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The UK Parliament is in recess from 6 to 12 November 2018.

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Debate

Asylum Seekers

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11746&i=106345#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Oral Answers

Asylum Seekers (Local Authority Support)

Sandra White (SNP): To ask the Scottish Government when it last met representatives from the Home Office to discuss the resources that Scotland's local authorities require to support asylum seekers. (S5O-02479)

Reply from the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government (Aileen Campbell): The Scottish Government believes that the Home Office must fund all local authorities properly and equitably for the crucial role that they play in supporting people seeking asylum. Local authorities in Scotland should not be treated differently from those in England.

I have made my deep concerns about the issue clear to the immigration minister in meetings and correspondence, most recently at a four nations meeting on asylum on 15 October.

Sandra White: Although the Scottish Government stepped in recently to assist with asylum seekers facing destitution in Glasgow, that has not been a permanent solution. Can the cabinet secretary provide any further information on negotiations with the Home Office regarding equity of funding for Glasgow City Council as a designated Home Office dispersal area?

Reply from Aileen Campbell: I believe that we need a long-term, sustainable solution to ensure that local authorities that are participating in asylum dispersal are properly funded and that people who are at the end of their asylum process are not left facing destitution and homelessness. We will continue to raise the issue with the Home Office, and we note that the Welsh Government and English local authorities have made similar concerns known. I am deeply disappointed that the Home Office has so far chosen not to act on those concerns, leaving the Scottish Government, local authorities and the third sector to pick up the pieces. I look forward to tomorrow's debate when members of the Parliament will also get a chance to raise their voices on this issue.

Patrick Harvie (Green): I very much welcome the minister's approach and her sincerity on the matter.

Does the Scottish Government agree with the Glasgow City Council task force that there is no legal barrier to the use of public funds to provide emergency accommodation for people who are themselves designated as having no recourse to public funds?

Reply from Aileen Campbell: What we have done, within the competencies that we have, is to provide third sector partners with the ability to help people who are facing destitution. Recently, I visited Positive Action in Housing and provided additional funding to help the charity to cope with the influx of people that it is having to deal with, in light of decisions that have been taken on asylum seekers in the city.

As I said, it is about ensuring that our local authorities are treated equitably. The Home Office needs to listen to that call if it wants local authorities to continue to provide homes for people who seek refuge and asylum in our country.

Pauline McNeill (Labour): I agree with the cabinet secretary and Sandra White that all local authorities should be treated equally.

Does the cabinet secretary agree that forced destitution of asylum seekers, who are already vulnerable, is an inhumane policy that should be reversed? Will she indicate to the Parliament that accommodation and advocacy, in particular, should be given to asylum seekers who have been refused asylum by the Home Office?

Reply from Aileen Campbell: I absolutely agree with Pauline McNeill's sentiment as she articulated it.

I underline that we provide funding to services for asylum seekers who live in Scotland, to help people to avoid destitution, where we can. We are also providing an additional £130,000 to strengthen advocacy and advice services that support people who are seeking asylum and people who are at risk of eviction.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11745&i=106291#ScotParlOR>

Asylum Seekers (Emergency Accommodation)

Patrick Harvie (Green): Later today, Parliament will debate the treatment of asylum seekers in our society in view of the continued threat of an imminent wave of mass evictions and mass destitution in Glasgow. I hope that the vast majority of us will unite in

revulsion at the United Kingdom Government's brutal policies and in determination to take action to support asylum seekers and other vulnerable migrants.

I am talking about people like Abdul. He was refused asylum and has been destitute in Glasgow for two years. He has serious epilepsy and mental health issues, which stem from his persecution in Afghanistan and from his homelessness here. This summer, he was discharged from an emergency hospital appointment to a shelter that did not have space for him.

As I speak, Abdul faces destitution again tonight. He will spend yet another unsafe night on the streets with literally nowhere to go. Only once he has safe short-term emergency accommodation, staffed by professionals who can meet his health needs, will he be able to start making choices in his life again, rather than being forced to make the grimmest survival decisions night after night. That provision does not yet exist. With winter coming, it is needed now.

Will the First Minister tell us—five months after the Scottish Government accepted the recommendation that there must be funding for emergency accommodation for those at immediate risk—what progress is being made and when that provision will be made available?

Reply from the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon): The initial recommendations that were made in the run-up to last winter by the homelessness and rough sleeping task force were accepted in full and funding was made available. That funding was used to very good effect—it helped many of those who were facing rough sleeping. The people who I have spoken to, who are working on the front line and who helped to shape those recommendations, are very positive about the impact that they have had. As Patrick Harvie knows, further streams of recommendations have been made by that task force. It has now published its final recommendations, and we are working through the implementation of all of those. It is an on-going process.

I do not know the particular circumstances of the individual who Patrick Harvie mentioned, but often with asylum seekers there are issues around their having no recourse to public funds, which complicates some of the provision that the Scottish Government wants to see. I abhor the way in which the United Kingdom system often exacerbates the trauma that asylum seekers experience and the trauma that has brought them to this country. I want to make sure not only that we do everything we can to help them in the situations that they face, but that our actions to tackle rough sleeping and homelessness help not just asylum seekers but everybody who faces that circumstance.

A large number of recommendations were made by the homelessness task force. On the detail of where all the recommendations are in progress of being implemented, I am more than happy to get the housing minister, Kevin Stewart, to write to Patrick Harvie, setting out the progress against each and every one of them.

Patrick Harvie: I appreciate the tone of the First Minister's answer. I believe that the Scottish Government wants to get this right. We in Scotland should reject the UK Government's wider hostile environment policy on migration in general, but we should also reject the idea that asylum seekers are a burden. To be asked for asylum, and to be able to offer asylum to those who need it, is to be in a privileged position. To have to ask for asylum is to bear a burden.

We need more than just firm sentiment and the commitment to act; we need action to be immediate, especially as the nights grow colder. We need an urgent timetable for the implementation of the recommendation on the provision of emergency accommodation and an integrated service that includes support services. We know that there is no legal barrier to funding those services, even for those people whom the UK Government has abandoned with the label of no recourse to public funds.

If the First Minister agrees that no one should be made destitute in 21st century Scotland, will she give a clear commitment that the Scottish Government will take the action that is

necessary to prevent this humanitarian crisis on our doorstep?

Reply from the First Minister: Yes, I give that commitment. As I said in my previous answer, we are in the process of implementing all the recommendations of the homelessness and rough sleeping task force. We learned a lot from last year's winter initiatives and those lessons will be applied this year. We are committing significant funding to that. We have allocated more than £23 million of the ending homelessness fund to get on with implementing the recommendations. We have also recently announced additional funding for the housing first approach.

I absolutely agree with the member, and the sentiment that I now express in terms of the detail of what we are doing to tackle rough sleeping and homelessness is backed up by the practical action that we are taking.

More generally, I think that we should never see those who seek asylum as a burden. We are undertaking our moral responsibility in offering asylum to people here. Given the nature of the constituency that I represent, I regularly make representations on the part of a large number of asylum seekers. We often find that people who come here seeking asylum are highly skilled and highly educated. I strongly believe that they should be allowed to work and make a contribution while they are here, as so many of them want to do.

I hope that the Parliament can unite on all those issues and call on the UK Government to change the rules that are causing and exacerbating so much of the misery that asylum seekers face, and also get behind the work that we are doing to tackle homelessness and rough sleeping, not just for asylum seekers but for everybody who faces that situation.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11746&i=106330#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-14548 Aileen Campbell (SNP): A Place of Safety: Supporting Asylum Seekers in Scotland – That the Parliament believes that Scotland must be a place of safety for people seeking asylum; agrees that those seeking asylum should be supported to integrate in Scotland's communities and rebuild their lives from day one of arrival; believes that the asylum system must treat people fairly and with dignity and respect at all times; considers that the UK Government must work in equal partnership with devolved governments and local government and provide local authorities with the resources required to support people dispersed to their areas; believes that accommodation provided to people seeking asylum must meet Scottish quality standards and be appropriate to their needs; considers that people seeking asylum should be allowed to work while their claim is being assessed to help rebuild their lives; recognises that there must be a long-term sustainable solution that does not leave people destitute or homeless at the end of the asylum process, and considers that refugee resettlement programmes provide a model of partnership working and integration support that should be replicated in the asylum system.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-14548>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

ESOL Classes

Virendra Sharma (Labour): If [the Home Secretary] will extend Government support for English for Speakers of Other Languages classes to include newly arrived asylum seekers. [907293]

Reply from the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sajid Javid):

... Government support towards integration is given through English language tuition, but it is available only once asylum seekers are recognised as refugees. This focuses resources on those recognised as being in need of protection.

Virendra Sharma: I thank the Secretary of State for his response. Given the limitations on ESOL budgets, will he assure me that sufficient funding will be available to support the plan that he has in this area?

Reply from Sajid Javid: The hon. Gentleman raises an important question. It is right that we support those who are given protection in ways to integrate into British life, and language is important to that. I assure him that we have a good budget in this area; in 2016-17, it was £99 million of the total adult learning budget.

Michael Fabricant (Conservative): Does my right hon. Friend agree that perhaps the success of the Jewish community in this country has been its willingness to integrate, to do in Rome as the Romans do and to learn the language? That is not always the case with other ethnic groups, so it is a question not only of providing sufficient funds but of encouraging them to learn the language and become a part of our community.

Reply from Sajid Javid: It is right, of course, that this Government do more to welcome all communities and help them to integrate. That is why the Government published—I published it when I was Communities Secretary—an integration Green Paper, which we will build on. It is also worth commending the work that World Jewish Relief does to help all communities to integrate. ...

Keith Vaz (Labour): ... the issue is not just English language lessons but the right to work, which goes hand in hand with being able to speak English. Will the Home Secretary look again at the rules to make sure that those who are waiting can get their right to work quicker and asylum seekers can be fully integrated in our society?

Reply from Sajid Javid: ... On the issue of asylum seekers and support, the right to work is also very important. He will know that after 12 months, asylum seekers start getting some rights to work, but we are always looking at what more can do.

Bob Blackman (Conservative): ... In my schools in Harrow, 161 languages are spoken and it is vital that we integrate young people, but they are getting the education. What more can we do to integrate the adults who come here and need this training, so that they can take their place in our society?

Reply from Sajid Javid: My hon. Friend is right to raise that. He may recall that the integration strategy, which was launched earlier this year, talked of almost 700,000 adults in Britain who speak no or very poor English. That has led to more work in this area, especially on using members of the communities concerned as mentors to try to encourage others to take up English language learning.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-10-29/debates/F0848715-751B-4F9A-8B8B-6121ADCA9026/ESOLClasses>

Free Movement of People

Philippa Whitford (SNP): What assessment [the Minister] has made of the effect on Scotland of ending free movement of people with the EU. [907297]

Marion Fellows (SNP): What assessment [the Minister] has made of the effect on Scotland of ending free movement of people with the EU. [907300]

Reply from the Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes): After the UK leaves the EU, free movement will end. In a recent report, the Independent Migration Advisory Committee concluded that the economic impacts of EU migration had been “relatively small”, with “limited regional variation”. As we leave the EU, we will create a single global immigration system that works in the interests of the whole United Kingdom.

Philippa Whitford: Ending freedom of movement will have a major impact on the health and social care sector, which employs high numbers of EU nationals, and the tier 2 visa threshold of £30,000 is far more than any social care worker earns. Do the Secretary of State and Minister not recognise that wealth is not the same as worth?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We have been very clear that employers should take all possible steps to reduce their reliance on low-skilled migrant labour. The MAC does have serious concerns, however, about the social care sector and is clear that this sector needs a policy wider than just migration policy to fix its many problems. The MAC report has given us some sound advice, but the Home Office continues to discuss with all sectors, with business leaders and indeed with the devolved Governments so that we can come forward with an immigration policy that works for the whole country.

Marion Fellows: As someone who has recently been the beneficiary of care and care support, I would refute what the Minister has just said. Scottish Government analysis published in February estimates that real GDP in Scotland will be 4.5% lower by 2040 than it would otherwise have been, as a result of lower migration. Does the Minister agree that this is why immigration powers must be devolved to Scotland, so that Scotland can create a system that is fair and that meets our needs and values?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government have been repeatedly clear that immigration policy remains a reserved matter. Four years ago the people of Scotland confirmed in a referendum that they wanted to remain part of the United Kingdom and we will deliver an immigration policy for every part of the UK. ...

David Duguid (Conservative): I welcome the news that free movement will be replaced with a single control system based on people's skills, not where they come from. Can my right hon. Friend reassure me that the future system will both facilitate the supply of foreign labour where there is a domestic shortage and complement the Government-wide approach to domestic skills to tackle the shortages where they can be addressed by upskilling UK workers?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: My hon. Friend makes an important point. Our first priority must be upskilling UK workers and making sure they can move into the vacancies that we know are there. My hon. Friend is always diligent in promoting the interests of businesses in Scotland, which might find it difficult to acquire the labour they need. I will be delighted to work with him in that respect.

Joanna Cherry (SNP): The Scottish Government's analysis shows that the average EU citizen working in Scotland contributes £10,400 per annum to Government revenue and £34,400 per annum to GDP. What plans have the UK Government made to mitigate the adverse economic impact on Scotland as a result of the UK Government's decision to end free movement?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The hon. and learned Lady will be conscious that an immigration White Paper will be coming forward very soon, but it is crucially important that we reflect on the advice given to us by the independent Migration Advisory Committee, which made the point that there were only limited regional variations.

Joanna Cherry: I am very conscious of the much heralded and long awaited White Paper. However—and the Minister may not know this—a nationally representative survey conducted by British Future and Hope not Hate shows that nearly two thirds of people in Scotland think the Scottish Government should have the power to decide which visas are issued to people who want to work in Scotland. Will the Minister meet me in advance of the White Paper to discuss how it will address the wishes and needs of the people of Scotland?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: I gently remind the hon. and learned Lady that Scotland will be part of a single immigration policy for the whole United Kingdom, however strongly she might argue against that, but I will be delighted to meet her after the White Paper is published, because we do not want the White Paper to be the end of the conversation, and we will still be asking business and industry leaders, representative groups, stakeholders and the devolved Administrations to give us their views.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-10-29/debates/C974C95B-7AE5-416B-B94C-AC400E030665/FreeMovementOfPeople>

EU Settlement Scheme

Danielle Rowley (Labour): What assessment [the Minister] has made of the adequacy of the Government's EU settlement scheme. [907298]

Reply from the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sajid Javid): EU citizens make a huge contribution to our economy and society, and we want them to stay. The EU settlement scheme enables them to do so, in line with the draft withdrawal agreement. The scheme provides a simple streamlined process for residents and EU citizens and their family members to obtain their new UK immigration status.

