

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

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

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

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The Scottish Parliament is in recess until 3 September 2018.

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Immigration Rules

Priti Patel (Conservative) [157141] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he has plans to reform the immigration procedures for applicants from (a) Commonwealth countries, (b) EU member states and (c) other countries when the UK leaves the EU.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government is considering a range of options for the future immigration system and will set out proposals later this year. We will build a comprehensive picture of the needs and interests of all parts of the UK, including different sectors, businesses and communities, and look to develop a system that works for all.

That is why we have asked the independent Migration Advisory Committee to advise on the economic and social impacts of the UK's exit from the EU and also on how the UK's immigration system should be aligned with a modern industrial

strategy. The MAC published an interim report on 27 March and we are considering it very closely. However, they have been clear that their analysis is not complete so it would be wrong to pre-empt their final report due in September. The Government will have sufficient time to take account of the MAC's advice when making any final decisions about our future immigration system, which would be implemented from 2021 after the end of the implementation period.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-25/157141/>

British Nationality: Applications

Deidre Brock (SNP) [159019] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the administrative cost to the public purse is of processing an application for British citizenship.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office publishes a list of Border, Immigration and Citizenship (BIC) application fees and estimated unit costs which can be reviewed via the following link:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/691200/Fees_Unit_Cost_Table_-_April_2018.pdf

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-29/159019/>

Passports: Applications

Deidre Brock (Labour) [159020] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the administrative cost to the public purse is of processing a passport for applicants with newly attained British citizenship.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The full costs of processing all UK passport applications are covered by passport fees which are set in accordance with HM Treasury Guidance – Managing Public Money and reviewed on an annual basis. All passport fee income and costs are published within the consolidated Home Office Annual report and Accounts, the latest published version for 2016-17 can be found here

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/home-office-annual-report-and-accounts-2016-to-2017>

The report for 2017-18 is due to be published before summer Parliamentary recess.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-29/159020/>

British Citizenship: Young People

The following three questions all received the same answer

David Hanson (Labour) [157056] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the British Nationality Act 1981, how many young people have been refused British citizenship as a result of being found to not be of good character under each classification; and how many young people have faced restrictions in applying as a minor in each year since December 2012.

David Hanson (Labour) [157057] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many young people, as defined by the British Nationality Act 1981, have been (a) refused and (b) granted citizenship in each year since December 2012.

David Hanson (Labour) [157058] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, which reference to the British Nationality Act 1981, whether his Department has undertaken a review of the guidance it issues on good character for young persons; and what discussion his Department has had with stakeholders on the definitions used.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The good character test for British citizenship applies to those aged 10 and over, in line with the age of criminal responsibility. There are no plans at present to review this. I recently wrote to the Joint

Committee for Human Rights on several issues relating to British citizenship, including the good character test.

Figures relating to citizenship applications, including decisions to refuse where the applicant is found to not be of good character, are included in the latest Home Office quarterly migration statistics published on 24 May and available on Gov.uk.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-25/157056/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-25/157057/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-25/157058/>

Immigration

Caroline Lucas (Green) [136368] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department took steps in (a) 2014, (b) 2015, (c) 2016 and (d) since 2016 to implement the recommendations of the October 2014 Legal Action Group report on Chasing Status (i) on the creation of a specialist casework unit to fast-track cases of those living in the UK on 1 January 1973, (ii) on restoring legal aid for such cases, (iii) on maintaining applicants' ability to work, claim social security benefits and access essential services such as the NHS and (iv) revising Home Office standards of evidence for proving residency.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: No specific action was taken as a result of this report. On 21 June, the Home Secretary announced Wendy Williams will have independent oversight of the Windrush lessons learned review. This review will seek to draw out how members of the Windrush generation came to be entangled in measure designed for illegal immigrations; why that was not spotted sooner; and whether the corrective measures are now in place.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-18/136368/>

Immigration: Appeals

Stephen Timms (Labour) [158146] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the oral contribution of the Minister for Immigration on 13 June 2018, Official Report, column 420WH on Immigration Rules: Paragraph 322(5); how many of the 427 appeals and judicial reviews, not including the 38 appeals which have been allowed, have been (a) conceded and (b) settled by her Department; and how many remain outstanding.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The statement referred to a manual trawl of individual case records, which is being carried out as part of the current review of Tier 1 (General) migrants who have been refused under paragraph 322(5) of the Immigration Rules. This work is ongoing. We will report our findings to the Home Affairs Select Committee once the review is complete.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-27/158146/>

The Minister's comments referred to above can be read at

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-13/debates/F984D928-FFA0-4FDD-8C20-150DEAEE3C69/ImmigrationRulesParagraph322\(5\)#contribution-94F7F4BE-02FA-44CC-8508-595EC8BDA582](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-13/debates/F984D928-FFA0-4FDD-8C20-150DEAEE3C69/ImmigrationRulesParagraph322(5)#contribution-94F7F4BE-02FA-44CC-8508-595EC8BDA582)

Migrant Workers: Visas

Sammy Wilson (DUP) [157706] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people who have applied to come to the UK to work as (a) doctors, (b) engineers, (c) teachers, (d) in IT, (e) healthcare professionals and (f) in professional

services have been turned down for visas under the Tier 2 Cap in each of the last 12 months.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: 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, 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, is available in the published entry clearance visas data.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-26/157706/>

Migrant Workers: Industrial Disputes

Dan Jarvis (Labour) [160224] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether his Department has plans to exempt industrial action from the 20-day limit on unpaid annual leave for migrant workers.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Tiers 2 and 5 are the main immigration routes for skilled and temporary non-EEA workers. Paragraph 323AA of the Immigration Rules defines circumstances in which a Tier 2 or 5 migrant's leave may be curtailed. This includes absences from work without pay for four weeks or more during any calendar year. There is no specified exemption for strike or industrial action. The Home Office does, however, consider the circumstances before deciding whether to take curtailment action.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-03/160224/>

Migrant Workers: Allied Health Professions

Justin Madders (Labour) [157189] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Written Statement of 15 June 2018, Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules, HCWS768, whether the exemption from inclusion in the cap on Tier 2 visas from non-EU countries for healthcare practitioners will include all allied health professionals; and if he will make a statement.

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 occupations, including allied health professionals.

