and (3) other parts of the UK.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The available information on applications and outcomes (i.e. grants, refusals, withdrawn and lapsed cases) of entry clearance visas in the 'Tier 2 & pre-PBS equivalent' category are published quarterly in 'Immigration Statistics', Visas data tables volume 1, table vi_01_q (see table below) latest edition at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-year-ending-march-2018/list-of-tables#visas>.

Neither a breakdown by profession, or applications and outcomes by region of

employment, is available in the published entry clearance visas data.

To read the very lengthy tables see

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-04/HL8334/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-04/HL8335/>

Immigration: Windrush Generation

The Lord Bishop of Southwark [HL8457] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Statement by the Secretary of State for the Home Department on 24 May (HCWS722), how many non-documented Commonwealth citizens, other than those from Caribbean nations, have been removed from the UK while claiming to have been settled here (1) on 1 January 1973, and (2) between 1973 and 1988.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The information requested is not readily available and could only be obtained at disproportionate cost.

The Home Secretary has committed to regularly updating the Home Affairs Select Committee on the Department's review of all removals and immigration detentions, dating back to 2002, of Caribbean nationals now aged over 45 (i.e. born before 1.1.73), to establish whether any could have entered the UK prior to 1973 and therefore might be protected by the Immigration Act 1971.

We want to take stock of the emerging findings of this initial work before going further.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-07/HL8457/>

The statement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2018-05-24/HCWS722/>

Refugees: Employment

Baroness Stroud (Conservative) [HL8460] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many people granted refugee status were in employment in the UK (1) one year, and (2) five years, after refugee status was granted.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Home Office does not collect the information required to calculate the total number of people granted refugee status who are in employment in the UK for any point in time.

We recognise the difficulties refugees can face when looking for work. We have funded a pilot project to provide additional employment support to refugees resettled through the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme and we will share the learning from this pilot with the Department for Work and Pensions and others. We continue to work closely with colleagues in the Department for Work and Pensions to ensure that refugees are aware of, and receive, the support they are entitled to.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-07/HL8460/>

Refugees: Children in Care

Baroness Stroud (Conservative) [HL8458] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many children who entered the UK under (1) the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme, and (2) section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 (a) have been placed in local authority care, and (b) remain in local authority care; and in which local authorities they were placed.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Unaccompanied children arriving in the UK through the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme and Section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 are placed into the care of a local authority. Placements

for these children are secured from local authorities voluntarily participating in the National Transfer Scheme.

However due to the inherent vulnerability and relatively small numbers of this cohort, the Home Office does not publish a breakdown of such children entering and leaving local authority care.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-07/HL8458/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Baroness Cox (Crossbench) [HL8409] To ask Her Majesty's Government what they consider to be a reasonable timescale in determining whether an individual can be detained pending removal, as provided for in the Immigration Act 2016: Draft Revised Guidance on adults at risk in immigration detention, published in March.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: In every decision to detain or to maintain detention, there must be a realistic prospect of removal within a reasonable timescale. What is reasonable in any given case depends on the exact circumstances of that case.

When an individual falls within the scope of the adults at risk in immigration detention policy, the vulnerability factors in their case will be a key consideration in determining whether the length of detention necessary to effect their removal is reasonable.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-06/HL8409/>

Press Releases

Call to allow MSPs annual access visits to Dungavel detention centre

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16310484.Call_to_allow_MSPs_annual_access_visits_to_Dungavel_detention_centre/

Home Office publishes details of settlement scheme for EU citizens

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-office-publishes-details-of-settlement-scheme-for-eu-citizens>

PM announces committee to ensure fitting legacy for Windrush generation

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-announces-committee-to-ensure-fitting-legacy-for-windrush-generation>

Windrush lessons learned review

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/windrush-lessons-learned-review>

Annual day of celebrations for the Windrush Generation

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/annual-day-of-celebrations-for-the-windrush-generation>

Windrush Day welcome chance to thank Welsh migrant community

<https://gov.wales/newsroom/people-and-communities/2018/windrush-day-welcome-welsh-migrant/?lang=en>

Refugee today – citizen tomorrow?

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/refugee-today-citizen-tomorrow->

World Refugee Day 20 June 2018: Critical time to welcome refugees, says UN rights expert

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23223&LangID=E>

OSCE human rights chief stresses responsibility of all states to ensure security and dignified treatment of refugees, particularly the most vulnerable

<https://www.osce.org/odhr/385083>

UN chief calls for ‘solidarity, compassion and action’ on World Refugee Day

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2018/06/1012532>

Court of Justice of the European Union: According to Advocate General Wathelet, the provisions of the Qualification Directive allowing a Member State to refuse or to revoke refugee status are compatible with EU law

<https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/upload/docs/application/pdf/2018-06/cp180089en.pdf>

New Publications

EU Settlement Scheme statement of intent

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/718237/EU_Settlement_Scheme_SOI_June_2018.pdf