Danielle Rowley: The Roslin Institute in my constituency conducts world-leading scientific research, and it benefits significantly from the expertise of the EU citizens who work there. Given the Government's plans to level down of the rights of EU citizens living here from 30 March onwards and the false categorisation of many scientific researchers as low-skilled, what is the Secretary of State doing to ensure that EU researchers do not find the UK a hostile environment for themselves and their families and choose to go elsewhere?

Reply from Sajid Javid: The Government are supporting all those EU citizens who wish to stay in our country. As I said, we actually want them to stay, not just because of the economic benefits they bring but because they are part of our society and part of many of our families. So we want them to stay, and as we have made clear, whether there is a deal or not, they will still be welcome to stay. Our new immigration system will continue to welcome talent from across the world.

Edward Davey (Liberal Democrat): How does the Home Secretary propose to honour his promises to EU citizens living in the UK and to British citizens in the EU in the event of no deal? Will he now seek to negotiate and ratify a citizens' rights agreement with the EU that would come into force if there were no wider deal?

Reply from Sajid Javid: We have made it clear that if there is no deal—which we do not expect, but we need to plan for all eventualities—all 3.5 million EU citizens in the UK will be allowed to stay and welcome to stay.

Afzal Khan (Labour): Today, I wrote to the Home Secretary about the Home Office illegally requiring DNA data for people's immigration applications. We have just had the Windrush scandal, and the EU settlement scheme will be the biggest task that the Home Office has ever undertaken. With an additional 3.5 million EU citizens subject to the hostile environment, it will be a question of when, not if, another scandal will break. The Home Secretary has committed to conducting a review of the structure and processes of the Home Office. Will that review be fully independent, and will it roll back the hostile environment?

Reply from Sajid Javid: I gently remind the hon. Gentleman that the first Ministers to stand at this Dispatch Box and talk about the hostile environment where Labour Ministers. He should never forget that. Also, almost half the people affected by the Windrush saga were pre-2010. He should reflect on that as well. He is right to say that the EU settlement scheme is large and ambitious, and we are confident that it can be delivered. In our beta testing of the scheme so far, 95% of the people taking part say that it has worked very well for them.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-10-29/debates/877E60F6-3C96-45F2-A1B7-228930362780/EUSettlementScheme>

Topical Questions: Windrush

Sandy Martin (Labour): What progress has the Minister made in compensating Windrush victims who have been made homeless and jobless by the Government's hostile environment project? [907334]

Reply from the Minister for Immigration: I thank the hon. Gentleman for that question. He will know that Martin Forde QC recently asked the Government, and we agreed, to extend the consultation period for the compensation scheme so that

we can make sure that we get the best responses possible and so that he can engage more widely with the community. In exceptional circumstances, the Home Office has already made payments to some individuals.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-10-29/debates/2113CE9D-E6A5-4D02-9C6A-182624A1811E/TopicalQuestions#contribution-14ABBA1D-C399-4CCC-B53C-43FAB4180A7B>

Asylum Seekers

Chris Stephens (SNP): What steps [the Minister] is taking to ensure that asylum seekers are adequately maintained and accommodated; and if he will make a statement. [907307]

Reply from the Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes): The Government are committed to protecting the rights of asylum seekers and to ensuring that those who would otherwise be destitute are provided with accommodation and other support to meet their essential living needs. We continue to work closely with local government, the devolved Administrations, the private sector and civil society to make improvements to the services that are provided.

Chris Stephens: The Minister will be aware that, following a legal challenge in Scotland's Supreme Court by two of my constituents and Govan Law Centre, Serco undertook to put its lock-change evictions on hold. Is she aware that Serco is verbally threatening my constituents with lock-change evictions? Does she agree that that is completely unacceptable, and will she investigate?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: It is important that the Home Office continues to work with Serco, Glasgow City Council and non-governmental organisation partners as part of a dedicated taskforce to make sure that all those individuals who are no longer entitled to asylum support or accommodation are managed appropriately. The hon. Gentleman is of course right to point out that, following his constituents' legal challenge, no service users have been evicted while the appeal is ongoing.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-10-29/debates/4A945D0D-E4F2-43B2-A9D8-56F993C48C4A/AsylumSeekers>

Modern Slavery

James Cartlidge (Conservative): What steps the Government are taking to reduce modern slavery. [907296]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department (Victoria Atkins): The Government are tackling the abhorrent crime of modern slavery both at home and overseas. We have strengthened the law enforcement response and introduced new requirements for businesses to report on slavery in their supply chains, and are transforming the support we provide to victims. Internationally, we continue to work to stop modern slavery wherever it occurs.

James Cartlidge: I strongly welcome the steps the Government are taking to tackle modern slavery. Does the Minister agree that, as we leave the EU and bring in much tougher rules on unskilled immigration from the EU, we will need to be vigilant to ensure that it does not provide new opportunities for people traffickers who may seek to exploit those tougher rules?

Reply from Victoria Atkins: Our determination to tackle modern slavery will be unaltered by our exit from the EU. On 6 September, the Government announced the introduction of a new seasonal workers pilot for horticulture, but we are of course very alert to the risks noted by the independent Migration Advisory Committee, which my hon. Friend outlined, and we will work with sectors, including the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority, to ensure that migrant workers are protected against modern slavery and other labour abuse.

Mary Creagh (Labour): I welcome the fact that UK Border Force recently conducted spot checks at hand car washes in Wakefield, but the Environmental Audit Committee's

inquiry into the issue has heard that these criminals are breaking the law in other ways: avoiding their taxes, underpaying wages, and discharging chemicals into nearby watercourses. When will the Minister take a cross-departmental approach to tackling modern slavery, which is hidden in plain sight throughout the nation? [907313]

Reply from Victoria Atkins: I thank the hon. Lady for chairing the Environmental Audit Committee's inquiry into this important subject. It was a pleasure to appear before the inquiry some weeks ago. She is absolutely right: these criminals do not restrict themselves to exploiting human beings, but break every rule going. That is why we are leading a cross-governmental approach, having regard to environmental offences as well as offences of labour exploitation such as failing to pay the minimum wage. We want the message to go out to these criminals loud and clear that we will not tolerate modern slavery, whatever form it takes.

Maria Miller (Conservative): Many businesses want to show more clearly how they are trying to tackle modern slavery in their supply chains, as some need to in law. Will the Minister's modern slavery team talk to her equalities team and learn some lessons on how we are showing gender pay gap reporting, which is making that information more readily available?

Reply from Victoria Atkins: I thank my right hon. Friend for the important work that she is doing on the review of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, along with the right hon. Member for Birkenhead (Frank Field) and Baroness Butler-Sloss. I hope that the review will help us to tackle the problem that some—although not all—businesses have with meeting their duty under the Act to report that their supply chains are slavery-free. We have started that work already: last week, in celebration of Anti-Slavery Day, we wrote to 17,000 businesses across the country setting out our expectation of their compliance with the law.

Liz Saville Roberts (Plaid Cymru): North Wales Police was the first force in Wales to establish a modern slavery unit, working to combat human trafficking at Holyhead, which risks being a soft target for modern slavery gangs. What measures is the Secretary of State introducing to ensure that security at the port of Holyhead specifically is not compromised as a result of the UK's leaving the EU?

Reply from Victoria Atkins: I thank the hon. Lady for her commitment to this issue. As she knows, the Home Office is taking an in-depth look at the security of our borders as we leave the EU. However, our exit from the EU does not in any way affect our determination to tackle modern slavery, and to work with our international partners to stop slavery around the world.

Tom Pursglove (Conservative): The Council of Europe has been a real force for good through its proactive work to tackle modern slavery. It is entirely separate from the European Union, but will my hon. Friend confirm that we will continue to be at the forefront of the important work in that collaborative organisation?

Reply from Victoria Atkins: I am delighted to confirm that not only are we at the forefront in terms of the Council of Europe, but the Prime Minister is leading the world through the United Nations' global call for action to end modern slavery by 2030. We are very ambitious and determined in this regard, and the rest of the world is working with us.

Carolyn Harris (Labour): On Anti-Slavery Day, ECPAT UK—Every Child Protected Against Trafficking—handed No. 10 a petition calling for specialist support for trafficked children. No Government funds are currently available for specialist children's care, and that leaves children vulnerable to re-trafficking. The Government must commit themselves to giving local authorities additional funds. Will the Minister agree to provide those funds to protect vulnerable children?

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The hon. Lady will know that we are committed to the introduction of independent child trafficking advocates, and I am delighted that next year a third of local authorities will have ICTAs to look after the most vulnerable victims of trafficking. However, we have noted that the crime type is evolving. We are piloting schemes for UK-trafficked as opposed to internationally

trafficked children, because we appreciate that the needs of those two different sets of children must be encompassed.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-10-29/debates/24DA805A-22DD-4E4E-A857-54081AA24337/ModernSlavery>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Scotland Office: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [183826] To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland, how many citizens of non-UK EU countries work in (a) his Department, (b) its agencies and (c) its non-departmental public bodies.

Reply from David Mundell: The Office of the Secretary of Scotland does not employ staff directly. All staff that join do so on assignment, loan or secondment from other government bodies, principally the Ministry of Justice and the Scottish Government, who remain the employers. Detailed information on the nationality of staff is held by the parent employers.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183826/>

Wales Office: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [183827] To ask the Secretary of State for Wales, how many citizens of non-UK EU countries work in (a) his Department, (b) its agencies and (c) its non-departmental public bodies.

Reply from Mims Davies: The Office of the Secretary of State for Wales is not an employer in its own right. The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) provide employment services on our behalf. However, the MoJ does not collect data on the citizenship of MoJ employees as there is no requirement to record the nationality of staff employed by the Department.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183827/>

Northern Ireland Office: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [183825] To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, how many citizens of non-UK EU countries work in (a) his Department, (b) its agencies and (c) its non-departmental public bodies.

Reply from Shailesh Vara: The Northern Ireland Office does not hold information relating to non-UK EU nationals. From the data held at October 2018 on 121 staff, 28% have declared as British citizens, 14% have declared as Northern Irish and 2% have declared as other nationalities. The remaining 56% either prefer not to say or have not declared their nationality.

The Department has no agencies.

It has three executive non-departmental public bodies – the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, the Independent Reporting Commission and the Parades Commission for Northern Ireland; and one advisory non-departmental public body – the Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland. As these bodies are independent of Government, the hon Member may wish to write to the Commissions directly on these matters – contact details are set out below:

ALB	Status	Contact Details
Parades Commission for Northern Ireland	Executive NDPB	info@paradescommission.org
Independent Reporting Commission	Executive NDPB	enquiries@IRCommission.org
Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission	Executive NDPB	information@nihrc.org

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183825/>

Attorney General: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [183808] To ask the Attorney General, how many citizens of non-UK EU countries work in (a) his Department, (b) its agencies and (c) its non-departmental public bodies.

Reply from Robert Buckland: All Government Departments are bound by EU and UK requirements concerning right to work in the UK and, in addition, the Civil Service Nationality Rules. Documentary evidence of nationality is checked at the point of recruitment into the Civil Service as part of wider pre-employment checks. Neither the Attorney General's Office, the Government Legal Department, Her Majesty's Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate, the Crown Prosecution Service or the Serious Fraud Office record information on staff who are from non-UK EU countries.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183808/>

Cabinet Office: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [183809] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how many citizens of non-UK EU countries work in (a) his Department, (b) its agencies and (c) its non-departmental public bodies.

Reply from Oliver Dowden: At 30th September 2018, (a) 140 members of staff in my Department, (b) 11 members of staff in Cabinet Office agencies, and (c) 23 members of staff in our non-departmental public bodies, were of non-UK EU nationality.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183809/>

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [183810] To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, how many citizens of non-UK EU countries work in (a) his Department, (b) its agencies and (c) its non-departmental public bodies.

Reply from Richard Harrington: It is not currently possible to establish how many citizens of non-UK EU countries are currently working in The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, its agencies and non-departmental public bodies.

We do not centrally hold details of staff working for outsourced companies or agencies.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183810/>

Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [183811] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, how many citizens of non-UK EU countries work in (a) his Department, (b) its agencies and (c) its non-departmental public bodies.

Reply from Margot James: At 1st October 2018 the number of staff declaring their national identity as that of a non-UK EU country was 32.

All Government Departments are bound by EU and UK requirements concerning right to work in the UK and, in addition, the Civil Service Nationality Rules. Documentary evidence of nationality is checked at the point of recruitment into the Civil Service as part of wider pre-employment checks.

However DCMS does not hold this information centrally and staff declare their

national identity voluntarily. Therefore this figure will not be a true representation of the workforce as a whole.

We do not hold the information requested centrally for b) and C) and to obtain it would incur a disproportionate cost.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183811/>

Department for Education: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [183812] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how many citizens of non-UK EU countries work in (a) his Department, (b) its agencies and (c) its non-departmental public bodies.

Reply from Anne Milton: The department does not hold information about how many people working in it or its agencies are citizens of non-UK EU countries. The department does not hold any information about the employees of its non-departmental public bodies.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183812/>

Department for Transport: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [183816] To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, how many citizens of non-UK EU countries work in (a) his Department, (b) its agencies and (c) its non-departmental public bodies.

Reply from Nusrat Ghani: The table below provides details on the number of citizens of non-UK EU countries working in the Department for Transport as at 30th September 2018. The figures provided cannot be considered as comprehensive for the following reasons;

- The data provided only represents the number of staff where nationality has been declared by the individual and captured on an HR system.
- The Central Department, Executive Agencies and NDPB capture some nationality data during the recruitment of new entrants but this has not always been the case historically.
- This data is also not always stored on HR systems after recruitment, because different areas of the department have not operated the same HR systems, and there has not been a consistent approach to this data between the centre, the agencies and our NDPBs.