In parallel, we have asked the independent Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to review the full composition of the Shortage Occupation List (SOL). A number of allied health professional roles currently appear on the SOL, for example diagnostic radiographers and paramedics, and are already given priority under the Tier 2 cap.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-25/157189/>

Migrant Workers: Restaurants

Caroline Lucas (Green) [159569] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Written Ministerial Statement of 15 June 2018, HCWS768, if he will make representations to the Migration Advisory Committee to include in its review of the Shortage Occupation List, the (a) salary threshold and (b)

eligibility criteria for Tier 2 visas for skilled chefs in the ethnic cuisine sector of the catering industry.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: In parallel to the changes we announced on 15 June to exempt doctors and nurses from the Tier 2 (General) cap on a temporary basis, the Government has commissioned the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to review the full composition of the Tier 2 Shortage Occupation List (SOL). This will enable the MAC to look at the operation of the SOL and which posts are in national shortage and should be given priority within the cap.

We have asked the MAC to report by Spring 2019, as they currently have two significant commissions on EU migration and international students, both of which are due to be published in September.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-02/159569/>

The statement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2018-06-15/HCWS768/>

Immigration: Caribbean

Neil Gray (SNP) [136668] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, on what date the proposal to destroy the Windrush landing cards was first presented to a Minister in her Department.

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/2018-04-19/136668/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

Dan Poulter (Conservative) [136901] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she has made an estimate of the number of citizens of Caribbean birth currently living in the UK who in each year since 2010 (a) have been told they do not have the right to remain in the UK, (b) are awaiting deportation and (c) have been deported.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The numbers of individuals from Caribbean Commonwealth countries removed or deported from the United Kingdom since 2010 is published at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-march-2018>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-20/136901/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

Neil Coyle (Labour) [137587] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many staff have been allocated to the Windrush generation task group; and how many countries will be covered by the work of that taskforce.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Pursuant to the reply to Question 137147 given to the hon. Member for Bermondsey and Old Southwark on 26 June, the Taskforce consists of approximately 150 staff.

The Windrush Scheme, launched on 30-May, is not limited to the Windrush generation or those from Commonwealth countries. The Scheme also allows for some people who are nationals of countries other than the Commonwealth, settled in the UK prior to 31 December 1988, to make an application free of charge for a document that confirms their lawful status.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-24/137587/>

The answer referred to above has no connection with this question. The answer to which the Minister probably intended to refer was 136147, and can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-17/136147/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

The following two questions both received the same answer

Harriet Harman (Labour) [138338] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what access to legal advice and representation was made available to Windrush generation detainees at the time of their detention.

Harriet Harman (Labour) [138340] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps were taken by (a) her Department, (b) removal centres and (c) other organisations to inform the Windrush generation of their rights including their right to (i) challenge detention and (ii) seek bail.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: When an individual is detained they are served with a notice specifying the statutory power under which they have been detained, the reasons for their detention, the factors that have been taken into account in reaching the decision to detain and their entitlement to apply for bail. The notice also contains advice that the Home Office will notify a nominated individual of their detention.

Since 15 January 2018 (the implementation of the Single Power of Bail IA 2016) all individuals detained are provided with the 'Immigration Bail Information' document by the detaining officer, which contains information on:

- when they can apply for immigration bail;
- how to make immigration bail applications to the Secretary of State;
- how to make immigration bail applications to the First-tier Tribunal;
- when they will be automatically referred for consideration for immigration bail;
- where they can obtain further information. Service providers at immigration removal centres (IRC) are required to provide the services of a welfare officer to signpost detainees to advice and assistance. Individuals in detention may also approach members of the Independent Monitoring Boards based in every IRC.

All individuals who are detained are made aware of their right to legal representation, and how they can obtain such representation, within 24 hours of their arrival at an IRC. The Legal Aid Agency operates legal advice surgeries across the detention estate in England, with detainees receiving up to 30 minutes of advice without reference to financial eligibility or merits of their case. There is no restriction on the number of surgeries an individual in detention may attend. If they require substantive advice on a matter which is in scope of legal aid then full legal advice can be provided

Individuals in detention also have regulated access to the internet under the requirements set out in Detention Services Order DSO 04/2016 (Internet access). This enables them to independently identify contact details for immigration legal advisors. Legal reference material is stocked in all IRC libraries and each IRC has a welfare officer who can signpost individuals to information on how to access legal advice.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-26/138338/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-26/138340/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

Harriet Harman (Labour) [138339] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people of the Windrush generation have been detained; and for how long each person was detained.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Department is reviewing all immigration detentions, dating back to 2002, of Caribbean Commonwealth nationals now aged over 45 (i.e. born before 01/01/1973), to establish whether any could have entered the UK prior to 1973 and therefore might be protected by the Immigration Act 1971. As the Home Secretary stated to the Joint Committee on Human Rights on 6 June 2018, this work is due to be completed by the middle of July.

The Home Secretary has committed to regularly updating the Home Affairs Select Committee on the findings of this review.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-26/138339/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

Kate Green (Labour) [138434] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department will require national insurance numbers to be provided as evidence by applicants for free citizenship under the arrangements for the Windrush generation.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: 'All cases will be treated on a case by case basis based on any evidence the applicant can provide and assessed on the balance of probability.

The Home Office will accept all sorts of documentation, including National Insurance numbers, to help build a picture of the applicant's life in the UK.

Where applicants cannot provide evidence of their residence in the UK, the Home Office will work with them and other government departments to build a picture of their life in the UK to ensure they can confirm the applicant's status.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-26/138434/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

Kate Green (Labour) [138435] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department will require NHS numbers to be provided as evidence by applicants for free citizenship under the arrangements for the Windrush generation.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: All cases will be treated on a case by case basis based on any evidence the applicant can provide and assessed on the balance of probability.

The Home Office will accept all sorts of documentation, including NHS numbers, to help build a picture of the applicant's life in the UK.

Where applicants cannot provide evidence of their residence in the UK, the Home Office will work with them and other government departments to build a picture of their life in the UK to ensure they can confirm the applicant's status.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-26/138435/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

Kate Green (Labour) [139477] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many staff have been recruited to operate the Windrush helpline; and whether those staff have been diverted from working on visas and immigration casework.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Taskforce consists of approximately 150 staff, who have been seconded from a number of areas of UKVI, including Premium Service Centre, Citizenship, Work and Study commands. We are carefully monitoring the impact that the secondments are having on the business as usual areas that the staff came from and are considering what the shape of a long-term

unit for this work may take.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-30/139477/>

Immigration: Windrush Generation

The following two questions both received the same answer

David Lammy (Labour) [149583] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Windrush cases has his Department (a) resolved and (b) not resolved within the two week target period.

Vicky Foxcroft (Labour) [152816] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many and what proportion of Windrush generation cases reported to the Home Office were completed within the two-week time limit set by his Department.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Taskforce aims to complete cases within two weeks, some will fall outside due to complexity but the vast majority are done on the day.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-04/149583/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-12/152816/>

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Kate Hollern (Labour) [155821] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate he has made of the number of Windrush generation people that were denied (a) benefits and (b) healthcare as a result of their immigration status being questioned.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Information about individuals who have been denied access to benefits or services is not held by the Home Office.