Settled status for EU citizens and their families

<https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

Immigration detention of victims of torture and other vulnerable people

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CDP-2018-0143/CDP-2018-0143.pdf>

Court of Appeal judgement concerning Home Office misuse of private information and data breach in relation to asylum seekers

<http://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWCA/Civ/2018/2217.html>

Annual Report of the Independent Monitoring Boards’ Charter Flight Monitoring Team for reporting year 2017

<https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/imb-prod-storage-1ocod6bqky0vo/uploads/2018/06/IMB-Charter-Flights-2017-annual-report.pdf>

Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration Annual Report for the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/715893/ICIBI_Annual_Report_2017-18_FINAL.pdf

News

Tighter borders are ‘threat’ to Scotland’s migrant needs

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-06-21/scotland/tighter-borders-are-threat-to-scotland-s-migrant-needs-gc6760hv3>

UK unveils post-Brexit EU citizen settlement scheme

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/jun/21/uk-unveils-post-brexit-eu-citizen-settlement-scheme>

Sharp fall in number of people seeking asylum in EU

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jun/18/sharp-fall-in-number-of-people-seeking-asylum-in-eu>

Government urged to 'come clean' on scale of Windrush crisis as figures still withheld two months on

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/windrush-crisis-scandal-figures-home-office-withheld-deportations-diane-abbott-a8408451.html>

The government must come clean on the depth of the Windrush crisis

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/windrush-scandal-compulsory-deportations-theresa-may-sajid-javid-immigration-a8410576.html>

Home Office urged to disclose nationalities of people referred to Windrush taskforce

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-urged-to-disclose-nationalities-of-people-referred-to-windrush-taskforce-a8406606.html>

UK makes Windrush Day official with £500k grant to support events

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jun/18/uk-makes-windrush-day-official-500k-grant-support-events>

Windrush anniversary celebrated at Westminster Abbey

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-44571616>

Windrush service celebrates generation's contribution to Britain

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jun/22/windrush-service-celebrates-generations-contribution-to-britain>

Anger over Windrush scandal overshadows anniversary plans

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jun/21/anger-over-windrush-scandal-overshadows-anniversary-plans>

Why I'm turning down Theresa May's invitation to celebrate Windrush

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jun/21/turning-down-theresa-may-windrush-reception-caribbean-hostile-environment>

A national Windrush Day? Theresa May has some nerve

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jun/18/national-windrush-day-theresa-may-generation>

Windrush anniversary: more bitter than sweet

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jun/21/the-guardian-view-on-the-windrush-anniversary-more-bitter-than-sweet>

Service celebrates 70 years of 'Windrush resilience'

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-06-22/news/service-celebrates-70-years-of-windrush-resilience-70ql7wmc>

Windrush scandal 'tip of iceberg' as other Commonwealth citizens targeted by hostile policies

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/windrush-commonwealth-hostile-india-ghana-pakistan-a8404936.html>

Home Office broke law by failing to protect child trafficking victim, court rules in landmark case

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/child-trafficking-home-office-victim-protection-breach-court-appeal-a8406781.html>

MPs report 723 immigrants to Home Office in 'collusion' with government's 'hostile environment', figures reveal

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/hostile-environment-immigration-mps-home-office-abuse-report-david-lammy-a8413111.html>

Suicides raise alarm about UK's treatment of child refugees

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jun/17/suicides-raise-alarm-about-uk-treatment-of-child-refugees-eritrean>

My friend Alex was a child refugee, failed by the system. Now he's dead

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jun/20/alex-child-refugee-failed-uk-system-dead>

How can we realise the right to health for asylum seekers?

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/blogs/how-can-we-realise-right-health-asylum-seekers>

The NHS, Windrush and the debt we owe to immigration

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jun/22/honour-nhs-built-on-immigration-windrush>

70 years on from the Windrush, Europe still needs to address its racist attitudes towards migrants

<https://www.tuc.org.uk/blogs/70-years-windrush-europe-still-needs-address-its-racist-attitudes-towards-migrants>

Refugees' 'simple things' in Museum Without A Home exhibition

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-44534417>

Glasgow project uses stage play to explore experience of Syrian refugees

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16303610.Glasgow_project_uses_stage_play_to_explore_experience_of_Syrian_refugees/

UK immigration policy sowing distrust and suspicion

http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news_and_events/news/2018/immigration

Honouring World Refugee Day 2018

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3322_honouring_world_refugee_day_2018

Refugees: who is our neighbour?