	Number of staff recorded as non-UK EU citizens
Central Department	63
Executive Agencies	36
Non-Departmental Public Bodies (NDPBs)	792

Please note, although as a non-Ministerial Department, the Office of Rail and Road does not fall within the scope of this question, we have included it for the sake of completeness.

Please note, the responses do not include information from Driver & Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA), because DVSA's HR System does not record the nationality of staff.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183816/>

Department for Work and Pensions: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [183817] To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, how many citizens of non-UK EU countries work in (a) her Department, (b) its agencies and (c) its non-departmental public bodies.

Reply from Justin Tomlinson: a) Documentary evidence of nationality is checked at the point of recruitment into the Department as part of our wider pre-

employment checks to ensure that individuals meet Civil Service Nationality Rules. This information is not retained beyond the point at which it has served its purpose. The Department's staff are not required to record whether they are citizens of non-UK EU countries.

(b) The Department does not have any agencies on which to report.

(c) DWP has four non departmental public bodies. Documentary evidence of nationality is checked at the point of recruitment and this information is not retained beyond the point at which it has served its purpose. Individuals are not required to record whether they are citizens of non-UK EU countries.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183817/>

Department of Health and Social Care: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [183818] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, how many citizens of non-UK EU countries work in (a) his Department, (b) its agencies and (c) its non-departmental public bodies.

Reply from Caroline Dinenge: The Department and the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence do not hold this information. Evidence of nationality is checked at the point of recruitment into the Civil Service as part of wider pre-employment checks, but there is no requirement on departments to retain this information beyond the point at which it has served its purpose.

The Health Research Authority, Human Tissue Authority and the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority have nationality data available. However, due to low numbers we are able to provide this information due to the risk that individuals may be identified.

The Department's remaining agencies and non-departmental bodies hold nationality data and this has been included in the following table. Data is accurate as of 30 September. Contextual information to this data should be noted as it has a significant impact on the validity of the data held.

Organisation	Number of employees who are citizens of non-United Kingdom European Union countries	Contextual Information
Medicines and Health products Regulatory Agency	126	Not applicable
Public Health England	383	Nationality data is not held for 135 members of staff.
Care Quality Commission	94	Nationality data is not monitored once individuals have been verified at the recruitment stage. As a result, the actual number of EU nationals could differ. This also does not account for EU citizens married to UK nationals, or those who hold dual nationality.
NHS Digital	60	Not applicable
Health Education England	46	Not applicable
NHS Improvement	30	Nationality data is not held for 54.9% of staff.

NHS England	128	Nationality data is not held for 29.1% of staff as this is based on individuals wishing to disclose this information.
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<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183818/>

Foreign and Commonwealth Office: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [183819] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, how many citizens of non-UK EU countries work in (a) his Department, (b) its agencies and (c) its non-departmental public bodies.

Reply from Alan Duncan: The Alien's Employment Act 1955 makes it a requirement that all FCO UK-based staff must be British nationals or dual nationals where one of those nationalities is British. We do not centrally hold details of the nationality of our UK-based staff who are dual nationals. To provide that information would require us to examine the individual record of each officer. Local staff are recruited directly by our overseas missions. Staff are therefore governed by local labour laws, not UK legislation, and are employed by the Mission in which they work. Local staff must have the right to work and reside in the country of the vacancy. We do not centrally hold details of the nationality of our staff employed locally overseas.

The FCO does not hold details of the nationality of staff working for its agencies and its non-departmental public bodies.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183819/>

Treasury: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [183820] To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, how many citizens of non-UK EU countries work in (a) his Department, (b) its agencies and (c) its non-departmental public bodies.

Reply from Robert Jenrick: All Government Departments are bound by legal requirements concerning the right to work in the UK and, in addition, the Civil Service Nationality Rules.

Evidence of nationality is checked at the point of recruitment into the Civil Service as part of wider pre-employment checks, but there is no requirement on departments to retain this information beyond the point at which it has served its purpose.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183820/>

Ministry of Defence: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [183822] To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many citizens of non-UK EU countries work in (a) his Department, (b) its agencies and (c) its non-departmental public bodies.

Reply from Tobias Ellwood: This information is not held in the format requested for Ministry of Defence civilian employees.

For information on the numbers of non-UK EU citizens in the UK Regular Armed Forces, I refer the hon. Member to the answer I gave on 25 June 2018 to Question 154798 to the hon. Member for Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross (Mr Stone).

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183822/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-06-18/154798/>

All candidates for the UK Armed Forces must be British from birth, hold a dual British/other nationality, or be a British National, citizen of the Republic of Ireland (RoI) or a Commonwealth citizen. This means that non-UK EU citizens from Cyprus, Malta and the RoI are eligible to serve in the UK Regular Armed Forces. For some specialisations (e.g. Submarine service), candidates must hold British nationality only. In addition, all applicants must meet Home Office residency requirements (normally five years).

The table below provides the requested information, noting that all non-UK EU Citizens in the UK Regular Armed Forces have a Foreign and Commonwealth nationality.

<i>Untrained and Trained Regular Non-UK EU Citizens in the UK Regular Armed Forces as at 1 April 2018</i>	
<i>All non-UK EU Citizens</i>	<i>560</i>
<i>Of which:</i>	
<i>STEM</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Hospitality</i>	<i>10</i>

Notes: STEM consists of Engineering Officers and Other Ranks for the Royal Navy/Marines and the Royal Air Force. For the Army, STEM includes Officers and Other Ranks in the Intelligence Corps, Royal Signals, Royal Engineers, Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers, and Soldiers in selected trades in the Royal Logistics Corps.

For the Royal Navy, the definition of 'Hospitality' here includes Caterers, Chefs and Stewards. For Royal Air Force, the definition includes Chefs only. Figures do not include Army personnel as Army chefs are not recorded in the hospitality field for statistical purposes.

Figures are rounded to the nearest 10, but when ending in a 5 rounded to the nearest 20 to avoid systemic bias.

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat)[183823] To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, how many citizens of non-UK EU countries work in (a) his Department, (b) its agencies and (c) its non-departmental public bodies.

Reply from Jake Berry:The Department encourages its staff to voluntarily disclose their national identity and regularly review their diversity and inclusion profile throughout the course of their employment. However, as this information is collected by the Department on a purely voluntary basis it would be potentially misleading to provide this information in the format requested.

The Department's executive agencies and non-departmental public bodies similarly collect this information on a voluntarily basis and therefore cannot confirm exact numbers reliably.

The Department is bound by EU and UK requirements concerning right-to-work in the UK and, in addition, the Civil Service Nationality Rules.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183823/>

Ministry of Justice: Migrant Workers

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [183824] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many citizens of non-UK EU countries work in (a) his Department, (b) its agencies and (c) its non-departmental public bodies.

Reply from Edward Argar: The MoJ does not collect data on the citizenship of MoJ employees. There is no requirement to record the nationality of staff employed by the department. While staff are not required to declare, self-declared national identity (British, English, Irish, Scottish, Welsh or Other) is recorded as part of the diversity questionnaire. All staff are encouraged to complete on our HR management system.

All Government Departments are bound by EU and UK requirements concerning right to work in the UK and, in addition, the Civil Service Nationality Rules. Documentary evidence of nationality is checked at the point of recruitment into the Civil Service as part of wider pre-employment checks. The recruitment processes of Civil Service organisations are subject to audit by the Civil Service Commissioner. Management of such information is delegated to departments. There is no requirement on departments to retain this information beyond the point at which it has served its purpose.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183824/>

Immigrants

Keith Vaz (Labour) [183242] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people were given temporary admission to enter the UK in (a) 2015, (b) 2016, (c) 2017 and (d) 2018.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: All our transparency data can be found on www.gov.uk

Immigration bail was implemented on 15 January 2018. It replaced the former powers of temporary admission, temporary release, release on restrictions and all forms of Chief Immigration Officer and Immigration Judge bail with a single power of immigration bail. It applies to persons who are detained or liable to detention.

Border Force uses this power in cases where a Border Force officer needs to make further enquiries before they make a decision on a person's entry to the UK or when a person is released from immigration detention

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-24/183242/>

Immigrants: Personal Records

David Lammy (Labour) [181534] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when his Department moved from paper to digital for immigration status records.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: INDECS (the Home Office Immigration and Nationality Department Electronic Computer system) held LC (landing cards) information for arriving passengers at UK ports of entry given check out conditions on arrival (codes 1-4) since 1980. On 14 April 1998, ports ceased to endorse passports or issue/collect embarkation cards on passengers' departure from the UK. These were then made available through the Case Information Database (CID).

CID was delivered through a phased rollout that was initiated with Asylum cases and was then subsequently rolled out to cater for settlement, enforcement and nationality case working processes as well as assisting Borders. CID has been the source immigration case working system for UKVI since 1998, over this time however the department has digitised application routes through a web-based service called Access UK and are in the process of replacing CID functionality with a new product named ATLAS. Please note that paper files are used alongside these systems to aid case working processes

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-19/181534/>

Immigration: Fees and Charges

Keith Vaz (Labour) [183241] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the total amount is of immigration fees (a) charged and (b) received by the public purse in (i) 2015, (ii) 2016, (iii) 2017 and (vi) 2018.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: FY 2018/2019: The figures for 2018/2019 will be available once the Home Office's Annual Report and Accounts are audited by the

National Audit Office and laid before Parliament.

For information regarding the other years please see the following links and relevant page numbers:

FY 2017/2018-page 126

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/727179/6_4360_HO_Annual_report_WEB.PDF

FY 2016/2017-page 117

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/627853/ho_annual_report_and_accounts_2016_2017.pdf

FY2015/16 - page 134

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/539638/HO_AR_16_gov.pdf

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-24/183241/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Immigration: Fees and Charges

Stewart Malcolm McDonald (SNP) [183420] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will make it his policy to waive fees charged for people applying for renewal of leave to remain.

Stewart Malcolm McDonald (SNP) [183430] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will make it his policy to waive fees charged to people who are re-submitting biometrics as part of their leave to remain application.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Fees can be waived for applications for leave to remain and renewal of leave to remain in certain specified human rights categories. These are listed in the fee waiver: Human Rights–Based and other specified applications guidance which can be found at

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/>

Where the application fee is waived the biometric enrolment fee is also waived.

The Government has no plans to introduce a general waiver from paying the biometric enrolment fee for applicants who are resubmitting their biometrics.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-24/183420/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-24/183430/>

Identity Cards

David Simpson (DUP) [182181] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many UK residence cards were issued in 2017.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Information on the number of issues of documents recognising residence is published in the quarterly Immigration Statistics, EEA table ee_02, latest edition at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-year-ending-june-2018/list-of-tables#european-economic-area-eea>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-22/182181/>

Immigration

David Lammy (Labour) [182673] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of applications for leave to remain in the UK were certified as being complex and therefore fell outside of Home Office service standards for each year since 2010.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: ‘Leave to Remain’ covers a range of in-country application categories.

Published records of in-country applications are available from May 2014. The most recent published statistics, which include applications categorised as straightforward and non-straightforward, are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/in-country-migration-data-august-2018>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-23/182673/>

Visas

Deidre Brock (SNP) [182886] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many and what proportion of visitor visas were (a) granted and (b) refused for each nationality in 2017.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The information available relates to total entry clearance visitor visas granted, and refused, and is published in the quarterly Immigration Statistics, Visas volume 1 table vi_01_q, latest edition at

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

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-23/182886/>

Visas: Applications

Deidre Brock (SNP) [182885] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the (a) effectiveness and (b) equity of the UK visit visa application process; and what plans he has to review that application process.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The visa system is kept under continuous review. UK Visas and Immigration is delivering a programme of ongoing improvements to the visa customer journey. Changes are being made to the visit visa application process to facilitate increasing demand, and to ensure customers receive a more flexible and efficient service.

These include; a new online application service, with streamlined and intuitive forms, self-service channels for providing supporting evidence and biometrics, and expanding access to our premium and priority service options.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-23/182885/>

Visas

David Simpson (DUP) [182178] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many and what proportion of people applying for a visitor visa to the UK subsequently applied for work visas in each of the last three years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The information requested is not held and could only be obtained at disproportionate cost by matching millions of records. Information on the number of visit visa applications is published in the quarterly Immigration Statistics, Visas volume 1 table vi_01_q, latest edition at

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

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-22/182178/>

Visas: Overseas Students

David Simpson (DUP) [182179] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many student study visas were issued in 2017.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Information on the number of study entry clearance visas granted is published in the quarterly Immigration Statistics, Visas volume 1 table vi_01_q, latest edition at

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

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-22/182179/>

Visas: Graduates

Gregory Campbell (DUP) [183880] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will introduce a Global Graduate Talent visa to allow international students sponsored by a UK university to work in the UK for a limited period following their graduation.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) recently published its review of the impact of International Students in the UK. The MAC made several recommendations regarding post study work, though they did not recommend a separate post study work visa. We will be carefully considering the recommendations made in the report and will be responding in due course.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183880/>

Visas: Performing Arts

Deidre Brock (SNP) [182884] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many visitor visas have been refused to international performers sponsored to attend a UK festival in each of the last five years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The UK continues to welcome artists, entertainers and musicians coming to the UK to perform and take part in festivals and events. The Home Office is working with the creative sector to better understand their needs, clarify visa requirements and ensure processes are as smooth as possible. Information relating to visitor visas is released quarterly as part of the Home Office's Immigration Statistics, which are available here –

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-year-ending-june-2018/list-of-tables#visas>. Standard visitors can undertake all the permitted activities as set out in the Immigration Rules. Data is not available to identify those visitors performing at festivals. To acquire data with that level of detail would require a manual examination of all records.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-23/182884/>

Visas: Tourism

Jo Stevens (Labour) [183507] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many tourist visas were refused in each of the last five years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The available information relates to total visitor visas, and is published in the quarterly Immigration Statistics, Visas volume 1 table vi_01_q, latest edition at

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

The standard visit visa has replaced:

- Family Visitor visa
- General Visitor visa
- Child Visitor visa
- Business Visitor visa, including visas for academics, doctors and dentists
- Sports Visitor visa
- Entertainer Visitor visa
- Prospective Entrepreneur visa
- Private Medical Treatment Visitor visa
- Approved Destination Status (ADS) visa

<https://www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-24/183507/>

The following three questions all received the same answer

Migrant Workers

Matt Warman (Conservative) [907310] What steps the Government is taking to ensure that its policies on immigration enable the hiring of the number of skilled migrants that the UK requires.