We set up a task force in April to help people from the Windrush generation to evidence their status and access the services they are entitled to.

The Home Office has sent out communications urging other government departments and public authorities to exercise particular care when responding to applications for benefits and services from the Windrush generation. The Home Office will be notifying NHS Trusts in situations where individuals are issued with documentation by the Taskforce. This is so that the NHS trust can consider if a charge for NHS treatment was applied incorrectly and requires cancellation.

The Home Office has introduced additional safeguards to ensure those from the Windrush generation are not adversely affected by measures designed to protect benefits and services. I have chaired a cross-Whitehall meeting with relevant departments, including the Department of Health, to ensure we are all taking the relevant steps to protect the Windrush generation.

The Government is clear that where the Windrush generation have suffered loss, they will be compensated. The first stage was the launch of a Call for Evidence, that closed on 8 June. The Government will publish a further public consultation on the design and shape of the scheme, as soon as the time has been taken to analyse the responses to the Call for Evidence and use the information gathered to inform design and implementation considerations.

In the meantime, we will continue to work with and support affected individuals through the operation of the Windrush Taskforce.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-20/155821/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Afzal Khan (Labour) [156504] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he plans to recruit new staff to process applications for settled status.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We are fully committed to ensuring that our operational teams have the re-sources they need to run an efficient and effective migration system. To this end, recruitment is underway to bring existing UKVI European Casework staffing levels to c.1,500 ahead of the EU Settlement Scheme launch later this year.

Operational units across the Home Office actively monitor workflows to ensure sufficient resources are in place to meet demand. Any resultant changes to resource requirements will be factored into strategic planning.

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/2018-06-21/156504/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Afzal Khan (Labour) [159714] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 27 June 2018 to Question 156493 on Immigration: EU Nationals, what consultation his Department is carrying out with (a) employers, (b) landlords and (c) other service providers to test the (i) process by which EU citizens will evidence their status and (ii) usability of EU citizens' digital proof of their UK immigration status.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: An online service enabling non-EEA migrants holding a biometric immigration document to verify their right to work to an employer is already available. This service has been developed based on extensive research and testing with job applicants and employers, including those with low digital skills, and their feedback continues to inform improvements to the service.

Research with job applicants and employers is now under way to look specifically at how EU citizens will be able to evidence their status online in future. We will be conducting research with all potential users of these services – both migrants and service providers. In addition to user testing, as part of the EU Settlement Scheme, the HO conducts monthly meetings with Users and Community Groups, Employers, EU27 Consulates and Commission and a specific group with those who represent the vulnerable.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-02/159714/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-21/156493/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Afzal Khan (Labour) [159715] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 27 June 2018 to Question 156493 on Immigration: EU Nationals, which devices will be compatible with the identity verification app for EU settlement.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Our digital, streamlined, user-friendly scheme can be applied for on any computer, tablet or smartphone. As part of this simple process, people will need to verify their identity, to protect against fraud and abuse today, there are two ways for a person to prove their identity and nationality securely: submitting a document by post or presenting in person at a specified location. We are developing a new, third option for people of confirming their identity and document authenticity remotely from the comfort of their own home – via an app which can be accessed on smartphones and tablets.

Currently, all the required ID verification steps only work completely on Near Field Communication (NFC) enabled Android devices, Apple users can complete some of the steps with an IOS app but will be required to submit their document. The HO and Apple continue to engage positively to see if we can achieve the same

outcome for those with Apple devices as those with Android devices.

To stress, this app will not be the only way that people can prove their identity; they will still be able to post their documents to us if they wish.

This is about providing options for EU citizens and improving the customer experience for as many people as possible who chose to use this option.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-02/159715/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-21/156493/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [158231] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 27 June 2018 to Question 155273 on Immigration: EU Nationals, if he will place in the Library a copy of the risk analysis.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: All our project management tools are regularly updated to facilitate oversight of the project and enable the identification and escalation of risks within the programme governance. These tools are constantly evolving as part of the ongoing project delivery and placing any document in the public domain may deny us the safe space needed to discuss important delivery issues and hamper our ability to consider all options and weigh up the risks of particular proposals.

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/2018-06-27/158231/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-19/155273/>

Undocumented Workers: Convictions

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [157125] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, pursuant to the Answer of 8 March 2018 to Question 131686 on Undocumented Workers, how many people have been convicted of the offence of illegal working since the introduction of that offence.

Reply from Rory Stewart: The Home Office is responsible for policy and legislation on immigration, including the offence of illegal working under section 24B of the Immigration Act 1971 which was inserted by section 34 of the Immigration Act 2016.

Centrally held court data shows no cases where offenders have been convicted of that offence.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-25/157125/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-03-08/131686/>

Asylum

Jim Shannon (DUP) [157739] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have applied for asylum to (a) the UK and (b) Northern Ireland in the last 12 months; and what the (i) country of origin (ii) gender and (iii) age was of those people.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office publishes data on the number of people applying for asylum in the UK, broken down by nationality, gender and age, in each year, in table as_03 (asylum, volume 2) of the quarterly Immigration

Statistics release. The latest available data are for 2016. Data for 2017 will be published on 23rd August 2018.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/709302/asylum2-mar-2018-tables.ods

UK's immigration control operates at the national level and this is reflected in the statistics published by the Home Office. Therefore, data for Northern Ireland are not separately available.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-26/157739/>

Asylum

Alex Sobel (Labour Co-op) [160370] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he plans to improve the provision of information for people seeking asylum; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office issues an information leaflet to asylum claimants at the point of claim which outlines the asylum process and the claimant's responsibilities within that process. This information leaflet is periodically reviewed.

Independent guidance and advice is also available to asylum claimants provided by Migrant Help. Migrant Help are present in initial accommodation that destitute asylum seekers are initially housed in and their services can also be accessed via their website or by phone.