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jun/18/the-guardian-view-on-refugees-who-is-our-neighbour>

Woman denied transplant after brother refused visa

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/woman-denied-transplant-after-brother-refused-visa-bc0fns7bm>

'Should I stay or should I go now?'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/education-44456240>

'Migration control' isn't about migration – it's about controlling who can be in our society

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/opinion/tendayi-bloom-migration-control-isn-t-about-migration-it-s-about-controlling-who-can-be-in-our-society-1-4756484>

Adopt a Syrian family, communities urged

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-06-18/news/adopt-a-syrian-family-communities-urged-nzc56pbzq>

Syrian refugees open bakery on Isle of Bute

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/syrian-refugees-open-bakery-on-isle-of-bute-1-4758463>

Eiman Mirghani: I had to abandon my life and family – but Scotland has embraced me

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/opinion/eiman-mirghani-i-had-to-abandon-my-life-and-family-but-scotland-has-embraced-me-1-4756487>

Teen Glasgow Christians terrified to return to Pakistan

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/crime_courts/16301086.Teen_Glasgow_Christians_terrified_to_return_to_Pakistan/

Modern slavery victim saved from deportation welcomed home to Scotland

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/modern-slavery-victim-saved-deportation-12771118>

Priest at risk deportation could face jail

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16300856.Priest_at_risk_of_deportation_could_face_jail/?ref=mr&lp=15

Windrush: How Lenn Lawrence stopped Swansea from flooding

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-44525608>

Windrush scandal victim visits sick mother at last

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-06-20/news/windrush-scandal-victim-visits-sick-mother-at-last-rr6tvdwbv>

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Community Relations

News

Young, black and female: race relations in modern Britain

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/magazine/the-times-magazine/young-black-and-female-race-relations-in-modern-britain-tlhs8xsd5>

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Equality

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Police: Ethnic Groups

Lady Hermon (Independent) [153211] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of police officers are from minority ethnic communities.

Reply from Nick Hurd: The Home Office collects and publishes data on the ethnicity of the police officers on an annual basis. The latest data show that as at 31 March 2017, 6.3% of police officers in the 43 police forces in England and Wales were from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) backgrounds.

The latest available data are published in the 'Police Workforce, England and Wales, 31 March 2017' statistical bulletin:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-workforce-england-and-wales-31-march-2017>

Data, broken down by Police Force Area, can be found in Table D1 of the accompanying data tables.

The data can also be found on the police.uk website:

<https://www.police.uk/metropolitan/E05000148/performance/diversity/>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153211/>

Armed Forces: Ethnic Groups

Lady Hermon (Independent) [153212] To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what proportion of Armed Forces personnel are from minority ethnic communities.

Reply from Guto Bebb: The Ministry of Defence is dedicated to achieving a more diverse workforce and is undertaking a wide range of activities to increase the number of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) recruits into the Armed Forces. Work to increase BAME representation includes better understanding and greater engagement with BAME communities, reviewing recruitment processes; and better targeted marketing and communications towards potential BAME applicants.

As at 1 April 2018, BAME personnel made up 2.4% of officers and 8.7% of other ranks in the UK Regular Armed Forces. Further information, including historical trends and a breakdown by Service, can be found at the following address:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-armed-forces-biannual-diversity-statistics-2018>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-13/153212/>

Travellers: Equality

Baroness Whitaker (Labour) [HL8633] To ask Her Majesty's Government, following the publication of the End of Mission Statement of the Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance at the Conclusion of Her Mission to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in May, what assessment they have made of the lack of teachers from the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) communities, the over-representation of GRT children in secure training centres, and the lack of data on the experience of GRT persons in the criminal justice system.

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: The Government is concerned about the inequalities experienced by Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, particularly in health and education. The Race Disparity Audit identified that Roma, Gypsy and Traveller communities are amongst the most disadvantaged groups in British society and we are committed to do more to make sure nobody in this country is excluded or left behind.

The United Kingdom has a close working relationship with United Nations bodies and a standing invitation to all Special Rapporteurs, and is committed to upholding the rule of law and the rules-based international system. The Government welcomed the Special Rapporteur's visit, and will provide further information to the Special Rapporteur as necessary. We will respond to the Special Rapporteur's country visit findings, conclusions and recommendations when these are presented to the Human Rights Council.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-13/HL8633/>

The Statement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23073&LangID=E>

The Race Disparity Audit, referred to above, can be read at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/686071/Revised_RDA_report_March_2018.pdf

News

'More diversity' call for top teaching roles in Scotland

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-44512330>

Scottish schools failing to recruit black and Asian teachers

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16298592.Scottish_schools_failing_to_recruit_black_and_Asian_teachers/

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Oral Answers

Challenging Islamophobia (Media Role)

Anas Sarwar (Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what discussions it has had with the media industry regarding the role that it can play in challenging Islamophobia. (S5O-02260)

Reply from the Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs (Fiona Hyslop): The Scottish Government is committed to challenging Islamophobia wherever it arises in Scotland. Last year, we supported Interfaith Scotland to host an event for media platforms and Muslim community leaders, to explore how Muslims are represented in the media. Last summer, we published our “Tackling Prejudice and Building Connected Communities” action plan, which is an ambitious programme of work to tackle hate crime and build community cohesion. The action plan contains a commitment to engage with key stakeholders, including social media platforms, to consider further steps to prevent and tackle online hatred. We will be holding an event later in 2018 to consider those issues more fully.