Steve Double (Conservative) [907312] What steps the Government is taking to ensure that its policies on immigration enable the hiring of the number of skilled migrants that the UK requires.

Bill Grant (Conservative) [907315] What steps the Government is taking to ensure that its policies on immigration enable the hiring of the number of skilled migrants that the UK requires.

Reply from Sajid Javid: The Government is committed to ensuring our migration system works in the national interest by enabling employers to recruit skilled-migrants from overseas.

In July, we exempted doctors and nurses from the annual cap, which freed up hundreds of places a month for other sectors of the economy.

This has had a positive impact and the cap is no longer oversubscribed.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/907310/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/907312/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/907315/>

NHS: Migrant Workers

Luciana Berger (Labour Co-op) [184393] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what meetings he has had with the Home Secretary on the ability of foreign nationals from (a) countries in the EU and (b) non-EU countries to move to the UK to work in the NHS; and what the (a) dates and (b) outcomes were of those meetings.

Reply from Stephen Barclay: My Rt. hon. Friend, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, has regular discussions with Ministerial colleagues on a number of issues, including on immigration and the ability of foreign nationals from both European Union and non-EU countries to work in the National Health Service.

The Government values highly the enormous contribution of all those working across our health and care sector from across the EU and the rest of the world.

This is why the Home Secretary recently removed doctors and nurses from the ambit of the Tier 2 visa cap, and why many NHS staff will have early access to the settled status scheme for EU nationals.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-26/184393/>

Legal Aid Scheme: Immigrants

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [185053] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, whether for the purpose of legal aid eligibility (a) an application for a derivative rights of residence card and (b) a residence or permanent residence card or confirmation of settled status or pre settled status, are equivalent to an application for leave to enter or remain; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Lucy frazer: The EU Settlement Scheme will provide a streamlined, user-friendly process, in line with the draft Withdrawal Agreement with the European Union published on 19 March 2018, for resident EU citizens and their family members to obtain the UK immigration status which they will require in order to remain in the UK beyond the end of the planned implementation period

on 31 December 2020. An application for a residence card is not an application for leave to enter or remain and legal aid to assist with such an application is outside the scope of the legal aid scheme. Exceptional case funding may be available where there is a breach, or risk of a breach, of EU law or ECHR rights

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/185053/>

Immigrants: English Language

Stewart Malcolm McDonald (SNP) [183421] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will make it his policy to abolish his Department's requirement for additional English language tests for applicants (a) seeking renewal of leave to remain and (b) who have already passed the first English language test.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We expect those coming to the UK on a family visa with only basic English to become more fluent over time, to support their integration.

A2 level English language requirement under the family Immigration Rules applies to applications for further temporary leave to remain as a partner or parent, after 30 months in the UK on a five-year route to settlement.

Tests that exceed the required A1 level on entry to the partner or parent route, met at A2 level or above, may be re-used at the next application stage.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-24/183421/>

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat) [183807] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how long the pilot for EU Settlement Scheme in the North West of England that started on 28 August 2018 will last; and if he will make a statement once that trial is over.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The first pilot phase of the EU Settlement Scheme commenced on 28 August and the last application was received on 18 October, with excellent feedback from participants. We will publish a full report with our findings as we move into the next phase of the pilot in November.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183807/>

Immigrants: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [185054] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the oral contribution of the Minister for Immigration of 21 June 2018 on EU Settlement Scheme, Official Report, column, 508, what steps he is taking to ensure that victims of trafficking and modern slavery are not excluded from the scheme as a result of criminal convictions received in (a) the UK and (b) other countries.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: In line with the draft Withdrawal Agreement, conduct (including any criminal convictions) before the end of the implementation period will be assessed according to the current EU public policy and security tests for deportation, as set out in the EEA Regulations 2016.

The decision to deport under the EU public policy or security tests must be based exclusively on the personal conduct of the individual concerned, which must present a genuine, present and sufficiently serious threat to one of the fundamental interests in society and must take into account proportionality considerations; including how long the person has resided in the UK, their age, state of health, family and economic circumstances, social and cultural integration, and the extent of their links with the country of origin.

Victims of trafficking and modern slavery who have committed crimes either in the UK or overseas are not exempt from this assessment. As with the operation of the statutory defence for victims of slavery forced to commit criminal acts by their

traffickers (s45 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015), an assessment will be made on a case-by-case basis of the relationship between the crime committed and the circumstances of their trafficking or enslavement. This will be considered as part of the proportionality assessment set out above.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/185054/>

The oral contribution referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-06-21/debates/F9399B0C-6967-4F2C-BF14-FCD3F4DEBC4A/EUSettlementScheme>

Refugees: Syria

John Lamont (Conservative) [907309] What progress the Government has made on placing vulnerable Syrian families in the UK.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We are on track to meet the Government's commitment to resettle 20,000 refugees under the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme by 2020.

Over 12,800 refugees who have fled the Syrian conflict have now been resettled since the scheme began, and they are being supported by more than 280 local authorities across the UK.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/907309/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Refugees: Students

Ruth Smeeth (Labour) [182873] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what financial support his Department provides to (a) further education colleges and (b) sixth forms for enrolled refugee students.

Refugees: Education

Ruth Smeeth (Labour) [182874] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps his Department is taking to support (a) sixth forms and (b) further education colleges in the provision of education for refugees.

Reply from Anne Milton: Refugee students are eligible for funding, and they are funded on the same basis as all other 16 to 19 eligible students.

The 16 to 19 funding arrangements for school and college places include an element of disadvantage funding. This element of the funding is for providers to attract, retain and support disadvantaged students and to support students with lower-level special educational needs and disabilities. Disadvantage funding is provided to institutions either for students with low prior attainment or for students who live in the most disadvantaged areas, and refugee students may attract this funding. In the 2018/19 academic year, we have allocated around £510 million to 16 to 19 institutions to provide extra support for disadvantaged students.

In addition, the department provides a number of financial support programmes for economically disadvantaged 16 to 19 year olds. This support aims to help with the education-related costs associated with staying in post-16 education such as travel and course equipment. These programmes aim to enable 16 to 19 year olds to participate in education regardless of their financial situation. They are available to refugee students who meet the qualifying criteria for each scheme.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-23/182873/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-23/182874/>

Pupils: Refugees

David Simpson (DUP) [183315] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how many

child refugees are being schooled in the UK.

Reply from Nadhim Zahawi: The information requested is not held centrally. Information on refugee status is not collected within the school census. All children in the UK aged between 5-15 are required to be in education, including refugee children.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-24/183315/>

Refugees: Mental Health

Anneliese Dodds (Labour Co-op) [182856] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what supervision and support his Department provides for staff who handle refugees with trauma.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We are committed to delivering an asylum process that is sensitive to the needs of the claimants so that sufficient information can be obtained to facilitate fair and sustainable decisions on asylum claims. All interviewing and decision making personnel receive extensive training on interviewing and considering asylum claims and must follow published Home Office policy guidance when conducting screening and substantive asylum interviews and considering asylum claims.

A training package is delivered to all staff who handle refugees with trauma called Vicarious Trauma. This course is designed to encourage Decision-Makers to reflect upon the nature of asylum work and consider how it may affect them psychologically and emotionally. It raises awareness of both the psychological factors affecting Decision-Makers and the potential risks which accompany this work.

In addition, the Home Office offers Safeguarding training to all staff who handle refugees with trauma. The Home Office has worked closely with experts in trauma in developing its policy guidance on asylum screening, in particular Freedom from Torture.

The employee assistance programme (EAP) aids staff with any emotional or practical problems, for example anxiety, bereavement, sexual harassment, debt or depression. The EAP gives impartial, confidential support to staff. The EAP provides practical, up to date information on a wide range of topics. There is also a manager support area with advice on disputes, mental health issues and traumatic incidents.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-23/182856/>

Asylum: Mental Health

Anneliese Dodds (Labour Co-op) [182855] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what screening his Department undertakes to identify trauma in applicants for asylum.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: A key objective of the asylum screening process is to create a secure and positive environment that supports claimants to disclose as much relevant information as possible, including medical conditions, disabilities or experience of trauma that may make the person vulnerable.

Asylum claimants are directly asked about their physical and mental health as part of the screening questionnaire. If the responses provided, or the claimant's general demeanour, indicate that they may be a victim of trauma, the screening officer will record this information to ensure appropriate onward routing and management. Depending on the extent of their vulnerability, they may also make a referral to the Asylum Safeguarding Hub.

The guidance for staff who register asylum claims and complete the screening process for asylum claimants can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/asylum-screening-and-routing>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-23/182855/>

Asylum: Housing

Paul Sweeney (Labour Co-op) [183351] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many asylum seekers have had their temporary Home Office-provided accommodation withdrawn under the COMPASS contract and asylum claim subsequently upheld.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Information on asylum seekers that have had their temporary Home Office-provided accommodation withdrawn under the COMPASS contract and asylum claim subsequently upheld is not held in a reportable format and the re-requested information could therefore only be provided at disproportionate cost by examination of individual property records.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-24/183351/>

Asylum: Housing

Paul Sweeney (Labour Co-op) [183356] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment his Department made of (a) external advice and (b) lessons learned from the current contract implementation period prior to the re-tendering of the Compass asylum accommodation contract.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Since the establishment of the project in the autumn of 2016, there has been extensive engagement with strategic stakeholders, including Strategic Migration Partnerships (SMPs), Local Authorities and Statutory Organisations, to feed their views into the design of the next generation of contracts. In addition, the project has undertaken market engagement with private and public sector suppliers to understand what is required to deliver effective solutions for the provision of accommodation and support to asylum seekers.

The Home Office has considered lessons learnt from the existing contracts and Stakeholder feedback had considerable influence on the specifications in the contract, where the Home Office has adopted a host of improvements that were proposed by stakeholders. With these changes we aim to ensure that the new contracts build upon the groundwork for a constructive relationship between central government, local government, the private sector and civil society, to the benefit of communities and those seeking our protection.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-24/183356/>

Asylum: Housing

Paul Sweeney (Labour Co-op) [183944] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what (a) lessons learned from the current implementation period and b) advice from external bodies was used to draft the provisions of the asylum accommodation contract.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Since the establishment of the project in the autumn of 2016, there has been extensive engagement with strategic stakeholders, including Strategic Migration Partnerships (SMPs), Local Authorities and Statutory Organisations, to feed their views into the design of the next generation of contracts. In addition, the project has undertaken market engagement with private and public sector suppliers to understand what is required to deliver effective solutions for the provision of accommodation and support to asylum seekers.

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central government, local government, the private sector and civil society, to the benefit of communities and those seeking our protection.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183944/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Immigration Controls

Lord Hain (Labour) [HL10812] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether a minimum time interval applies between an individual being issued with a Notice of Refusal by immigration officers and subsequently being removed from the UK ...

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The standard notification period is a minimum of 72 hours before removal however there is an exception for port cases where, if removal occurs within seven days of refusal, there is no need to provide 72 hours' notice. ...

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-18/HL10812/>

Immigration: Appeals

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL10687] To ask Her Majesty's Government what recompense is made to individuals who at their own expense challenge appeals by the Home Office against immigration decisions made by Upper Tribunals.

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: The Court of Appeal may order the losing party to pay the winning party's costs. That is the case regardless of whether the winning party was legally represented or not, although the costs that can be recovered by litigants in person are subject to some limitations set out in Rule 46.5 of the Civil Procedure Rules.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-15/HL10687/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Overseas Students: Entry Clearances

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL10914] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the analysis by Universities UK Estimates of lost higher education export revenue, 22 October, of the impact on universities of the restrictions on visas for foreign students.

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL10916] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the analysis by Universities UK Estimates of lost higher education export revenue, 22 October, of the impact on tax revenues as a result of the restrictions on visas for foreign students.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: There is no limit on the number of international students who can come to study in the UK, and no intention to impose one.

The UK remains the second most popular destination in the world for international higher education students. In the year ending June 2018, the number of University-sponsored study visa applications (main applicants) rose 7%. Visa applications from university students are now 27% higher than they were in 2010.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-22/HL10914/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-22/HL10916/>

Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL10915] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the case for a graduate talent visa to allow international students to gain work experience in the UK for up to two years after graduating.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) recently published its review of the impact of International Students in the UK. The MAC made several recommendations regarding post-study work, though they did not recommend a separate post-study work visa.

We will be carefully considering the recommendations made in the report and will be responding in due course.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-22/HL10915/>

The review referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/739089/Impact_intl_students_report_published_v1.1.pdf

Refugees: Children

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL10775] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether, since the transfer of 549 unaccompanied children to the UK from the Calais region for reunion with their families in the UK, they are no longer searching for other similar children in transit in Europe; and if so, why not.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: In October 2016, the UK acted decisively and on an exceptional basis at the time of the Calais camp clearance to remove 769 vulnerable unaccompanied children from a dangerous situation where they were at risk of violence and abuse. Our action resulted in 220 children being relocated to the UK under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016, and the remaining 549 children being transferred to reunite with family members already in the UK.

On 11 October we laid a new Immigration Rule, which created a new form of leave for any of these cases that have not already been granted a form of leave. This leave will only be available for those that were brought over as part of the Calais clearance exercise in October 2016, who were under the age of 18 at this time, and who had recognised family ties in the UK. Individuals who qualify for this leave will have the right to study, work, access public funds and healthcare, and can apply for settlement after ten years.

We continue to meet our obligations under the EU Dublin III Regulation to transfer unaccompanied children with qualifying family legally present in the UK as soon as possible. We have liaison officers based in Italy, Greece and France working with Member States' governments and partner organisations to identify eligible children and support them through the Dublin process.