In the safeguarding strategy that the Government published in November 2017, we committed to producing a leaflet for unaccompanied asylum seeking children about their rights, their entitlements and the asylum process. This leaflet will be provided to unaccompanied asylum seeking children at the point of claim and will also be made available online.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-03/160370/>

Asylum: Employment

Alex Sobel (Labour Co-op) [160371] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment his Department has made of the merits of permitting people seeking asylum, and their adult dependants, to work in any occupation after 6 months of waiting for a decision on their claim.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Asylum seekers are not allowed to work in the UK unless their claim has been outstanding for at least 12 months through no fault of their own. The policy is designed to protect the resident labour market so that access to employment is prioritised for British citizens and lawful residents, including those granted refugee status. We have no plans to review this policy.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-03/160371/>

Asylum: Housing

David Linden (SNP) [157241] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment his Department has made of the safety and security of asylum seekers in asylum accommodation; and whether the Government plans to review contracts where contractors have been found not to have fulfilled health and safety obligations.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office and its accommodation providers take the welfare of service users seriously. Safeguards and checks are in place to ensure that the wellbeing of service users is considered and that the accommodation provided is safe, habitable, fit for purpose and correctly equipped and it is also required to comply with the Decent Homes Standard in addition to standards outlined in relevant national or local housing legislation. Where providers are found not to meet these standards, appropriate action is taken to

hold providers to account and resolve concerns.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-25/157241/>

Asylum: Housing

David Linden (SNP) [157242] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the adequacy of the provision of (a) information and (b) advice provided by (i) his Department and (ii) housing providers to asylum-seekers in asylum accommodation.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office works closely with its accommodation providers to ensure that there is a consistent standard of information being provided that meets the needs of those we accommodate. The Home Office provides separate grant-funding to Migrant Help for the provision of independent advice to asylum seekers.

We remain in regular discussion with the Providers, stakeholders and service users about ways to improve the services provided.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-25/157242/>

Asylum: Housing

Thelma Walker (Labour) [159058] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of applications for support under section 4 of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1999 to prevent asylum seekers becoming destitute were processed within 14 days in each of the last three years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office monitors closely the performance of asylum support application decision making and has a range of targets for processing support applications depending on the nature of the application being made. However information on processing times is not recorded in a format suitable for publication and there are no plans to publish such statistics at this time.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-29/159058/>

Asylum: Afghanistan

Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi (Labour) [160355] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions he has had with Cabinet colleagues on providing refuge and asylum to the Sikh and Hindu communities from Afghanistan.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We have a proud history of providing protection for those who need it, in accordance with our obligations under the Refugee Convention. All asylum claims lodged in the UK are carefully considered on their individual merits and where someone establishes a well-founded fear of persecution or serious harm in their country they are normally granted protection and are not expected to return there.

However, there is no provision in the Immigration Rules for people to be allowed to travel to the UK to seek asylum. Those who need international protection should claim in the first safe country they reach – that is the fastest route to safety. Our resettlement schemes offer a safe and legal route to the UK for the most vulnerable refugees. Membership of a minority religion or group is not in itself one of the vulnerability criteria used to assess eligibility for resettlement but members of minority religions or groups may qualify under the established criteria. Our assessment of the situation for Sikhs and Hindus in Afghanistan is set out in the relevant country policy and information note, which is available on the Gov.uk website

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/afghanistan-country-policy-and-information-notes>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-07-03/160355/>

Detainees: Compensation

Stephen Doughty (Labour Co-op) [145576] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average compensation payment was to people wrongly detained by the Home Office in each of the last three years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The average compensation payment for wrongful detention is calculated as a 'Mean' and a 'Median' for FY2015/16 and FY2016/17. These are listed below:

	FY2015/16	FY2016/17
Mean	£24,170	£22,957
Median	£20,000	£15,000

Figures for FY2017/18 have not yet been published.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-18/145576/>

Detainees: Compensation

Stephen Doughty (Labour Co-op) [146257] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the maximum compensation made to a person wrongly detained by the Home Office was in each of the last three years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office does not record 'Wrongful detention' as a payment type. The figures the Home Office has for compensation are recorded as "unlawful detention". Our records indicate that the highest compensation payments for unlawful detention for FYs 2014/15 onwards are listed below

FY 2014/15 £125k

FY 2015/16 £120k

FY 2016/17 £125k

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-21/146257/>

Human Trafficking

Vernon Coaker (Labour) [154592] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what guidance his Department provides for police forces on their positive obligation to investigate allegations of trafficking; where such guidance is published; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: In line with other crimes, there is a positive obligation on police to record allegations of modern slavery under the National Crime Recording Standards. Once recorded, all crimes must be assessed, which constitutes an investigation. This guidance is published on gov.uk and is available via:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/694433/count-violence-apr-2018.pdf

The College of Policing Approved Professional Practice (APP) provides further guidance to forces on modern slavery investigations. This guidance is published on the College of Policing APP website, available via:

<https://www.app.college.police.uk/app-content/major-investigation-and-public-protection/modern-slavery/>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-18/154592/>

Human Trafficking

The following four questions all received the same answer

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [157126] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home

Department, how many potential victims of trafficking have been (a) identified and (b) referred to the National Referral Mechanism under Operation Aidant (i) in 2018 and (ii) since 14 May 2018.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [157127] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many of the potential victims of trafficking identified during Operation Aidant were arrested prior to being identified as potential victims of trafficking; and for which offences those arrests were made.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [157128] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will publish the procedures used to assess whether an individual who at the point of arrest for an offence of illegal working is a potential victim of trafficking.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [157129] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people were (a) identified as a potential victim of trafficking and (b) referred in to the UK National Referral Mechanism for victims of Modern Slavery by (i) UK Border Force and (ii) immigration enforcement in each of the last 12 months.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: Project AIDANT is the series of multi-agency operational intensifications to tackle modern slavery and human trafficking led by the National Crime Agency (NCA).

The number of potential victims reported to the NCA as being identified as a result of Project AIDANT activity so far in 2018 is 173. 111 of these were reported as having been identified as part of 'AIDANT 11' which took place from 14-18 May 2018. Of the 173 potential victims, 47 have been reported to the NCA as having been referred to the NRM as victims accepting support and 27 notified to the Duty To Notify (DTN) as victims not accepting support.

Data on those arrested prior to identification as potential victims of trafficking, is not captured by the NCA.

The procedures for assessing whether an individual encountered by immigration enforcement is a victim of trafficking are published and contained within guidance available at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/509326/victims-of-modern-slavery-frontline-staff-guidance-v3.pdf.

Quarterly data on referrals to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) are available via the following link:

<http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/national-referral-mechanism-statistics>

Data shows only referrals to the NRM:

In 2018 Q1 HO Immigration Enforcement referred 25 people to the NRM and UK Border Force also referred 25 people.

In 2017 Q4 HO Immigration Enforcement referred 23 people to the NRM and UK Border Force referred 35 people.

In 2017 Q3 HO Immigration Enforcement referred 26 people to the NRM and UK Border Force referred 43 people.

In 2017 Q2 HO Immigration Enforcement referred 19 people to the NRM and UK Border Force referred 26 people.

Data on those encountered who are thought to be victims but who do not agree to enter the NRM are recorded under the Duty to Notify. Data for Home Office referrals under Duty to Notify are published in the annual report and are available at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2017-uk-annual-report-on-modern-slavery>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-25/157126/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-25/157127/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-25/157128/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-25/157129/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Immigration

Lord Bassam of Brighton (Labour) [HL8845] To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their estimate of the number of individuals and families affected by the impact of the hostile environment policy.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Successive Governments have brought forward measures to prevent illegal immigration and the misuse of public services and benefits.