Anas Sarwar: Last night, the cross-party group on tackling Islamophobia met leading figures of the broadcast and print media for a frank and open conversation. An action plan has been agreed, which is positive and has been welcomed on all sides.

The cabinet secretary mentioned social media platforms: it is clear that they remain a challenge. One of the proposals that was put to the First Minister back in January—I am pleased that she accepted it—was that a social media summit be held to look directly at Islamophobia and other forms of prejudice. When is that summit likely to take place? Which organisations will be included?

Reply from Fiona Hyslop: I am very pleased to hear about the event last night. On the commitment for the broadcasting and print media, I would be keen to monitor the action plan with my colleagues who deal with inequalities and communities, in particular.

I will ensure that Anas Sarwar knows about the event that he asked about. I cannot tell members at this point when it will be and who will attend it, but I will be more than happy to share information about it with Anas Sarwar and others who have a particular interest in the matter. The event will be about tackling hate crime and about other representation issues. On my discussions with Ofcom and media outlets, I assure members that we will ensure that positive portrayals and tackling hate crime are covered as part of our action.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11615&i=105272#ScotParlOR>

The action plan referred to above can be read at
<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00520818.pdf>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Hate Crime

The following two questions both received the same answer

Sarah Champion (Labour) [152184] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, if he will commission a review of hate crime legislation and its operation as recommended by the Law Commission in 2014.

Sarah Champion (Labour) [152185] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, if he will extend the definition of aggravated offences to include crimes motivated by hostility based on disability, sexual orientation and transgender identity as recommended by the 2014 Law Commission review of hate crime legislation.

Reply from Lucy Frazer: Hate crime is despicable and has no place in British society. The Government has repeatedly taken action to reduce hate crime, increase reporting and improve support for victims including through the 2016 Hate Crime Action Plan.

The Criminal Justice Act 2003 already offers enhanced sentences powers for any offence which is racially or religiously aggravated, or where the offender demonstrated hostility or was motivated by hostility towards the victim because of their sexual orientation or disability or because they were transgender. Such offences merit an increased sentence within the maximum available for the offence.

The Ministry of Justice keeps the current law, and the Law Commission's recommendations, under review.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-11/152184/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-11/152185/>

The Action Plan referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/543679/Action_Against_Hate_-_UK_Government_s_Plan_to_Tackle_Hate_Crime_2016.pdf

Hate Crime: Sentencing

Sarah Champion (Labour) [152186] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what estimate he has made of the average length in months of custodial sentences for racially or religiously (a) aggravated offences and (b) non-aggravated offences in (i) 2013, (ii) 2014, (iii) 2015, (iv) 2016 and (v) 2017.

Reply from Lucy Frazer: Sections 29 to 32 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 create specific racially or religiously aggravated offences based on offences of wounding, assault, damage, harassment and threatening/abusive behaviour.

The average custodial sentence length in months for a) these specific racially or religiously aggravated offences, and b) their non-aggravated counterparts in (i) 2013, (ii) 2014, (iii) 2015, (iv) 2016 and (v) 2017, can be viewed in the table.

[Table](#) (Excel Spreadsheet)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-11/152186/>

Press Releases

Better records to help support hate crime victims

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/press-release/2018/better-records-help-support-hate-crime-victims>

Unrelenting rise in xenophobic populism, resentment, hate speech in Europe in 2017

https://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/ecri/Library/PressReleases/273-2018_06_22_AnnualReport2017_en.asp

New Publications

Hate crime recording and data collection practice across the EU

http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2018-hate-crime-recording_en.pdf

Annual Report on European Commission against Racism and Intolerance activities covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017

https://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/ecri/activities/Annual_Reports/Annual%20report%202017.pdf

News

Roma pupils 'hiding nationality' to avoid bullying in Scottish schools

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16307708.Roma_pupils_39_hiding_nationality_39_to_avoid_bullying_in_Scottish_schools/

King's College racism row: Students support academic

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-cambridgeshire-44565540>

'I want to see Cambridge University breaking the silence on race'

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2018/jun/23/priyamvada-gopal-cambridge-lecturer-racial-profiling-row>

Cambridge don snubs King's College in dispute over 'racist' porters

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-06-20/news/cambridge-don-priyamvada-gopal-snubs-king-s-college-in-dispute-over-racist-porters-3ntfmqtdw>

If Alan Sugar can't see why his Senegal 'joke' is racist, then sack him

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jun/21/alan-sugar-senegal-joke-racist-sack-bbc-tweet>

Lord Sugar in firing line after 'racist' Senegal World Cup tweet

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-06-20/news/lord-sugar-in-firing-line-after-racist-senegal-world-cup-tweet-3vt9jstf8>

Calls for racism investigation after claims nightclub charged black people twice as much for entry

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/06/20/calls-racism-investigation-claims-nightclub-charged-black-people/>

Calls for nightclubs to be investigated over racism

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-06-19/news/nightclubs-to-be-investigated-over-racism-mndsd00pl>