As part of the Sandhurst Treaty, signed between the UK and France in January 2018, we announced a number of measures to support unaccompanied children into the asylum system and through the Dublin process. This includes agreement on shorter timescales for referral and transfer under Dublin and a £3.6 million development fund to support eligible claims through the Dublin process and ensure those children who are not eligible for transfer to the UK are informed of their options.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-17/HL10775/>

Asylum: Pakistan

Lord Alton of Liverpool (Crossbench) [HL10707] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the reply by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 15 October (HL Deb, cols 282–3), whether the Home Office will now reclassify the systematic attacks on religious minorities

in Pakistan as persecution rather than discrimination.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: All asylum and human rights applications from Pakistan nationals are carefully considered on their individual merits in accordance with our international obligations.

Each individual assessment is made against the background of the latest available country of origin information and any relevant caselaw. This is based on evidence taken from a range of reliable sources, including reputable media outlets; local, national and international organisations, including human rights organisations; and information from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Our country policy and information notes on religious groups in Pakistan are published on the gov.uk website and kept under constant review, updated periodically.

If a person can show that they would suffer serious persecution based on their religion on return to Pakistan, then it is likely they would be granted international protection.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-16/HL10707/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-10-15/debates/2F85B17E-85B9-49C5-A2D0-CB899614796B/AsylumApplications#contribution-3597A8C8-8416-4B4D-8E5F-61D0152BBD46>

Asylum: Pakistan

Lord Alton of Liverpool (Conservative) [HL10708] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many claims for asylum in the UK were successful in respect of religious minorities from Pakistan over the past five years.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: All asylum claims lodged in the UK are carefully considered on their individual merits against a background of relevant case law and up to date country information. We ensure that claimants are given every opportunity to disclose information relevant to their claim under a convention reason as set out in the 1951 Refugee Convention.

The data required to answer the question is not recorded in a way that can be reported on accurately. The Home Office does not electronically record the grounds on which an individual claims asylum and so we cannot identify how many asylum claimants, from a specific country, have been granted asylum due to a religious minority claim. This data could only be obtained at disproportionate cost.

However, the Home Office publishes figures on the outcome of all asylum claims in the Immigration Statistics release. A copy of the latest release, Immigration Statistics Year Ending June 2018, is available from

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

This data release shows that there have been 2,982 grants of asylum to claimants from Pakistan over the past five year (periods Q2 2013 to Q2 2018).

[Immigration Stats year ending June 2018](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-june-2018-data-tables)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-16/HL10708/>

The following three questions all received the same answer

Human Trafficking: Children

Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative) [HL10667] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the answer by the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department on 9 October (HC Deb, col 81WH) regarding the extension of the Independent Child Trafficking Advocates Scheme to the West Midlands, the East Midlands and the London Borough of Croydon, (1) what was the process, and (2) what criteria were used, in selecting local authorities for inclusion in the scheme.

Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative) [HL10668] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the answer by the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department on 9 October (HC Deb, col 81WH), what proportion of child victims of trafficking in England and Wales (1) are currently eligible for an Independent Child Trafficking Advocate by virtue of being resident in one of the three early adopter sites for the scheme, and (2) will be eligible for an Independent Child Trafficking Advocate by April 2019 following planned extension of the scheme.

Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative) [HL10669] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the answer by the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department on 9 October (HC Deb, Col 81WH) regarding the extension of the Independent Child Trafficking Advocates Scheme, whether the schemes in the West Midlands, the East Midlands and the London Borough of Croydon will provide services to both UK national children and children of other nationalities.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: We want to be able to test the revised ICTA model across a variety of areas with different demographics and characteristics to ensure that the right model can be rolled out nationally. The West Midlands, the East Midlands and the London Borough of Croydon all offer different opportunities and challenges, for example the prevalence of exploitation such as county lines and how the ICTA service interacts with the National Transfer Scheme, which will require engagement with the receiving local authorities and support providers.

The ICTA service that will be implemented in West Midlands, East Midlands and the London Borough of Croydon will trial a revised model of ICTA provision. In line with the existing early adopter sites, the service will continue to work on a one-to-one basis with unaccompanied children who are separated from their family and their home country. The revised model will introduce a new role, an ICTA Regional Coordinator, whose role will be to focus on internally trafficked UK based children.

The ICTA Regional Coordinator will take on a more strategic role for internally trafficked children, working with the range of professionals already supporting the child, rather than working on a one-to one basis with the child themselves. The Regional Coordinator will adapt to regional differences and use their in-depth and specialist knowledge, both in terms of the nature of trafficking and the existing provisions and services, to offer expert advice to those professionals who are working directly with children, on how best to safeguard the children in their care.

The assessment of the Independent Child Trafficking Advocates: Interim Findings which was published in July, detailed that between 30 January 2017 and 31 January 2018 a total of 215 referrals were made to the ICTA service in the three early adopter sites. The interim report can be found on GOV.UK.

Following the expansion of the service, by April 2019, the ICTA service will be available to eligible children in one third of all Local Authorities in England and Wales.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-15/HL10667/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-15/HL10668/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-15/HL10669/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-10-09/debates/18100950000001/Modern-DaySlavery#contribution-F05B0983-4265-4531-B9FD-110C4963BDB0>

Slavery: Children

Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative) [HL10891] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the proposed drop-in centres intended to offer support to victims of modern slavery after a positive conclusive grounds decision will be available to young people who entered the National Referral Mechanism as children but have since turned 18 years old.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: From January 2017 to January 2018, 12 children exited the Independent Child Trafficking Advocate (ICTA) service because they turned 18. The data collected by the Home Office is anonymised for evaluation purposes. It is therefore not possible to cross-reference this with decision-making data from the National Referral Mechanism (NRM). More information on the ICTA service and children who exited support can be found in the Interim Report published by the Home Office in July, and the accompanying data tables on Gov.UK.

On turning 18, any young person who is awaiting an NRM decision, becomes eligible for support from The Salvation Army through the Victim Care Contract. This includes outreach and accommodation support where necessary. We are currently preparing to retender this contract which will be operational from 1 April 2020 and will include drop in services for up to 6 months post-conclusive grounds decision. It is part of the ICTA's role to ensure they effectively transition children turning 18 into appropriate support upon leaving the ICTA service.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-22/HL10891/>

Press Releases

EU Settlement Scheme Introduction to the Employer Toolkit

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728672/EU_Settlement_Scheme_Introduction_To_Employer_Toolkit.PDF

New fund to support vulnerable EU citizens apply for settled status

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-fund-to-support-vulnerable-eu-citizens-apply-for-settled-status>

UN expert calls on Security Council to address trafficking as human rights issue

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23787&LangID=E>

Refugees, Migrants Branded 'Threats', Dehumanized in Campaigns Seeking Political Gain, High Commissioner Tells Third Committee, Appealing for Return to Dignity

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2017/gashc4247.doc.htm>

New Publications

EU Settlement Scheme – Private Beta Testing Phase 1 Report

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/752872/181031_PB1_Report_Final.pdf

EU Settlement Scheme pilot: current expected processing times for applications

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-application-processing-times/eu-settlement-scheme-pilot-current-expected-processing-times-for-applications>

“Windrush Generation” guidance for NHS staff and other providers of NHS funded secondary and community care services

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/752267/windrush-generation-guidance-for-nhs-staff-and-nhs-care-providers.pdf

Migrant labour in Scottish agriculture

<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdneq.azureedge.net/published/2018/10/30/Migrant-labour-in-Scottish-agriculture/SB%2018-71.pdf>

Letter from Caroline Nokes MP to Yvette Cooper MP regarding the Home Office's policy and operational use of DNA testing in immigration and asylum cases

<http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2018-1061/Carolin+Nokes+to+Chair+of+HASC-DNA.pdf>

The Slavery and Trafficking Survivor Care Standards 2018

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/599abfb4e6f2e19ff048494f/t/5bc07787ec212d8f5b833504/1539340180026/HTF+Care+Standards+%5BSpreads%5D.pdf>

Policy options for future migration from the European Economic Area: Interim report: Government Response to the Committee's Eighth Report

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmhaff/1663/1663.pdf>

News

Tory MSPs urge UK government to let asylum seekers work

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-46065716>

Employers to have transition period before EU right-to-work checks

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/nov/01/home-office-caroline-nokes-eu-checks-immigration-brexit-employers-right-to-work>

Brexit: Immigration minister u-turns after falsely claiming employers would have to check EU workers' status after no-deal

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/brexit-immigration-no-deal-rights-eu-citizens-employers-home-office-caroline-nokes-a8611966.html>

Sajid Javid forced to reassure businesses after immigration minister's blunder on EU workers

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2018/11/01/sajid-javid-forced-reassure-businesses-immigration-ministers/>

Employers must check EU nationals' right to work, says minister

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/oct/30/employers-required-brexit-check-eu-nationals-right-to-work-uk>

Firms may have to check EU citizens' right to work

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-10-31/news/firms-may-have-to-check-eu-citizens-right-to-work-tx777gfwq>

Home Office 'risks repeat of Windrush scandal' as employers required to check EU citizens' right to work after Brexit

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/eu-citizens-right-to-work-uk-brexit-windrush-scandal-home-office-passport-a8609456.html>

No-deal Brexit: Employers to check EU migrants' status - minister

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-46035919>

Hospitals will cover cost of EU staff visas

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-11-02/news/hospitals-will-cover-cost-of-eu-staff-visas-8qlrdrvnk>

Trafficked Europeans may have to pay to stay in UK post-Brexit

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/nov/03/protest-fees-trafficked-europeans-brexit>

EU slavery victims at risk of re-exploitation after Home Office says they may have to pay to stay in UK after Brexit

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/brexit-latest-eu-slavery-victims-home-office-settlement-fee-a8616166.html>

Sajid Javid pushes for Home Office changes after Windrush errors

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/nov/02/amber-rudd-says-she-hopes-home-office-changes-windrush-blunders>

Sajid Javid vowed to 'do right' by the Windrush generation. He hasn't

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/nov/01/sajid-javid-windrush-hostile-environment>

'They expected to be welcomed with open arms': Inside the remarkable lives of the Windrush generation

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/windrush-book-mother-country-david-lammy-lenny-henry-generation-scandal-jamaica-uk-a8609531.html>

Windrush: Home Office chief tells staff he is 'very proud' of response to scandal amid storm of criticism

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/windrush-scandal-home-office-immigration-victims-compensation-philip-rutnam-david-lammy-a8614466.html>

'Proud' Home Office boss backs staff on Windrush

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/proud-home-office-boss-backs-staff-on-windrush-gmtrzf73p>

Councils 'failing children in care with immigration issues'

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/nov/01/children-care-irregular-immigration-statuses-councils-accused>

UK red tape over visas may stop performers playing Irish gigs

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/ireland/uk-red-tape-over-visas-may-stop-performers-playing-irish-gigs-lkd73cwdd>

Home Office tells Northern Irish woman to prove right to live in Belfast

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/oct/31/home-office-tells-northern-irish-woman-to-prove-right-to-live-in-belfast>

Brexit: UK government's battle with Apple over EU citizens app

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-46043668>

CPS criticised as charges dropped over death of man in UK detention camp

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/oct/30/cps-criticised-after-charges-dropped-over-death-of-man-in-uk-detention-camp>

Immigration must meet the needs of business

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/law/immigration-must-meet-the-needs-of-business-h023d7rgb>

Rights of unmarried partners of EU nationals

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/law/rights-of-unmarried-partners-of-eu-nationals-p0z8tlspq>

UK admits only 20 unaccompanied child refugees in two years

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/nov/03/uk-admits-only-20-unaccompanied-child-refugees-in-two-years>

Church welcomes call to relax asylum seeker work rules

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

Supreme Court rules that parental misconduct irrelevant to whether child should leave UK — an extended look

<https://ukhumanrightsblog.com/2018/10/29/supreme-court-rules-that-parental-misconduct-irrelevant-to-whether-child-should-leave-uk-an-extended-look/>

US resident granted visa to see seriously ill daughter in hospital after Home Office U-turn

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/mother-daughter-visa-home-office-cancer-hospital-bangladesh-fateha-begum-a8610276.html>

UK school reports '30-year-old' pupil to Home Office

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/odd/uk-school-reports-30-year-old-pupil-to-home-office-1-4823680>

Ipswich school pupil investigated over claims he is as old as 30

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/ipswich-school-pupil-age-stoke-high-home-office-asylum-investigation-a8614531.html>

Asylum seeker schoolboy reported to Home Office amid claims he is 30 years old

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/11/02/school-reports-asylum-seeker-pupil-amid-claims-adult/>

Schoolboy is '30-year-old refugee', say fellow pupils

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/schoolboy-is-30-year-old-refugee-say-fellow-pupils-vqjxtp3w9>

Somali refugees are too often left out of mental health discussions – here's why I want that to change

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/mental-health-somali-community-civil-war-islam-muslim-a8616796.html>

Asylum seeker facing removal from UK despite young daughter being at risk of FGM

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/asylum-seeker-fgm-home-office-removal-judge-high-court-a8610911.html>

Ben Uri Gallery to be reinvented to promote immigrant artists

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2018/oct/29/ben-uri-gallery-to-be-reinvented-as-an-aid-to-immigrant-artists>

TOP

Community Relations

New Publication

**Runnymede retrospective: 1968-2018: What has changed in 50 years?
Racism, race relations and Runnymede**

<https://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/bulletin/pdfs/Retro%20Bulletin%2029%20Oct%20Final%20from%20Nick.pdf>

News

This murderous assault will not stop Jews helping refugees

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-10-29/news/the-murderous-assault-in-pittsburgh-will-not-stop-jews-helping-refugees-8sggn2kgd>

'A time bomb': how social tensions are rising in a corner of northern England

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/nov/03/roma-tire-shouldering-blame-boiling-pot-communities>

Royal Ballet soloist wore make-up to lighten his skin to try to 'blend in'

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/11/03/royal-ballet-soloist-wore-make-up-lighten-skin-try-blend/>

TOP

Equality

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Race and Ethnicity Board

Baroness Whitaker (Labour) [HL10970] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Keen of Elie on 1 February (HL4903), what conclusions the Race and Ethnicity Board has reached on how best to engage the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: Following the publication of the Lammy Review last year, we are making efforts to explore and address specific disparities among the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) communities in the justice system, overseen by the Race and Ethnicity Board. Our ability to design and assess effective policies will be strengthened by engagement with representatives of GRT communities with direct experience of the justice system. To this end, we are establishing a dedicated stakeholder forum to inform, review and partner with on emerging work.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-23/HL10970/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-01-18/HL4903/>

Press Releases

Jeremy Hunt launches reverse mentoring scheme for Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) staff

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/jeremy-hunt-launches-reverse-mentoring-scheme-for-bame-staff>

New report outlines options for strengthening human rights laws in Scotland on eve of UN visit investigating extreme poverty

<http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/news/new-report-outlines-options-for-strengthening-human-rights-laws-in-scotland-on-eve-of-un-visit-investigating-extreme-poverty/>

New Publications

Models of Incorporation and Justiciability for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/media/1809/models_of_incorporation_escr_vfinal_nov18.pdf

Making the Case for Racial Equality

https://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/publications/pdfs/Making_the_Case_for_Race_Equality-full_report_final.pdf

News

Scotland ‘lags behind many countries on human rights’

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/scotland-lags-behind-many-countries-on-human-rights-1-4824189>

TOP

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Oral Answers

First Minister’s Questions: Antisemitism

John Mason (SNP): To ask the First Minister what action the Scottish Government is taking in response to the reported rise in antisemitism. (S5F-02717)

Reply from the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon): There is absolutely no place in Scotland or anywhere else for any form of antisemitism or religious hatred. Last week, we learned of the tragic attack on the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, and my thoughts—and I am sure the thoughts of all members—are with all those who have been affected. We stand in solidarity with the Jewish community across the world.