Impact assessments on the Immigration Acts 2014 and 2016 were published during the passage of the legislation, and key compliant environment measures on immigration checks by employers and landlords have been the subject of public consultations.

Many checks, such as right to rent and right to work, are applicable to everyone in the UK on a non-discriminatory basis. Checks are often conducted independently of the Home Office and so it is not possible for the Government to accurately estimate the number of individuals who have been impacted by these measures.

However, it is right that we understand the impact of the compliant environment, and that safeguards are effective in protecting vulnerable persons and preventing unintended consequences for those lawfully in the UK.

In light of Windrush, we are reviewing our safeguards and recognise the need to put in place an evaluation scheme to do this.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-21/HL8845/>

Visas

Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour) [HL8778] To ask Her Majesty's Government what are their policy objectives for the Tier 1 investor visa scheme.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Tier 1 (Investor) route is designed for high net worth individuals making a substantial financial investment into the UK.

The Government keeps all immigration routes under review to ensure that they continue to deliver for the UK economy and society – and to ensure they serve the national interest.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-19/HL8778/>

Immigration: Appeals

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL8837] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to ensure that fewer immigration decisions are taken to appeal.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: UKVI are focused on improving quality of all decision making to ensure that we properly consider all the evidence provided and get decisions right the first time. That is why investment is being made via: a stronger assurance regime; better and more frequent training; and strengthening feedback loops. We are also working closely with HM Courts and Tribunal Service on Court Reform to improve the experience of those who exercise their statutory right of appeal.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-20/HL8837/>

Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

Lord Watson of Invergowrie (Labour) [HL8807] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Statement by the Minister for Immigration on 15 June (HCWS768), what criteria were used to determine which countries were included in the expanded low-risk Tier 4 visa category for overseas students; and why India was not amongst them.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: 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/Lords/2018-06-19/HL8807/>

The statement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2018-06-15/HCWS768/>

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Lord Bassam of Brighton (Labour) [HL8843] To ask Her Majesty's Government what progress they have made in determining the compensation scheme for victims of the hostile environment policy towards the Windrush generation; and whether the scheme will cover any losses in connection with (1) employment opportunities, (2) housing, (3) physical, psychological and mental ill health problems, and (4) meeting Home Office immigration status requirements.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The 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 on the design and scope of what should be included.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-21/HL8843/>

Immigration: Commonwealth

Lord Ouseley (Crossbench) [HL8991] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of any discriminatory effects on Black and Asian Commonwealth citizens of the Commonwealth Immigrants Acts 1962 and 1968 and the Immigration Act 1971; and what consideration is being given to reversing any such effects.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Acts were approved by parliament in order to provide tighter regulations on those seeking to enter the UK. The Commonwealth Immigrants Acts 1962 and 1968 specifically sought to make Commonwealth nationals, other than those with close family ties to the UK, subject to immigration control, in the same way as other nationals.

This was further addressed with the Immigration Act 1971 which more clearly made all commonwealth nationals subject to immigration control unless they held partiality through an ancestral connection to the UK. In order to protect those already in the UK without this connection provision was included to enable those who were settled and ordinarily resident in the UK to remain indefinitely.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-26/HL8991/>

Migrant Workers: EU Nationals

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL8881] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they intend to implement a specific visa system for EU workers after Brexit.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government is considering a range of options for the future immigration system and we will set out initial plans in the coming months. That is why we have commissioned the independent Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to gather evidence on patterns of EU migration and the role of migration in the wider economy, ahead of our exit from the EU.

The Government will have plenty of time to take account of the MAC's advice when making any final decisions about our future immigration system, which would not be implemented until after the Implementation Period in 2021.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-21/HL8881/>

Undocumented Migrants: Private Rented Housing

Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour) [HL8776] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 6 June (HL Deb, cols 1303 and 1305), when the landlords consultative panel for the Right to Rent scheme will next meet; what plans they have to reconstitute the panel as a Right to Rent consultative panel including stakeholders concerned with the rights and interests of migrants as recommended by the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration in his report An Inspection of the "Right to Rent" Scheme; and what will be the terms of reference for any such panel.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The existing Landlords Consultative Panel will be reconvened shortly. The panel will of course have an opportunity to discuss both the recommendations made by the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration in his report on the right to rent scheme and the panel membership.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-19/HL8776/>

Refugees

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL8838] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to ensure continued UK participation in EU refugee cooperation if the UK leaves the EU.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Until we leave the EU, the UK remains bound by EU asylum legislation, where we have opted in. We have already committed to seek an agreement under which unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in the EU can join close family in the UK, and vice versa, where it is in their best interest when we leave the EU.

We expect this to be part of a wider package of cooperation on asylum and migration with our European allies once the UK leaves the EU, and we are considering a full range of options to ensure that effective cooperation is enshrined in our future relationship. Any final agreement will be a matter for negotiations.

Beyond legislative obligations, we nevertheless remain committed to cooperation with Europe, and globally, to address refugee and migration issues.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-20/HL8838/>

Refugees: Homelessness

Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour) [HL8774] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the findings of the research by the No Accommodation Network in its report Mind the Gap: Homelessness Amongst Newly

Recognised Refugees, published on 26 May, that the 28 days move on period leaves many newly recognised refugees homeless.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Asylum seekers who are recognised as refugees are eligible to apply for mainstream benefits and obtain assistance from their local authority with housing. A Biometric Residence Permit is provided to enable them to prove their entitlement to these benefits.

As the report by the No Accommodation Network records, a number of changes have already been implemented, to help refugees obtain the assistance they need. These include the inclusion of a national insurance number with the Biometric Residence Permit and the establishment of the “Post Grant Appointment Service”, which provides advice and assistance and arranges an appointment for the person at their local job centre.

Additionally, a number of “Asylum Support Liaison Officers” are being established across the country, with responsibility to help refugees access suitable accommodation.

The report shows that, for a number of reasons, some people still experience delays in obtaining suitable housing and other benefits before the support they have been receiving from the Home Office comes to an end 28 days after they are granted refugee status. The report does not show that these problems will be resolved by extending the 28 days period.