Equality campaigners to meet in Glasgow to honour memory of Jo Cox

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/equality-campaigners-to-meet-in-glasgow-to-honour-memory-of-jo-cox-1-4756799>

Jewish students put off going to certain universities due to Left-wing anti-Semitism, Labour Students leader claims

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2018/06/18/jewish-students-put-going-certain-universities-due-left-wing/>

Woman with 10-inch knife screamed 'I want to kill all you Jews' as she chased children outside synagogue

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/woman-knife-chased-children-kill-jews-synagogue-london-stamford-hill-antisemitism-a8405016.html>

England World Cup fans filmed giving Nazi salutes and singing vile Auschwitz song in Russian bar

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/england-world-cup-fans-filmed-12755292>

World Cup 2018: Football ban over 'anti-Semitic' video

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-44590365>

Finsbury Park attack anniversary: why as Jews we should stand against all forms of intolerance

<https://cst.org.uk/news/blog/2018/06/19/finsbury-park-attack-anniversary-why-as-jews-we-should-stand-against-all-forms-of-intolerance>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Release

The Presiding Officer's Youth Visits Programme

Closing date for applications: 17 July 2018

The Scottish Parliament has been working in partnership with Young Scot, Youth Link Scotland and four volunteers aged 16-20 to help bring the Parliament and young people together during the year of young people. The result is this: the Presiding Officer's visits programme.

This opportunity is for you to show the Presiding Officer what life is like for you, your experiences and your inspirations. It's your chance to meet with him to share your thoughts and experiences with him.

The Presiding Officer will select to meet with eight young people, or groups of young people from across Scotland. These visits will happen in your local community, at the Scottish Parliament, or in your online safe space.

If successful, your nomination will define the visit and the Scottish Parliament will work with you to create a visit that shows life as you see it.

For full information and to apply see

<http://www.parliament.scot/abouttheparliament/108900.aspx>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

Debate

Sewel Convention

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-18/debates/1D1AC068-4583-41A9-978E-2678E2EB9901/SewelConvention>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

Forced Marriages

Philip Davies (Conservative): What steps the CPS is taking to improve the rate of prosecution of people responsible for forced marriages. [905990]

Rebecca Pow (Conservative): What steps the CPS is taking to improve the rate of prosecution of people responsible for forced marriages. [905991]

Reply from the Solicitor General (Robert Buckland): The Crown Prosecution Service takes forced marriage very seriously and the prosecution of these crimes remains a priority. In May of this year the CPS secured the first two convictions under the specific offence of forced marriage in England. These successful prosecutions send a clear message that forced marriage is unacceptable and that those responsible will be prosecuted.

Philip Davies: We all know that women are much more likely to be the victims of forced marriage than men, but the *Daily Mail* reported yesterday that police in south Yorkshire had made history by issuing the first ever order to protect a male victim of forced marriage. What is the Solicitor General doing to ensure that the CPS is also aware of male victims of forced marriage?

Reply from the Solicitor General: My hon. Friend is right to raise this issue, and I am happy to tell him that the legal guidance and protocol used by the CPS have been updated to include the experiences of male victims, to help challenge myths and stereotypes and provide details of any support services for them. Indeed, a section on male victims was included in the forced marriage training session held in December of last year, which is now being spread locally throughout CPS areas by forced marriage leads.

Rebecca Pow: Why is the CPS finding it so tough to secure female genital mutilation prosecutions?

Reply from the Solicitor General: My hon. Friend is right to acknowledge the challenge facing prosecutors because these prosecutions are among the most complex referred to the CPS. They involve victims being hurt and coerced by members of their own families and communities, and therefore victims coming forward is a confidence issue. But the joint CPS and police forced marriage focus group is working hard to address the challenges faced when prosecuting these crimes.

Kate Green (Labour): University of Nottingham research shows that victims of forced marriage quite often have learning difficulties. What special steps are the Government taking to support those very vulnerable victims?

Reply from the Solicitor General: The hon. Lady is right to acknowledge that among the complexities and the questions of confidence is the exploitation of a vulnerability or a particular disability, and that is very much part of the process that I outlined in my answer to my hon. Friend the Member for Taunton Deane (Rebecca Pow). However, the intervention of the hon. Member for Stretford and Urmston (Kate Green) is helpful, and I will ensure that that focus is re-emphasised by the CPS.

Jim Shannon (DUP): Will the Attorney General outline what support is given to the victims of attempted forced marriage to provide them with a new life and a fresh start? Is

the CPS equipped to signpost victims to such funding, rather than just moving on after the prosecution?

Reply from the Solicitor General: The hon. Gentleman is right to talk about the aftermath of a prosecution, and work is ongoing between the CPS and the police not just to signpost, but to provide active support for victims after their horrific experiences.

Philip Hollobone (Conservative): Two prosecutions does not sound like much. What is the Solicitor General's estimate of the number of forced marriages in the UK each year?