I was reminded of the importance of tolerance, compassion and respect during my visit to Auschwitz earlier this week with schoolchildren from across Scotland. I certainly will never forget what I saw there and none of us should ever forget the horrors of genocides around the world. They are a stark reminder of the inhumanity and violence that bigotry and intolerance can cause.

We are committed to tackling hate crime and prejudice. We recently launched the letters from Scotland campaign, which aims to encourage witnesses and victims to report hate crime and help to create a society where hate crime and prejudice of any form are not tolerated.

John Mason: I certainly share the First Minister's sympathies with those who have been affected by the attack in Pittsburgh. I, too, found my visit to Auschwitz incredibly moving, especially when I saw the railway there.

Does the First Minister agree that the words and tone that politicians use are extremely important and can have a big impact on the people who hear them? Does she agree that we all need to be wary and careful of the tone that we use, and that that includes President Trump when he talks about Mexico, and other people when they talk about Israel and the Jewish communities?

Reply from the First Minister: Yes, I absolutely agree with that. It is incumbent on us all to consider carefully the words, language and tone that we use. Words matter, and all of us are aware of the damaging impact that can be inflicted on individuals and communities through the irresponsible use of language. Everybody in public life has a duty to be aware of that and to understand the importance of the messages, tone and language that we use. It is important that we acknowledge and take time to consider the impact that our words can have on people and their families, and of course that includes personalised attacks and violent language. Those debase all of us, and each and every one of us has a part to play in confronting and challenging them.

Adam Tomkins (Conservative): The First Minister referred to her visit to Auschwitz this week. In reflecting on her visit—as I have reflected on my visits to Holocaust memorials, such as Yad Vashem in Jerusalem—does she agree that, above all else, the principal lesson of the Holocaust is that none of us can ever afford to look the other way in the face of antisemitism? Even in a country as otherwise welcoming and civilised as Scotland, as Ephraim Borowski of the Scottish Council of Jewish Communities recently said, “Jewish people remain 30 times more likely than others to be targeted for their religion”.

Is that a call not merely for words but for action?

Reply from the First Minister: Yes. All of us have to look carefully at not just what we say but how we apply those words in the actions that we take. As the First Minister and the leader of my party, I take that responsibility very seriously, and I hope that that goes for members across the chamber.

I thoroughly recommend to any member who has not yet visited Auschwitz that they take the opportunity to do so if they get it. It is a profoundly unsettling experience, but an incredibly important one. As I said when I was there on Tuesday, it is important to remember all those who suffered and were murdered there and to pay tribute to that suffering, but it is also really important that we do not see what happened there just in a historical context. It is not just a history lesson. The Holocaust did not start in Auschwitz, Birkenau or any of the concentration camps; it started in everyday antisemitism and discrimination and the othering and dehumanising of Jews. That is the lesson that we must learn and apply in our modern lives.

That is why I was so pleased to be at Auschwitz with 200 Scottish school students and why I am so pleased that the Scottish Government supports—as I know many members do—the work of the Holocaust Educational Trust to ensure that as many young people as possible get that experience. It had a profound impact on me, but I know from watching the reactions of the young people whom I was with that it had a profound impact on them as well. That can only be to the good as we do everything that we can to ensure that those horrors cannot be allowed to happen again.

Neil Findlay (Labour): I fully support the First Minister's words. However, this week, the acting leader of West Lothian Council's Scottish National Party councillors and one of his colleagues shared and then defended sharing an article that attacked a young female Jewish trade union leader for her work in representing low-paid workers. The article cited Adolf Hitler and “Mein Kampf”. The author of the article was rightly suspended by the First Minister's party. Will the First Minister take further action and suspend both elected

councillors and others who spread such offensive and hateful material and attack and abuse people for simply doing their job?

Reply from the First Minister: I will respond seriously and in a heartfelt way to that legitimate question. To follow up on Adam Tomkins's question, it is important that all of us reflect on not just what we say but what we do. The author of that blog was suspended from SNP membership earlier this week. Obviously, due process will now have to be gone through, so I will not say any more about that at this stage, but I will say that the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definitions of antisemitism will be used in the consideration of that disciplinary complaint.

The SNP councillor in question has written to the young woman who has been mentioned today with an unreserved apology, fully recognising that he made a significant error of judgment and that that error of judgment arose out of a lack of understanding and knowledge.

There are two things that I want to say about that. First, I discussed those matters in general terms with members of the Jewish community whom I was with on Tuesday. When people get things wrong because of a lack of understanding or knowledge, it is sometimes important that we give them a chance to learn, because education and learning are an important part of combating antisemitism, intolerance and racism of all forms. The SNP is responsible for the decisions that we take on those matters and is answerable for those decisions, but in all such matters, we have consulted the Scottish Council of Jewish Communities, and we have done so this week in relation to the appropriate response to the situation.

The final point that I want to make on this is equally important. I could stand here right now and run through a whole list of alleged failures by Labour or other parties to take these things seriously and, indeed, to act as seriously as we have done this week. However, I am not going to do that because, although in a democracy it is really important that we hold each other to account, check each other's behaviour and call out unacceptable behaviour—that is a vital part of our democratic process—it is equally important that we do not rush to weaponise these things against each other for petty party-political reasons. We are all guilty of that sometimes. Fundamentally, it is really important that we stand united in saying that antisemitism, racism, bigotry and intolerance in any form are completely unacceptable.

The SNP will continue to treat the matter in that way and we will continue to be answerable for the decisions that we make. However, ultimately, on these issues there is a lot more that unites all of us than divides us. We would probably do a greater service to the memory of those whom we have been discussing and to future generations if we took the time to stand in solidarity on these issues as much as we choose to divide.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11746&i=106333#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Written Answer

Education: Anti-Sectarianism

S5W-19358 Liam Kerr (Conservative): To ask the Scottish Government how much funding it provided to support anti-sectarianism work in schools and workplaces during 2017-18; how this compares with previous years, and what work this funded.

Reply from Humza Yousaf: Education-based initiatives have been central to the Scottish Government's approach to tackling sectarianism. Since 2012 we have invested an unprecedented total of £13.5 million in delivering a wide range of activities across a variety of formal and informal settings. This has included the development of Scotland's first national education resource on tackling sectarianism:

<https://education.gov.scot/improvement/learning-resources/Tackling%20sectarianism:%20An%20overview%20of%20resources>.

Due to budget cuts imposed on the Scottish Government the funding for tackling sectarianism reduced between 2016-17 and 2017-18, however, between 2017-18 and 2018-19 we provided a real terms increase of 3% to tackle sectarianism.

In 2018-19, all nine organisations are education based with five directly working in schools and one directly working in workplaces and one offering training within workplaces, totalling £330,000.

In 2017-18, all ten organisations were education based with five directly working in schools and one directly working in workplaces and two developing a toolkit for training in workplaces, totalling £315,000.

In 2016-17, nineteen organisations were education based with nine directly working in or with schools and one directly working in workplaces, totalling £471,156.

Details of the funded projects can be found in the following tables.

2018/19

Organisation	Description of project	Funding 2018-19
Bridging the Gap	In schools. Tackling sectarianism through issue based workshops and peer mentoring between high school pupils and primary school pupils and extension of learning through engagement with the Corrymeela project.	£25,000
Nil by Mouth	In schools and workplaces. Developing anti-sectarian practice within local authorities and other employers, and continue to work with schools and teachers across local authority areas.	£95,000
North Kelvin Sports Development Group	In schools. Bringing pupils from local schools together through afterschool sessions, closely working with active school coordinators to educate and challenge young people about sectarianism in a sport based environment.	£25,000
Sacro	Diversion and education in prisons. Providing diversion from prosecution for those involved in sectarian and hate behaviour. Complimenting this work in prisons to tackle the root cause of discrimination while challenging the attitudes and behaviours that contribute to offending.	£65,000
Sense Over Sectarianism	In Schools. Work with Glasgow schools to ensure engagement in anti-sectarian education and also work with teachers and practitioners in the field to build capacity and increase delivery of the national anti-sectarian education resource.	£85,000
Supporters Direct Scotland	In schools. Work with and providing educational input to participants and coaches in the Scottish Football Associations Schools of Football and Performance schools; working with sport/coaching students at colleges across Scotland; and working with local community sports clubs.	£75,000
Youth Scotland	Youth work. Building the capacity of young people and youth workers to deliver community-based education and action to tackle sectarianism across Scotland. Increasing the number of young people who are capable of delivering peer-led education and activities to tackle sectarianism.	£60,000
Youthlink Scotland	Online portal. Development of the Action on Sectarianism Website increasing digital participation and activity by extending the promotion and use of the educational resources available on the site.	£60,000

West of Scotland Regional Equality Council	Workplace training toolkit. Training will be provided for toolkit, developed with Glasgow Women's Library, to mainstream anti-sectarian policies and practices within the broader equalities practice of organisations and promoting exemplars of good equality practice.	£25,000
TOTAL		£515,000

2017-18

Organisation	Description of project	Funding 2017-18
Bridging the Gap	In schools. Tackling sectarianism through issue based workshops and peer mentoring between high school pupils and primary school pupils.	£22,408
Nil by Mouth	In schools and workplaces. Developing anti-sectarian practice within local authorities and other employers, and continue to work with schools and teachers across local authority areas.	£85,000
North Kelvin Sports Development Group	In schools. Bringing pupils from local schools together through afterschool sessions to educate and challenge young people about sectarianism in a sport based environment.	£22,592
Sacro	Diversion and education in prisons. Providing diversion from prosecution for those involved in sectarian and hate behaviour. Complimenting this work in prisons to tackle the root cause of discrimination while challenging the attitudes and behaviours that contribute to offending.	£65,000
Sense Over Sectarianism	In Schools. Work with primary and secondary schools to ensure engagement in anti-sectarian education and also work with teachers and practitioners in the field to build capacity and increase delivery of the national anti-sectarian education resource.	£70,000
Supporters Direct Scotland	In schools. Work with and provide educational input to participants and coaches in the Scottish Football Associations Schools of Football; working with sport/coaching students at colleges across Scotland; and engagement with supporter liaison officers.	£60,000
Youth Scotland	Youth work. Building the capacity of young people and youth workers to deliver community-based education and action to tackle sectarianism across Scotland. Increasing the number of young people who are capable of delivering peer-led education and activities to tackle sectarianism.	£60,000
Youthlink Scotland	Online portal. Development and re-design of the Action on Sectarianism Website increasing digital participation of resources and promotion of the historical timeline.	£60,000
West of Scotland Regional Equality Council	Workplace training toolkit. Joint project with Glasgow Women's Library to develop a toolkit for mainstreaming anti-sectarian policies and practices within the broader equalities practice of organisations.	29,687
Glasgow Women's Library	Workplace training toolkit. Joint project with West of Scotland Regional Equality Council to develop a toolkit for mainstreaming anti-sectarian policies and practices within the broader equalities practice of organisations.	£25,313
TOTAL		£500,000

2016-17

Organisations	Description of project	Funding in 2016-17
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Organisations	Description of project	Funding in 2016-17
Bridging the Gap	In schools. Delivered with P6 pupils which places tackling sectarianism in the context of migration, asylum and general differences.	£40,564.00
ICthinking (Cambridge) Ltd	Justice. Working with prisoners and young people in prison, training prison staff and prisoners to challenge of sectarianism, hate crime, hate behaviour.	£45,000.00
Citizens Theatre	In schools. Working with primary schools on production of Divided City with two additional issues-based workshops led by teachers involved in the work.	£80,000.00
Community Links	On-line. Programmes and workshops focussing on better understanding of sectarian articulation and understanding on social media for both young people and adults..	£18,581.00
Glasgow Women's Library	Research into women's experience of victimisation built on various forms of engagement including conversations, artwork and historical understanding.	£50,000.00
In Wi The Mix (Faith in Community Scotland, Place for Hope, Conforti Institute)	Community. Project working with a community assets approach to identifying the strengths and abilities within communities to work with them to address issues relating to sectarianism, hate crime and hate behaviour groups, will include engagement with church clergy and leadership to provide role for church's in the community work.	£80,000.00
Inverclyde CDT	Community. Community led approaches in Inverclyde to tackling hate crime and hate behaviours working in partnership with Police Scotland around engagement and reporting within the local communities.	£30,000.00
Nil by Mouth	In schools and workplaces. Working with local authorities around anti-sectarian policies and procedures, work with schools and teachers across local authority areas.	£85,000.00
North Kelvininside Sports Development Group	Community. Bridges and Barriers is an anti-sectarian project which will develop football coaches with the ability to deliver educational workshops that challenge sectarianism and hate behaviour with in community clubs.	£22,592.00
Parkhead Youth Project	Community. Nae Mare Excuses resource pack will be used to host integration events and sessions to explore sectarianism and hate crime within the local community.	£20,000.00
Sacro	Diversion. National educational programme for the 12+ age group to address attitudes and behaviours that contribute to offending, including sectarianism. Diverting people from prosecution.	£85,000.00
Scottish Community Development Centre	Support projects working to tackle sectarianism and hate crime to effectively link into community planning partnerships, strengthening links of community-led approaches.	£40,000.00
Sense Over Sectarianism	In schools. Working across Glasgow primary and secondary schools alongside capacity building of teachers, youth workers and community groups through a "Training the Trainer" programme and small grant programme.	£100,000.00
Show Bigotry the Red Card	Education through sport. Anti-sectarian education programmes for young people involved in grassroots football (aged 10-18) and their parents carers.	£18,000.00