Home Office officials are discussing the reasons for the delays with the authors of the report and considering the findings and recommendations.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-19/HL8774/>

The report referred to above can be read at

https://naccom.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/NACCOM-Homelessness-Report-2018-05-20_EMAIL.pdf

Press Releases

Members of the Windrush generation have been denied their rights and treated appallingly by the Home Office

<https://app-social.shorthand.com/preview/yctpBIDf1iugPtvskaf1xngnRz9kr-KRuyRtm9krYFRnCFtzSIDcltu2ARvBGDc1>

European states must put human rights at the centre of their migration policies

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/european-states-must-put-human-rights-at-the-centre-of-their-migration-policies>

Giving humanitarian help to migrants should not be a crime, according to the European Parliament

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20180628IPR06814/giving-humanitarian-help-to-migrants-should-not-be-a-crime-according-to-the-ep>

New Publications

The Windrush generation

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmhaff/990/990.pdf>

Windrush: the need for a hardship fund

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmhaff/1200/1200.pdf>

Management of Adults at Risk in Immigration Detention

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/721802/DSO_08_2016_Management_of_adults_at_risk_in_immigration_detention.pdf

News

'Root and branch' reform needed at Home Office after Windrush scandal

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16328701.root-and-branch-reform-needed-at-home-office-after-windrush-scandal/>

MPs call for total reform of Home Office after Windrush scandal

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/03/mps-call-total-reform-home-office-after-windrush-scandal>

Home Office 'needs radical changes' after Windrush

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-07-03/news/home-office-needs-radical-changes-after-windrush-ls289xmzq>

Home Office faces legal challenge over UK child citizenship fees

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/03/home-office-legal-challenge-child-citizenship-fees-uk>

Home Office makes almost £100m profit from children registering as British citizens over five years

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-children-register-uk-citizenship-children-profit-sajid-javid-a8430556.html>

Home Office forcing immigrants to take DNA tests in breach of government's own policy

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/home-office-dna-tests-policy-immigrants-letters-immigration-a8430271.html>

Home Office tells migrant parents to take DNA tests

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-07-04/news/home-office-tells-migrant-parents-to-take-dna-tests-k09bq85z2>

UK opens door to gifted foreign scientists

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/uk-opens-door-to-gifted-foreign-scientists-0xwbqzh9v>

Suspected slavery victims traumatised by Home Office delays

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/03/suspected-slavery-victims-traumatised-by-home-office-delays>

Migrants caught lying over pay in effort to stay in UK

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-07-02/news/migrants-caught-lying-over-pay-in-effort-to-stay-in-uk-c2ww9g377>

UK immigration authorities separating children from parents

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/03/uk-immigration-authorities-separating-children-from-parents>

Home Office separating scores of children from parents as part of immigration detention regime

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/immigration-child-separation-parents-uk-home-office-immigrant-detention-a8431671.html>

'Now they are scared every time I go out': Man reveals trauma of being separated from children by Home Office

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/immigration-child-separation-parents-uk-home-office-kenneth-oranyendu-family-a8431731.html>

Lawyer blames visitor visa refusals on 'deep underlying racism'

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/06/lawyer-blames-visitor-visa-refusals-on-deep-underlying-racism>

Roma communities fear deportation in post-Brexit Britain

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jul/02/roma-communities-fear-deportation-in-post-brexit-britain>

Grieving Grenfell relatives could be forced to leave UK before end of inquiry

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/grenfell-tower-latest-families-victims-visa-home-office-relatives-a8435026.html>

I've watched people having their chemo stopped and their heart surgery refused – this is the reality of the NHS's stance on immigration

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/ive-watched-people-having-their-chemo-stopped-and-their-heart-surgery-refused-this-is-the-reality-of-a8431156.html>

University of Reading tells refugee plan critics to 'jog on'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-berkshire-44695372>

University of Reading's message for opponents of refugee fund: Jog on!

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-07-04/news/university-of-reading-s-message-for-opponents-of-refugee-fund-jog-on-2v2lbwcb>

Orphaned boy granted asylum in Glasgow

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-44682493>

Orphan granted leave to remain in UK

<https://www.scotsman.com/regions/glasgow-strathclyde/orphan-granted-leave-to-remain-in-uk-1-4762707>

Victory as Glasgow orphan facing deportation following mum's death told he can stay

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/victory-glasgow-orphan-facing-deportation-12836912>

Orphan threatened with deportation after mother's death granted temporary leave to remain

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/asylum-uk-immigration-giorgi-kakava-georgia-glasgow-deportation-10-remain-campaign-a8427386.html>

Orphan to stay after winning asylum

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-07-03/scotland/orphan-to-stay-after-winning-asylum-v8qbs693d>

Family on hunger strike get residency

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-07-06/scotland/family-on-hunger-strike-get-residency-63pd69h88>

Visitor visas refused: Nigerian family blocked from attending wedding

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/06/visitor-visas-refused-nigerian-family-blocked-from-attending-wedding>

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Community Relations

News

I knew I wasn't white. Realising I was working-class hurt more

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jul/05/white-working-class-east-london-immigrant-community>

'My blackness seemed curious, difficult to handle': the day I ran away from Oxford University

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2018/jul/07/how-survive-as-black-man-at-oxford-university-michael-donkor>

TOP

Equality

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Donors: Ethnic Groups

Eleanor Smith (Labour) [157234] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, how much his Department spent on public health campaigns to encourage BAME (a) blood, (b) stem cell, (c) living organ and (d) deceased organ donation in each of the last three years.

Reply from Jackie Doyle-Price: NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) is responsible for the collection, manufacturing and issuing of blood products to the National Health Service in England; for organ and tissue donation in the United Kingdom; and for the British Bone Marrow Registry (BBMR), to which it recruits registered blood donors to be potential stem cell donors.

NHSBT recovers its costs for collecting, testing, processing and supplying blood through the prices that are charged to NHS hospitals in England. Funding for organ donation and retrieval is provided by way of subsidy from the Department.

NHSBT organise campaigns to encourage living organ, deceased organ and blood donation by people from a black, Asian and minority ethnic background. NHSBT campaign spend is set out in the following table.

	Living organ donation	Deceased organ donation	Blood donation
2015/16	£10,000	c£140,000	£279,000
2016/17	£76,000	c£140,000	£295,000
2017/18	£118,000	£95,000	£650,000

Source: NHS Blood and Transplant

In addition, this year there will be a new, extensive campaign focussed on increasing organ donors from black and Asian backgrounds.

NHSBT manage the NHS Cord Blood Bank and the BBMR which are part of the Anthony Nolan and NHS Stem Cell Registry.

NHSBT has not allocated a campaign spend specifically for stem cell donation in

the last three years, all activity has been delivered in-house e.g. leaflets, letters. However, as individuals are approached to join the BBMR when they first donate blood, the blood campaign spend also contributes to stem cell recruitment.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-25/157234/>

Donors: Ethnic Groups

Eleanor Price (Labour) [158312] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, whether increasing the number of BAME (a) blood, (b) stem cell and (c) organ donations to the NHS would result in savings to the public purse; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Jackie Doyle-Price: The Department has not assessed the cost effectiveness of increasing the number of donations from black, Asian and minority ethnic people of blood, stem cells and organs.