Reply from the Solicitor General: With respect, it is difficult for me to estimate. Being realistic, prosecutions are not reflecting the number of forced marriages that exist, but we saw an increase in convictions between 2011-12 and last year from 23 to 32. We also now have over 1,500 forced marriage protection orders, which are designed to prevent the crime from taking place at all.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-21/debates/85AB0D40-AB9C-47F5-A7B3-0C35B2E93AF4/ForcedMarriages>

Female Genital Mutilation

Chris Green (Conservative): What steps the CPS is taking to improve the rate of prosecution of people responsible for female genital mutilation. [905999]

Reply from the Attorney General (Jeremy Wright): FGM is a crime and it is child abuse. The CPS has introduced a series of measures to improve the prosecution of these cases, including appointing a lead FGM prosecutor in each CPS area.

Chris Green: I thank my right hon. and learned Friend for his reply. The French have had some success in arresting, prosecuting and imprisoning perpetrators of FGM. When are we going to bring justice for the British victims and have a serious deterrent for this abhorrent crime?

Reply from the Attorney General: I understand my hon. Friend's point entirely, and he will understand the frustration felt in the CPS and elsewhere at the fact that those cases that have been brought to court have not resulted in conviction. He will recognise that every case is different and must be judged on its merits. As was said earlier, these cases are often difficult to prosecute. It is worth pointing out that we do not just respond to this behaviour by prosecution; there are also very important FGM prevention orders—civil orders that have criminal consequences if they are breached—and we have seen more than 200 of those since they were introduced in 2015.

Hannah Bardell (SNP): The Attorney General speaks of prevention; he may know that my constituent, Lola Ilesanmi, is still threatened with deportation, and her daughter has been threatened with FGM at the hands of Lola's violent ex-partner if she returns to Nigeria. What is the Attorney General doing to work with the Home Secretary to prevent deportations, to prevent FGM and to prevent women and children from suffering from or being threatened by this abhorrent crime?

Reply from the Attorney General: I hope the hon. Lady will understand that I cannot comment on the individual case that she raises and its immigration consequences, but I can tell her that it is open to courts that are persuaded to implement a civil prevention order to make travel requirements part of that order. There is that safeguard, but I am afraid I cannot give her a clear answer in respect of her constituency case, which I know she will raise with the Home Office.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-21/debates/B97B3C17-9B34-4270-B342-F38CFB92EDEC/FemaleGenitalMutilation>

Female Genital Mutilation

Tulip Siddiq (Labour) [151231] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the latest NHS Female Genital Mutilation Experimental Statistics Report, published on 6 March 2018, how many (a) police investigations, (b) arrests and (c) convictions have resulted from, or have been pursued in light of data published in that report.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a crime and it is child abuse. The Government is clear that we will not tolerate a practice that can cause extreme and lifelong suffering to women and girls.

The FGM Enhanced Dataset is published quarterly and annually by NHS Digital and provides information on the number of women and girls with FGM who are being cared for by the NHS in England. The most recent set of annual statistics were published in July 2017 and quarterly statistics were published in June 2018. A detailed breakdown of these statistics by local authority, age at which FGM was carried out and country where FGM was undertaken is available online at <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/female-genital-mutilation>.

These statistics demonstrate that a very high majority of cases are identified in adult women who were born in Africa or Asia who also underwent the practice in their country of birth.

In addition, in 2015 the Government introduced a new FGM Mandatory Reporting Duty requiring all regulated health, social care and teaching professionals to report known cases of FGM in under 18s directly to the police. Whilst we do not currently collect data centrally on the number of reports made to the police under the FGM Mandatory Reporting Duty, we are considering how this data could be collected in future as part of the police Annual Data Requirement.

Information on police investigations, arrests and convictions resulting from the publication of the FGM Enhanced Dataset is not collected centrally.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-07/151231/>

The March 2018 report referred to above can be read at

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/female-genital-mutilation/female-genital-mutilation-fgm-october-2017-to-december-2017-experimental-statistics-report>

The June 2018 report referred to above can be read at

<https://files.digital.nhs.uk/7F/D8C807/FGM%202018%20Q1%20-%20Report.pdf>

The July 2017 report referred to above can be read at

<https://files.digital.nhs.uk/publication/g/c/fgm-apr-2016-mar-2017-exp-rep.pdf>

Organs: Donors

Eleanor Smith (Labour) [152835] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps his Department has taken to include differing (a) faith and (b) cultural perspectives in its consultation on opt-out organ donation.

Reply from Jackie Doyle-Price: The Department took a number of steps to raise awareness of the consultation on organ and tissue donation consent amongst different communities, which received over 17,000 responses.

- The consultation was publicised across various black and Asian media platforms, through Ministerial interviews on both national and regional black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) radio shows and editorials in prominent BAME publications, through television networks and editorials from faith leaders in popular religious publications;
- I wrote to faith leaders directly to encourage them to promote the consultation;

and

- More widely, the consultation was promoted on social media and the Department worked with a number of organ donation-related organisations to highlight the consultation via their respective platforms.