Information on the potential savings of reducing the number of people on dialysis is not available in the format requested.

An impact assessment prepared to support the consultation on proposed changes to consent for organ and tissue donation, which ran between December 2017 and March 2018, includes cost and benefit analysis information in respect of all organs, including kidney transplants. The impact assessment was limited to the cost/benefit analysis of changes to consent arrangements in England, and is available at the following link:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/666518/Organ_Donation_Opt-Out_Consultation_Impact_Assessment.pdf

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-27/158312/>

Ministry of Defence: Recruitment

Jamie Stone (Liberal Democrat) [158323] To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what steps his Department is taking to recruit to the (a) the armed forces and (b) his Department more (i) BAME people, (ii) LGBT people, (iii) people with disabilities and (iv) people from non-Christian religious groups.

Reply from Tobias Ellwood: Over recent years, Defence has increasingly challenged itself to become a more diverse and inclusive organisation. This is not just the right thing to do from a moral perspective, there is a business imperative for taking radical action - a diverse and inclusive organisation is a stronger, healthier and more resilient organisation.

Defence is dedicated to achieving a more diverse workforce and is undertaking a wide range of activities to increase the diversity of our people. These include:

- Community Engagement - Increased and more targeted engagement with communities. Specialist and youth engagement teams have been set up in each of the Services.
- Using staff networks and diversity champions to support our diverse range of personnel and outreach into the community - The appointment of an Islamic Religious Adviser to the Chief of the Defence Staff, to help improve mutual understanding between Muslim communities and the Armed Forces.
- Recruitment Process - existing recruitment processes are being examined to remove any unconscious bias and to improve support and mentoring for candidates. For civilian staff, Ministry of Defence has been a Disability Confident leader since 2017.
- Marketing - increase in targeted marketing activities.
- Membership of - Business Disability Forum, Business in the Community (for both Gender and Race), Stonewall. This enables benchmarking of Defence's performance against other public sector organisations and the

private sector.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-27/158323/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Universal Credit: Travellers

Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour) [HL8777] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the impact of the rollout of Universal Credit on the Gypsy and Traveller communities, particularly in relation to the reliance on digital access.

Reply from Baroness Buscombe: We have not made an assessment. However, all Jobcentres across the country have free Wi-Fi, and there are more than 8,000 computers available to support customers who need help with making their claim digitally and applying for jobs online. This provides access to digital channels in every Jobcentre for claimants to use when they do not have access at home.

There will always be people for whom engaging with us digitally is not a feasible proposition. As a result, a freephone telephone helpline and face to face support are also available for claimants to make and manage a Universal Credit claim. Where needed, the Work Coach will provide the claimant with a written note to remind them of the date of their next appointment, especially if the claimant has difficulty accessing or using online services. A home visit can also be arranged to support a claimant in making their initial claim and completing any other administrative tasks required to ensure the claimant receives the correct payment on time.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-19/HL8777/>

Females: Directors

Baroness Uddin (Non-affiliated) [HL8943] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to increase the number of ethnic minority women, including Muslim women, occupying FTSE 100 finance chief roles.

Reply from Lord Henley: Diversity and inclusion in the boardroom and the workplace is a hugely important element of building an economy that works for all. The Government is committed to a cohesive society, where everyone – no matter what their background – has the opportunity to enter into and progress at work and achieve on merit.

Sir John Parker's business-led review into ethnic minorities on FTSE boards published in November 2017, showed that only about 8% of FTSE 100 Directors were from an ethnic minority background, and just over 2% were British citizens from an ethnic minority background, compared to the 14% of the UK population. That is why Government supports and has been promoting the recommendation made by Sir John that all FTSE 100 companies should have at least one director of colour by 2021.

We are supporting the Hampton-Alexander Review to meet their targets of women holding 33% of senior leadership positions and 33% of board positions in the FTSE 350, by 2020. We are also supporting the Women in Finance Review Charter, which commits firms to support the progression of women into senior roles in the financial services by focusing on the executive pipeline and publicly reporting on progress against internal targets.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-25/HL8943/>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Schools: Antisemitism

Tulip Siddiq (Labour) [156639] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, with reference to the report of the the All-Party Parliamentary Group on antisemitism of 2015, what (a) guidance his Department has produced and (b) resources it is offering in support of teachers handling difficult conversations in the classroom setting.

Anne Milton: There is no place in any educational institution for hatred, harassment, discrimination or racism in any form.

The government's Educate Against Hate website (www.educateagainsthate.com), set up in January 2016, hosts a number of resources to support teachers in holding sensitive conversations with pupils. This includes guidance produced by the Board of Deputies of British Jews on antisemitism in schools, a toolkit on teaching controversial issues developed by Suffolk SACRE, and the government-funded Deliberative Classroom resource pack on religious freedom.

We are also funding teacher training and accompanying resources provided by the Centre for Holocaust Education to support teachers in facilitating lessons and discussions about the holocaust.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-22/156639/>

The report referred to above can be read at

<https://www.antisemitism.org.uk/files/cj3e6rg8y906h0104uh8bojao/cj4mu8p40000x01455ae3ae66>

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education

Tulip Siddiq (Labour) [156640] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, whether he has made an assessment of the potential effect of conferring statutory status on personal, social, health and economic education on tackling discrimination in schools.

Reply from Nick Gibb: In March 2017, the Government announced that alongside the introduction of Relationships Education, at primary level, and Relationships and Sex Education, at secondary level, the Secretary of State for Education would have the power, via regulations, to make to make Personal Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) statutory in all schools.

The Department is currently finalising an assessment of the evidence gathered during a wide-ranging engagement process to shape the content of the new subjects and determine the future status of PSHE. Results of this process will be published shortly, alongside a consultation on the content draft regulations and accompanying statutory guidance, before laying the regulations in the House for debate.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-22/156640/>

Social Media: Liability

Tulip Siddiq (Labour) [156641] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, whether his Department has made an assessment of the potential merits of introducing publisher liability for social media companies.

Reply from Margot James: We are currently developing options for increasing the liability online platforms have for illegal content on their services. Applying publisher standards of liability to all online platforms could risk real damage to the digital economy. We will be carefully considering the options and consequences of change, and will set out our approach as part of the online harms and safety joint DCMS and Home Office White Paper on online harms which will be published by the end of the year.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-22/156641/>

Social Media: Hate Crime

Tulip Siddiq (Labour) [156642] To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, whether his Department has made an assessment of the implications for its policies of Hope Not Hate's report of February 2018 on Cloudflare and the hosting of illegal content on edge servers in the UK; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Heather Wheeler: We have read with interest Hope not Hate's report of February 2018 on Cloudflare and the hosting of illegal content. We will address the issue of illegal content on edge servers in the UK as part of the refresh of the Hate Crime Action Plan which will be published later this year.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-22/156642/>

The report referred to above can be read at

<https://www.hopenothate.org.uk/2018/02/10/a-home-for-hate/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Religious Hatred: Islam

Baroness Afshar (Crossbench) [HL8953] To ask Her Majesty's Government what measures they have put in place to protect Muslim citizens from verbal and physical attack and abuse on religious grounds.