In addition, NHS Blood and Transplant commissioned Ipsos MORI to conduct 26 focus groups across England with representatives from a number of BAME groups and faith groups. More recently, on 9 May, I hosted an event with faith leaders to discuss barriers to organ donation and to explore what more can be done to engage with the different communities.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-12/152835/>

Donors: Ethnic Groups

The following two questions both received the same answer

Eleanor Smith (Labour) [152836] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what targets had been set out for BAME (a) blood, (b) stem cell and (c) organ donation in each of the last five years; and to what extent each of those targets were met.

Eleanor Smith (Labour) [152837] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what targets there are for the amount of BAME (a) blood, (b) stem cells and (c) organs donated in (a) 2017-18, (b) 2018-19 and (c) 2019-2020.

Reply from Jackie Doyle-Price: There are no targets published in relation to Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic blood, stem cell and organ donation.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-12/152836/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-12/152837/>

Religious Buildings: Islam

Lord Pearson of Rannoch (UKIP) [HL8658] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they collect data on the number of (1) mosques, and (2) madrassas, in England and Wales; and if so, how many there are.

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: We estimate that there are around 1500 mosques and prayer halls in England. We do not hold any data on the number of madrassas.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-14/HL8658/>

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Other News

'Why UK Asians need to talk more about suicide'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-44499478>

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator: regulatory priorities: an update to our risk framework

<https://www.oscr.org.uk/news/our-regulatory-priorities-an-update-to-our-risk-framework>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

Human Tissue (Authorisation) (Scotland) Bill

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/108681.aspx>

Vulnerable Witnesses (Criminal Evidence) (Scotland) Bill

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/108702.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>

Lords consideration of Commons Reasons and Amendments

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-06-18/debates/38C39823-F992-450D-AD1F-1A7A0FC6E706/EuropeanUnion\(Withdrawal\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-06-18/debates/38C39823-F992-450D-AD1F-1A7A0FC6E706/EuropeanUnion(Withdrawal)Bill)

Lords non-insistence, agreement, amendments in lieu and amendments to amendments

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/2017-2019/0229/180229.pdf>

Commons consideration of Lords message

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-20/debates/FCDD227C-ED84-49AA-A2D0-C444AEC51DCA/EuropeanUnion\(Withdrawal\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-20/debates/FCDD227C-ED84-49AA-A2D0-C444AEC51DCA/EuropeanUnion(Withdrawal)Bill)

Commons agreement and amendments to amendment

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2017-2019/0112/18112.pdf>

Lords consideration of Commons amendments

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-06-20/debates/45BF3EFF-097D-47D3-AC4A-9597562AF967/EuropeanUnion\(Withdrawal\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-06-20/debates/45BF3EFF-097D-47D3-AC4A-9597562AF967/EuropeanUnion(Withdrawal)Bill)

Holocaust (Return of Cultural Objects) (Amendment) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/holocaustreturnofculturalobjectsamendment.html>

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>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Welsh Government: Nation of Sanctuary – Refugee and asylum seeker plan

(closing date 25 June 2018)

<https://beta.gov.wales/nation-sanctuary-refugee-and-asylum-seeker-plan>

**** closes this week!**

Measures to further improve the effectiveness of the fight against illegal content online

(closing date 25 June 2018)

https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/public-consultation-measures-further-improve-effectiveness-fight-against-illegal-content-online_en

Protection of Vulnerable Groups and the Disclosure of Criminal Information

(closing date 18 July 2018)

<https://consult.gov.scot/disclosure-scotland/protection-of-vulnerable/>

Funeral Expense Assistance Regulations (closing date 23 August 2018)

<https://consult.gov.scot/social-security/funeral-expense-assistance/>

Antisemitism: Survey of European Jews (closing date not stated)

<http://www.eurojews.eu/>

Police Scotland: Your view counts (open all year)

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

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Job Opportunities

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

Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

Year of Young People

There is no closing date – the fund will remain open until all money has been distributed. Year of Young People 2018 celebrates everything that makes Scotland's young people incredible. As a nation proud of our young people, the Year of Young People puts the spotlight on the contributions and achievements of eight to 26 year olds, while giving them a stronger voice on issues that matter to them, and aims to inspire Scotland through its young people, celebrating their achievements, valuing their contribution to communities and creating new opportunities for them to shine locally and on a global-stage.

BEMIS Scotland, in collaboration with the Scottish Government, is providing grants of between £250 and £1,000 for constituted charitable and non-profit organisations, and community groups.

For full information see <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/yoyp-grant-guidelines.pdf> and to apply see <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/yoyp-application-form.docx>

Scotland's Winter Festivals, and St Andrew's Fair Saturday

There is no closing date – the fund will remain open until all money has been distributed. Scotland's Winter Festivals aim to mobilise the people of Scotland and those with an affinity to Scotland to join in the St Andrew's Day, Hogmanay, and Burns celebrations, boosting Scotland's key tourism and events sectors and the wider economy, enhancing community engagement and raising Scotland's international profile. Our diverse ethnic and cultural minority communities are key elements of Scotland's past, present and future so we want to ensure that your story, history, and narrative plays a full part in Scotland's Winter Festivals.

BEMIS Scotland, in collaboration with the Scottish Government, is providing grants of between £250 and £1,000 for constituted charitable and non-profit organisations, and community groups.

For full information see <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/swf-2018-guidelines.pdf> and to apply see <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/swf-2018-application-form.docx>

**** Democracy Matters Community Engagement Fund**

closing date for applications: 14 September 2018

The Scottish Government Democracy Matters Community Engagement Fund provides grants of up to £300 (in exceptional circumstances up to £500) to small voluntary organisations and community groups in Scotland to help them run an event with a group of five or more people to discuss what matters to them in relation to democracy.

Groups and voluntary organisations with a turnover of up to £100,000 can apply for a grant to run an event and cover costs such as venue hire, catering, childcare and inclusive communication such as interpreters.

For full information and to apply see <https://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/funding-and-support/democracy-matters-community-engagement-fund>

or contact democracy.matters@vaf.org.uk

**** this week!**

Minority Ethnic Advocacy Project Launch Event

28 June 2018 in Glasgow (11.00-1.00)

West of Scotland Regional Equality Council event in partnership with Govan Community Project and Pachedu. The Minority Ethnic Advocacy Project will connect vulnerable and isolated minority ethnic people with mainstream services by supporting them to understand their situation and helping them make informed decisions. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y8n3q74c>

**** this week!**

Organising for Power

29 June to 1 July 2018 in Fife

10 to 12 August 2018 in Fife

14 to 16 September – venue tba

Training weekends for those tackling the root causes of xenophobia and racism and promoting the rights of migrants/refugees/ asylum seeking people in Scotland to learn how to have a bigger impact and plan campaigns that win. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yb8usv6h> or contact o4p@tripodtraining.org

Tackling Hate Speech in a Youth Setting

17 July 2018 in Edinburgh (9.30-4.30)

Interfaith Scotland training to equip those working in a youth setting with appropriate tools for tackling hate speech, explore issues relating to cultural and religious diversity, learn how to recognise hate speech, and how to manage the situation when it occurs. For information contact Jamie Spurway Jamie@interfaithscotland.org / 07921 439 952

INAR: New approaches to anti-racism training

27 July 2018 in Glasgow (11.00-3.00)

CRER event to bring together expertise and learning from a number of recent projects focussed on designing, delivering and evaluating anti-prejudice interventions to explore what really works to tackle racism in the workplace. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yc688p3l>

Meet the Scottish Charity Regulator

28 August 2018 in Edinburgh (1.15-4.00)

25 September 2018 in Motherwell (1.15-4.00)

3 October 2018 in Oban (9.45-12.30)

Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) events to give charity trustees and staff the opportunity to hear about latest developments, meet OSCR staff and ask questions. Topics will include the role of the charity trustee, and guidance on safeguarding. For information and to book see <https://www.oscr.org.uk/news/meet-the-scottish-charity-regulator>

Talking to Young People about Equality

6 September 2018 in Kirkcaldy (6.00-9.00)

Fife Centre for Equalities, and Youth 1st workshop to help youth workers begin a dialogue about equality with young people, and to understand that good knowledge of equality and inclusion will improve their employability. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yceyr6at>

Culture - Religious Diversity and Anti-Discrimination Training

12-13 September 2018 in Glasgow (9.00-4.30)

Two day training to address diversity and discrimination issues related to religion and belief and increase skills in order to help create a more inclusive diverse environment For

Black History Month

October 2018

Call for submissions to the programme: deadline 16 July 2018

Black History Month aims to raise awareness of the positive role that Black / Minority Ethnic men and women have played in shaping Scotland's history. To submit an event for the 2018 programme complete the form at <https://tinyurl.com/y9zd8xxj> and return it to zandra@crer.org.uk

Scottish Interfaith Week

11-18 November 2018

Scottish Interfaith Week provides an opportunity for interfaith groups, faith communities, schools, organisations and local communities across the country to celebrate Scotland's religious diversity. For information see <http://scottishinterfaithweek.org/>

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Useful Links

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

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

Volunteer Development Scotland <http://www.volunteerscotland.net/>

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

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

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

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

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

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



BEMIS is the Scottish national Ethnic Minorities led umbrella body, supporting, empowering, and building the capacity of minority third sector community organisations. As a strategic partner with Government, it is proactive in influencing the development of race equality policy in Scotland, and helps develop and progress multicultural Scotland, active citizenship, democracy, and Human Rights Education at the Scottish, UK, and European levels. (Scottish Charity, no. SC027692) <http://www.bemis.org.uk/>



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

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