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: The Government deplores all hate crime including Islamophobia and is committed to tackling it. Nobody should be a target for hate because of their race, religion, sexual orientation, transgender identity or disability.

We have a strong legal framework in place with criminal penalties for offences such as incitement to religious hatred, racially or religiously aggravated offences such as intentionally causing harassment, alarm or distress, as well as increased sentences for offences motivated by prejudice hostility or prejudice based on a person's real or perceived religion.

We support Tell MAMA in their work to encourage greater reporting of anti-Muslim hatred and to support victims of hate crime. We also fund projects such as Streetwise and the Anne Frank Trust to work with young people to tackle prejudice and discrimination which may lay the foundations for hate crime in the future.

If anyone feels they have been a victim of hate crime, they should report this directly to their local police force, through the online True Vision portal or to Tell MAMA, who will be able to provide assistance and proceed appropriately.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-06-26/HL8953/>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Luciana Berger (Labour Co-op) (1493) Defining antisemitism – That this House recognises that the Macpherson inquiry which followed the murder of Stephen Lawrence changed the way racism is perceived in Britain to a victim-led approach; believes that in order for victims or potential victims of racist abuse to have confidence in societal efforts to address discrimination they must help craft understanding of the racism to which they are being subjected; further believes the effect of racism can have repercussions irrespective of proven intent; notes that the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of antisemitism together with its accompanying examples, in

full, has the confidence of the representative bodies of the Jewish community in the UK and worldwide; further notes the definition was adopted by IHRA's 31 member states including France, Germany, Canada and the US; welcomes the UK's adoption of the formal definition and accompanying examples; further recognises that a recommendation formally to adopt a definition was first made in the All-Party Parliamentary Inquiry into Anti-Semitism report of 2006; further welcomes the cross-party support for the definition evidenced in previous motions of this House; recognises that the Welsh and Scottish Governments, the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, London Assembly, and more than 120 local councils and many European countries have formally adopted the definition; recognises that police forces and others have for some time already used the definition for training purposes; notes that civil society organisations including the NUS have adopted the definition; and calls on all public institutions to fully adopt and implement the IHRA definition of antisemitism.

<https://www.parliament.uk/edm/2017-19/1493>

Press Release

UK Government plans renewed action to tackle hate crime

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-plans-renewed-action-to-tackle-hate-crime>

News

No more excuses. Time for an inquiry into Tory Islamophobia

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jul/04/inquiry-tory-islamophobia>

Labour anti-Semitism plan criticised by Jewish groups

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16336456.labour-anti-semitism-plan-criticised-by-jewish-groups/>

Labour MPs attack party's code on anti-Semitism

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16339083.labour-mps-attack-partys-code-on-anti-semitism/>

Labour code gives antisemites free pass, claim Jewish leaders

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-07-06/news/labour-code-gives-antisemites-free-pass-claim-jewish-leaders-fzqp8hh6d>

Wetherspoon backs campaign against Traveller and Gypsy discrimination

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2018/jul/02/wetherspoon-backs-campaign-against-traveller-and-gypsy-discrimination>

London clubs and racism: 'The West End is a hostile environment'

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jul/04/london-clubs-and-racism-the-west-end-is-a-hostile-environment>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

Debate

Claim of Right for Scotland

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-07-04/debates/18070455000001/ClaimOfRightForScotland>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Female Genital Mutilation

Tulip Siddiq (Labour) [157203] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 22 June 2018 to Question 151231, for what reasons his Department does not collect data centrally on the number of reports made to the police under the FGM Mandatory Reporting Duty.

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.

To improve understanding of the prevalence of so-called 'Honour Based Violence' including FGM, we amended the police Annual Data Requirement (ADR) to allow police forces the opportunity from April 2018 to record on a voluntary basis where a crime has been committed in the context of preserving the honour of a family or community.

This new voluntary ADR collection will capture police recorded offences of FGM which were initially reported to the police under the FGM Mandatory Reporting Duty. Subject to data quality checks, we expect the first dataset under this new voluntary ADR collection to be published in late 2019.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-25/157203/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

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

New Publication

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) - April 2017 to March 2018, Annual Report, Experimental Statistics Report

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/female-genital-mutilation/female-genital-mutilation-fgm---annual-report-2017-18/content>

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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>

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>

Third Reading, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-07-03/debates/500D3DAF-42D4-4713-916B-2C78B6C933E9/Refugees\(FamilyReunion\)Bill\(HL\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-07-03/debates/500D3DAF-42D4-4713-916B-2C78B6C933E9/Refugees(FamilyReunion)Bill(HL))

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

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/>

**** Vulnerable Witnesses (Criminal Evidence) (Scotland) Bill** (closing date 29 August 2018)
<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/109036.aspx>

Financial Memorandum of the Human Tissue (Authorisation) (Scotland) Bill
(closing date 31 August 2018)
<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/109042.aspx>

Human Tissue (Authorisation) (Scotland) Bill (closing date 4 September 2018)
<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/108999.aspx>

A Culture Strategy for Scotland (closing date 19 September 2018)
<https://consult.gov.scot/culture-tourism-and-major-events/culture-strategy/>

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.

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

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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/yoyyp-grant-guidelines.pdf> and to apply see <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/yoyyp-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

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Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

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>

Organising for Power

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

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 information contact Farkhanda Chaudhry 0141 577 8454 / 07950 008 859 / Farkhanda.Chaudhry@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

Mainstreaming Anti-Sectarianism in Equalities Toolkit

13 September 2018 in Glasgow (9.30-1.00)

4 October in Edinburgh (1.00-4.30)

15 November 2018 in Glasgow (1.00-4.30)

WSREC training for public / third sector organisations, students and individuals interested in unravelling the meaning of sectarianism as an 'equalities' issue and its impact on the wellbeing, safety and opportunities of those affected, and on society as a whole. For information and to book for 13 Sept see <https://tinyurl.com/ydh74vrg>, for 4 Oct see <https://tinyurl.com/y9muw7pm>, and for 15 Nov see <https://tinyurl.com/y7cmj54e>. Other venues may be available by request – for information contact kperezp@wsrec.co.uk

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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