Show Bigotry the Red Card	Education through sport. Anti-sectarian education programmes for young people involved in grassroots football (aged 10-18) and their parents carers.	£18,000.00
Stewartry CVS	In schools. Anti-sectarian work with local schools connecting local senior football teams, QoS, Annan and Stranraer through prejudice and sectarianism school resource.	£25,000.00
Supporters Direct Scotland	In schools. Work with SFA schools of football coaches and players, work with sport/coaching students at colleges and youth sports organisations.	£65,000.00
Xchange Scotland	Community. Support practitioners and community leaders to tackle sectarianism and prejudice, through mapping existing resources, adapting to different needs and delivering training sessions with communities.	£24,928.00
Youth Scotland	Youth work. Small Grants and peer leadership and capacity building networks and activities - young people involved in the co-production of all aspects of delivery within groups and communities.	£49,961.00
Youthlink Scotland	Online. Development of the website through focus groups, promotion of the materials and use, training of youth workers and teachers and hosting of live events.	£61,995.00
West of Scotland Regional Equality Council	In schools and community. Workshops in schools and community groups covering sectarianism within the context of other hate behaviours. Training youth and community practitioners to build capacity and confidence.	£35,000.00
TOTAL		£976,621

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-19358>

Scottish Parliament Motions

S5M-14523 Alasdair Allan (SNP): Condemning Attack on Pittsburgh Synagogue – That the Parliament condemns the attack on a Pittsburgh synagogue on 27 October 2018, in which 11 Jewish worshippers were killed; expresses its sincerest condolences to the Pittsburgh and American Jewish communities, and reaffirms its absolute dedication to supporting the Scottish Government’s efforts to eliminate antisemitism in Scotland.
<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-14523>

S5M-14524 Jackson Carlaw (Conservative) The Tree of Life Congregation Synagogue, Pittsburgh – That the Parliament remembers the lives of Joyce Fienberg, Richard Gottfried, Rose Mallinger, Jerry Rabinowitz, Cecil and David Rosenthal, Bernice and Sylvan Simon, Daniel Stein, Melvin Waz and Irving Younger; notes that their lives were cut short by an act of terror on 27 October 2018 at the Tree of Life Congregation Synagogue, which left six others wounded; unequivocally condemns the virulent antisemitism that led to this atrocity; calls on politicians from all parties, and society as a whole, to speak up and challenge the scourge of antisemitism, and notes the Glasgow Jewish Representative Council's communal service for the community on 30 October 2018 to allow everyone to come together in reflection and prayer and show solidarity with the Pittsburgh community.
<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-14524>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

The Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sajid Javid): ... I would like first to express how shocked and appalled I am at the deadly gun attack that took place this weekend at the synagogue in Pittsburgh. I am sure that the whole House will want to join me in expressing our deepest sympathies for the victims and those injured, as well as their families. The UK stands shoulder to shoulder with our Jewish friends across the world and utterly condemns antisemitism in all its forms.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-10-29/debates/F0848715-751B-4F9A-8B8B-6121ADCA9026/ESOLClasses#contribution-D28331BA-90DE-410A-89FD-7D0A25371A87>

Topical Questions: Home Office

Theresa Villiers (Conservative): In the light of the horrors of Pittsburgh, can the Home Secretary provide the reassurance that both Government and the police will always take very, very seriously the security of the Jewish community and other minorities who may be subjected to hate crimes and violence?

Reply from Sajid Javid: I can absolutely provide that reassurance to my right hon. Friend. In fact, this weekend, following that tragedy, I spoke to the head of the Community Security Trust to offer that reassurance. It is an organisation that we are proud to support, but we want to look at new ways of helping the community with its security needs. It is sad, in this day and age, that any community needs security of that type but, for as long as they do, we will always be there. Tonight, I will also be attending a vigil to mark the terrible tragedy at Pittsburgh.

Luciana Berger (Labour Co-op): The perpetrator of the Pittsburgh murders has a history of posting the most vile antisemitism, Islamophobia and threatening comments. Similarly, the man suspected of sending pipe bombs to prominent Democrats threatened the life of a political commentator via a tweet a few months ago, but Twitter said that it did not violate its online guidelines. In the wake of these terrible tragedies, what are the Government doing to address the very serious issue of online hate?

Reply from Sajid Javid: The hon. Lady is again right to raise this matter. We have seen the role that social media is playing not just in Britain, but abroad, in feeding hate. That is one reason why the Government recently refreshed our anti-hate strategy and that is exactly one of the things that we will be looking into further.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-10-29/debates/2113CE9D-E6A5-4D02-9C6A-182624A1811E/TopicalQuestions#contribution-CA428D9B-6103-4166-A20D-4C5F24DA0D9B>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

Pittsburgh: Synagogue Attack

Lord Polak (Conservative): To ask Her Majesty's Government following the murder of 11 worshippers at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, what action they are taking to protect and reassure the Jewish Community here in the United Kingdom. ...

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and Wales Office (Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth): My Lords, we have all been appalled by the horrific attack on worshippers at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, and the consequent dreadful loss of life. We stand in solidarity against this hatred and have committed to provide over £50 million since 2015, including £13.4 million this year to the Community Security Trust, to ensure that people can pray and live without fear at over 500 Jewish institutions across the country. I pay tribute to their outstanding work. No one should be afraid to practice their faith, and our places of worship should not engender fear. We will not let fear overcome us. Hatred will not win.

Lord Polak: I thank my noble friend for his reply, and I am certain that the Jewish community will be comforted by his words and actions. It was an unspeakable act—the cold-blooded murder of 11 Jews on Shabbat—and Jewish communities throughout the world are afraid. Have we learned nothing from history? For me, it is nice to stand shoulder to shoulder and offer sympathy, but it is action that is now required. Has the Minister read the editorial in the *Times* today, which is spot on? It ends:

“The Jewish people have withstood pogroms and prejudice for millennia based on fakery, fraud and myths. There will always be people gripped by ideological wickedness but the context matters and responsible politicians set that context”.

We in the UK cannot mend the world, but we can take action here. If there were anti-Semitism in my party, I would call it out. If there is anti-Semitism in no party, I will call it out. I hope that all noble Lords will do the same if they encounter it in their own parties. It is often said that anti-Semitism is a problem for the Jewish community. Yes, it does affect that community, but does my noble friend agree that it should be seen as a grave threat to British values and British decency and to all that we hold dear?

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: My Lords, I agree with the sentiments expressed so well by my noble friend. This morning I spoke to the Chief Rabbi's office, which has described the response of British communities around the country as, “heartening and reassuring”. It is important that we stand united against this hatred. It has been heartening that other religious communities, particularly the Muslim one, have been leading crowd funding for the victims of Pittsburgh. I repeat: we will not let hatred win.

Lord Beecham (Labour): My Lords, the House will congratulate the noble Lord for tabling this Question. All noble Lords, and most of the population of this country, were horrified at the tragic loss of life and the irrational hatred which inspired it. Thankfully, this country does not have a gun culture, nor a Government who believe that the answer is to equip places of worship with weapons—in a country which has more guns than people. We welcome the support that the Government currently give to the Community Security Trust, which helps to achieve safety and security not only for the Jewish community but for the Muslim community and other minority communities. I invite the Government to consider making statutory provision for something which is now Labour Party policy and would be acceptable across our political system: an emphatic repudiation of the violence and hatred which have disfigured life in America and taken so many lives.

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: My Lords, I thank the noble Lord for his contribution. The Community Security Trust is specifically for the Jewish community. Other vulnerable places of worship fund their own protection, but the noble Lord is right that we look at this across the piece. We are well aware of the importance of that protection and the Government have given particular heed to it over the years. He is also right about arming people: let there be no doubt that the more arms there are, the more danger there is. This was pure evil and it needs to be called out as such.

Lord Palmer of Childs Hill (Liberal Democrat): My Lords, there is no excuse for trying to justify or explain the Pittsburgh killings, and I echo the words spoken by other noble Lords. The Minister talked about physical protection from the Community Security Trust—but protection is surely also needed from those who condone and incite anti-Semitism in postings on social media. What is his response to that?

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: My Lords, I thank the noble Lord for his contribution. He will be well aware that the whole House recognises the importance of tackling the issues arising from social media as they relate to hate crime across the piece and to anti-Semitism specifically. He will also be aware of the globalisation of that problem. The Government are resolute on this issue and my department, along with that of my noble friend Lady Williams, intends to proceed with it and to push harder to get concrete results.

Lord Pickles (Conservative): My Lords, will the Minister join me, along with the Palestine Solidarity Campaign, in condemning the words of the noble Baroness, Lady

Tonge, in suggesting that the murders in Pittsburgh were caused by the actions of the Israeli Government? That suggestion will clearly cause great pain in Pittsburgh, and falls foul of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of anti-Semitism.

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: My Lords, I do so unreservedly. These issues must not be conflated in the way that the noble Baroness sought to conflate them.

Lord Winston (Labour): My Lords, I have four grandchildren, who had to go to school this morning—to two Jewish schools—with a guard. The youngest is four, the next is six, one is seven and one eight; this is a close issue for me. I am grateful to the Government for the Statement that the Minister has made today. I think the Jewish community will be very pleased. Does the Minister not agree, however, that the real issue is hate speech and not guns?

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: My Lords, the noble Lord is absolutely right: hate speech is at the root of this. He will be aware that we have just refreshed the hate crime action plan for the next two years. We are determined to take whatever action is necessary, whether it is hate crime expressed orally, online, or, as I indicated to the noble Lord, Lord Palmer, on social media. The noble Lord is absolutely right: it is central to our efforts to combat anti-Semitism and other forms of hatred.

Lord Leigh of Hurley (Conservative): My Lords, I am president of a progressive synagogue which is similar to the Tree of Life synagogue. We have lent them a Torah scroll. When news came through on Saturday, I was with a rabbi from another progressive synagogue who had come to see me because he is so upset with the current situation that he is planning to leave the country. He is advising a number of his congregants to do the same. We discussed an article by Colin Appleby, who was a Labour Party member and went to the conference in Liverpool. Colin Appleby wrote:

“At breakfast on Monday, I was joined by two people I’d not met before. They hadn’t met each other before”.

They agreed, he wrote, “that Jews were ‘subhuman’, ‘didn’t deserve to be allowed to define what constitutes antisemitism’ and should ‘be grateful we don’t make them eat bacon for breakfast every day.’”

He published the article. Would the Minister agree with me that this level of anti-Semitism, and that found in a recent tweet from a Member of this House, must be addressed now before we find a similar situation to that in Pittsburgh arising in the United Kingdom?

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: My Lords, the whole House will have great sympathy with the words my noble friend has just uttered. However, I repeat the point that the Chief Rabbi’s office has felt—correctly, I believe—that there has been outstanding support from all communities in Britain with regard to what has happened in Pittsburgh. That is not to say there is not an issue to be addressed, but the action that the Government have taken, which is supported so clearly in the House of Lords, will help us to combat the dreadful evil of anti-Semitism. ...

Lord Carlile of Berriew (Crossbench): My Lords, given the clear evidence that the perpetrator of the Pittsburgh outrage posted anti-Semitic comments on the internet from time to time, is it not time that the Government took the internet service providers to one side and told them that it is their responsibility to remove this kind of outrageous material, or the Government will have to do it for them, with the support of both Houses of Parliament?

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: My Lords, the noble Lord is right. The message will not have been lost on the providers of social media. It is something we are making them aware of—we are seeking action. Some are more willing to assist than others, but it is clear that they have an overriding responsibility, and what has happened in Pittsburgh underlines that.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-10-29/debates/6DD837E5-32F0-4E56-B63D-636F7F086724/PittsburghSynagogueAttack>

Baroness Tonge's comments, referred to above, were made in a facebook post which has now been deleted.

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Hate Crime

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL10790] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of Home Office statistics demonstrating that the number of hate crimes committed in England and Wales has more than doubled in the past five years and that hate crimes recorded by the police increased by 17 per cent in the year to March 2018.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The latest data from the Crime Survey of England and Wales shows hate crime has fallen by 40% over the last decade.

In contrast, the trend in police recorded hate crime has been upward since 2012/13 which, like other categories of police recorded crime, is thought to be largely driven by improvements in police recording practices but also better identification of hate crimes, willingness of victims to come forward but there has also been genuine increase in these offences around certain events such as the EU Referendum and the terrorist attacks in 2017.

The increase in police recorded hate crime is consistent with Government policy to encourage better recording as it is vital to victim care, the criminal justice system and our understanding of the nature of this abhorrent crime.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-17/HL10790/>

Hate Crime

Lord Pearson of Rannoch (UKIP) [HL10678] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether section 29J of the Public Order Act 1986 remains in force; and what assessment they have made of the extent to which interpretations by the police and Crown Prosecution Service of what constitutes hate crime has altered the application of that provision.

Baroness Williams of Trafford: Section 29J of the Public Order Act 1986 remains in force. The police and Crown Prosecution Service definition of a hate crime does not change the application of Section 29J.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-15/HL10678/>

Religious Hatred: Islam

Baroness Tonge (Non-affiliated) [HL10921] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of findings in the Statistical Bulletin, Hate Crime, England and Wales, 2017–18, published on 18 October, which shows that more than half of religiously-motivated attacks in 2017–18 were directed at Muslims.

Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: The findings confirm the Government's assessment that we must deal robustly with anti-Muslim hatred and Islamophobia. The Government takes these hate crimes extremely seriously, and we are determined to tackle them. On 16 October the Home Office and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government published a refreshed Hate Crime Action Plan to guide Government's work against all forms of prejudice and discrimination over the the period 2018 to 2020. This includes a strong focus on tackling anti-Muslim hatred and Islamophobia through the Cross-Government Working Group to Tackle Anti-Muslim Hatred. In addition to this, the Government is providing TellMama, a specialist organisation allowing people to report anti-Muslim abuse, with £2.5million between 2016 and 2020, to boost reporting of

Islamophobic and anti-Muslim incidents, and to support victims.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-22/HL10921/>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Janet Daby (Labour) (1768) Delsie Gayle and Ryanair – That this House notes the entirely unprovoked and racist verbal attack on Ms Delsie Gayle onboard a Ryanair flight from Barcelona to London; further notes that Ryanair failed to move the perpetrator but instead moved Ms Gayle to another seat; points out that Ryanair have still not contacted Ms Gayle or any member of her family; condemns Ryanair's tolerance of a clear case of racism; and calls on the airline to conduct an immediate inquiry and to offer an unreserved apology to Ms Gayle.

<https://www.parliament.uk/edm/2017-19/1768>

Press Releases

First Minister visits Auschwitz-Birkenau

<https://firstminister.gov.scot/fm-visits-auschwitz-birkenau/>

UK Government launches new national hate crime awareness campaign

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-new-national-hate-crime-awareness-campaign>

Neo-Nazism and nationalist populism fuel hatred and intolerance, says UN expert

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23814&LangID=E>

Third Committee Experts Warn Racism, Hate Speech, White Supremacy to Become Mainstream Unless States Enforce Zero-Tolerance Policies, Prevent Exclusion

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2018/gashc4245.doc.htm>

Horrified by Deadly Anti-Semitic Attack in United States, Secretary-General Urges Leaders at Interfaith Gathering to Condemn Hate Crimes, Foster Social Cohesion

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2018/sqsm19328.doc.htm>

New Publications

Trends in Hate Motivated Incidents and Crimes Recorded by the Police in Northern Ireland 2004/05 to 2017/18

<https://www.psni.police.uk/globalassets/inside-the-psni/our-statistics/hate-motivation-statistics/documents/hate-motivated-incidents-and-crimes-in-northern-ireland-2004-05-to-2017-18.pdf>

Accompanying tables

<https://www.psni.police.uk/globalassets/inside-the-psni/our-statistics/hate-motivation-statistics/documents/hate-motivations-in-northern-ireland-by-month-2004-05-to-2017-18-pivot-tables.xls>

News

Nicola Sturgeon: Rising antisemitism risks a return to Auschwitz

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/opinion/nicola-sturgeon-rising-antisemitism-risks-a-return-to-auschwitz-1-4823969>

FMQs: Sturgeon warns MSPs against "weaponising" anti-semitism

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/fmqs-sturgeon-warns-msps-against-weaponising-anti-semitism-1-4823123>

Sturgeon dragged into row over 'anti-Semitic' blog

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17194984.sturgeon-dragged-into-row-over-anti-semitic-blog/>

Antisemitism claims 'must not be a ploy'

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-11-02/scotland/antisemitism-claims-must-not-be-a-ploy-30nfmk6n3>

Nicola Sturgeon warns of 'horrific consequences' of anti-Semitism after US shooting

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/nicola-sturgeon-warns-of-horrific-consequences-of-anti-semitism-after-us-shooting-1-4821048>

Nicola Sturgeon urged to investigate claims SNP members promoted 'vile anti-Semitic' blog

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/general-election/nicola-sturgeon-urged-to-investigate-claims-snp-members-promoted-vile-anti-semitic-blog-1-4821385>

Sturgeon urged to probe SNP links to 'anti-Semitic' blogpost

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17186639.sturgeon-urged-to-probe-snp-links-to-anti-semitic-blogpost/?ref=mr&lp=4>

SNP suspends blogger in anti-Semitism row

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-46031103>

SNP suspends member over 'anti-Semitic' blog

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17188323.snp-suspends-member-over-anti-semitic-blog/?ref=mr&lp=7>

SNP suspends Gareth Wardell for antisemitic blog post directed at Rhea Wolfson

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-10-31/scotland/snp-suspends-gareth-wardell-for-antisemitic-blog-post-directed-at-rhea-wolfson-0k839d76v>

Blogger in SNP 'anti-Semitism' row defends himself

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17188181.blogger-in-snp-anti-semitism-row-defends-himself/?ref=mr&lp=20>

Nicola Sturgeon visits Auschwitz with Scottish students

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-46043774>

Sturgeon visits 'horrific' legacy of Auschwitz

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/sturgeon-visits-horrific-legacy-of-auschwitz-1-4822121>

Scotland must work to stop deadly religious intolerance

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/opinion/scotland-must-work-to-stop-deadly-religious-intolerance-jim-duffy-1-4823308>

Police probe into anti-Semitism claims against Labour members

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-46070229>

Scotland Yard probes claims of anti-Semitic hate crimes in Labour Party

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17196479.scotland-yard-probes-claims-of-anti-semitic-hate-crimes-in-labour-party/>

Criminal investigation launched into 'antisemitic hate crimes' within Labour Party

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/labour-party-antisemitism-latest-criminal-investigation-met-police-jeremy-corbyn-hate-crime-a8613851.html>

Met Police launch investigation into allegations of anti-Semitic hate crimes within Labour Party

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/11/02/labour-investigated-met-police-allegations-anti-semitic-hate/>

Labour MPs turn on party leaders as police launch antisemitism inquiry

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-11-02/news/police-launch-inquiry-into-labour-s-failure-to-warn-of-threats-against-mps-d27krt9dl>

Labour concealed antisemitic threat against Jewish MP Luciana Berger

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/labour-concealed-antisemitic-threat-against-jewish-mp-luciana-berger-33pjcg8pf>

Labour Party branch 'voted down motion condemning Pittsburgh synagogue attack'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/labour-party-antisemitism-pittsburgh-synagogue-shooting-attack-corbyn-stockton-on-tees-a8615211.html>

Local Labour branch rejects motion condemning the Pittsburgh synagogue massacre

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/11/02/local-labour-branch-rejects-motion-condemning-pittsburgh-synagogue/>

Focus on violent crime not misogyny, says police chief

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-46053069>

Thames Valley police chief Anthony Stansfeld: beeping a horn is not a hate crime

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/thames-valley-police-chief-anthony-stansfeld-beeping-a-horn-is-not-a-hate-crime-6lp9lfnpn>

Investigating hate crime risks distracting police from their core role, warns head of Britain's chief constables

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/10/31/investigating-hate-crimerisks-distracting-police-core-role-warnshead/>

Twitter apologises after 'kill all Jews' becomes a trending topic

<https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/gadgets-and-tech/news/twitter-kill-all-jews-trending-topic-new-york-synagogue-attack-anti-semitism-a8615306.html>

Neo-Nazis benefiting from dramatic rise in racist websites to spread hate and incite violence, UN warns

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/neo-nazi-racism-far-right-social-media-hate-speech-twitter-facebook-un-a8613496.html>

Russian trolls' priority in UK is stirring hatred of Islam

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/russian-trolls-top-priority-in-uk-is-stirring-hatred-of-islam-ptlck6nq7>

After Pittsburgh, the left must face down all forms of racism

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/oct/31/pittsburgh-left-racism-killing-jewish-people>

Pittsburgh showed the difference between US and UK antisemitism

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/nov/01/pittsburgh-american-british-antisemitism-synagogue-immigration-jews>

Hatred of the Jews unites far right and left

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-10-30/comment/hatred-of-the-jews-unites-far-right-and-left-gdd3psm8q>

Ewan McGregor's daughter says she is a 'proud Jew' and has been victim of anti-Semitism

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/entertainment/celebrity/ewan-mcgregors-daughter-says-proud-13530594>

The Longest Hatred

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-10-29/comment/the-longest-hatred-cfl0dfn07>

As a migrant, London offered me freedom – now the violence unleashed by Brexit is taking that away

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/brexit-london-transport-attacks-migrant-rights-a8608481.html>

'I'm not a racist' Scots mum who blacked up daughter for Halloween defends 'creative' dress up

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/im-not-racist-scots-mum-13518517>

Neil Lennon gets sectarian abuse every day, says his agent

<https://www.scotsman.com/sport/football/teams/hibernian/neil-lennon-gets-sectarian-abuse-every-day-says-his-agent-1-4823332>

Neil Lennon: I see Scotland being promoted as one democracy - it isn't when it comes to me

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17198346.neil-lennon-i-see-scotland-being-promoted-as-one-democracy-it-isnt-when-it-comes-to-me/>

Politicians condemn anti-Irish abuse of Neil Lennon

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/politicians-condemn-anti-irish-abuse-of-neil-lennon-1-4823922>

Weed out the bigotry in Scottish football and it will wilt elsewhere

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/weed-out-bigotry-scottish-football-13531478>

Tolerance leads to field day for bigotry

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/dani-garavelli-tolerance-leads-to-field-day-for-bigotry-1-4824175>

Lewes bonfire festival sparks anger with fresh blackface controversy

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/nov/01/lewes-bonfire-festival-racism-row-controversy-blackface-child-photo>

Nips event sticks with 'racist, sexist' acronym

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/nips-event-sticks-with-racist-sexist-acronym-0s5c tps38>

Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Motion

S5M-14515 Patrick Harvie (Green): Abolition of Blasphemy Laws – That the Parliament welcomes the news that the people of the Republic of Ireland have voted by 65% to 35% to scrap blasphemy restrictions in the country's constitution; reflects on the high-profile cases of individuals affected by the use of blasphemy laws, including the Umeed-Bakhsh family currently living in Glasgow and seeking asylum; condemns the use of blasphemy laws across the globe to suppress the human right to freedom of thought, expression, religion and belief through the use of violence and imprisonment; stands with human rights defenders everywhere in challenging the use of blasphemy laws as political tools to restrict legitimate freedoms; understands that, even in the absence of prosecutions, the existence of blasphemy laws in European democracies gives cover and support to the laws that are used to persecute people in countries such as Pakistan, Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia and others; recognises that Scotland also still has a common law offence of blasphemy, and considers that this law in Scotland should be scrapped.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-14515>

Press Release

Celebrating Saint's day with kindness

<https://www.gov.scot/news/celebrating-saints-day-with-kindness/>

Other UK Parliament and Government

Debate

Public Holidays on Religious Occasions

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-10-29/debates/6EF118AA-489B-4ADC-B915-FFE29C922C4E/PublicHolidaysOnReligiousOccasions>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Meat: Ritual Slaughter

Baroness Byford (Conservative) [HL10861] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they intend to take to ensure that consumers in the UK can be certain from food labelling that the meat they purchase is not Halal.

Reply from Lord Gardiner of Kimble: The Government is aware that there is public concern about meat from animals slaughtered in accordance with religious beliefs being sold to consumers who do not require their meat to be prepared in this way. There are no domestic or European Regulations that require the

labelling of Halal meat but where any information of this nature is provided, it must be accurate and must not be misleading to the customer.

The Government believes that consumers should have the necessary information available to them to make an informed choice about their food. This is an issue the Government is considering in the context of the UK's exit from the EU.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-22/HL10861/>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Douglas Chapman (SNP) (1787) Dunfermline Central Mosque – That this House congratulates Dunfermline Central Mosque on its success at the first ever British Beacon Mosque Awards; notes that Dunfermline Central Mosque won the Best Outreach Programme award for its work in the community; further notes that it was the only Scottish mosque at the awards ceremony in London and it was competing against mosques in much larger cities across the UK; pays credit to the mosque's team for their efforts to engage with the local community by organising visits, school assemblies and coffee mornings; and wishes Dunfermline Central Mosque continued success with its community engagement efforts in West Fife.

<https://www.parliament.uk/edm/2017-19/1787>

Press Release

The 2018 Budget: what it means for Scotland

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-2018-budget-what-it-means-for-scotland>

TOP

New Publication

Ethnicity and grandparental child care in the United Kingdom

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/138E301660F7DC10FC7A9A69039C19D1/S0144686X18001265a.pdf>

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Other News

Anthony Ekundayo Lennon: my genes are white but I'm black

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/anthony-lennon-my-genes-are-white-but-im-black-v7tmnw7xw>

Slavery museum to be set up in Glasgow

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17200039.slavery-museum-to-be-set-up-in-glasgow/>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

**** Human Tissue (Authorisation) (Scotland) Bill**

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

Briefing

<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdneq.azureedge.net/published/2018/11/1/The-Human-Tissue--Authorisation--Scotland--Bill/SB%2018-73.pdf>

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>

Bill as amended in Committee

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2017-2019/0138/18138.pdf>

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>

Online Forums Bill

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

Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill

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

Refugees (Family Reunion) (No. 2) Bill

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

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (Legal Advice and Appeals) Bill

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

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

EU settlement scheme (closing date 5 November 2018)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/joint-select/human-rights-committee/news-parliament-2017/immigration-detention-phase-2-launch-17-19/>

**** closes this week!**

Draft Statutory Guidance on Funeral Costs (closing date 8 November 2018)

<https://consult.gov.scot/social-security/statutory-guidance-on-funeral-costs/>

Windrush: lessons learned review (closing date extended to 16 November 2018)

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

Census (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill (closing date 23 November 2018)

<http://www.parliament.scot/gettinginvolved/109902.aspx>

The future of civil partnership in Scotland (closing date 21 December 2018)

<https://consult.gov.scot/family-law/the-future-of-civil-partnership-in-scotland/>

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Bill (closing date 4 January 2018)

<https://consult.gov.scot/violence-against-women-team/female-genital-mutilation/>

**** Equality and Human Rights Commission Draft Strategic Plan 2019 to 2022**

(closing date 7 January 2019)

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work-have-your-say>

Ethnicity pay reporting (closing date 11 January 2019)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/747546/ethnicity-pay-reporting-consultation.pdf

**** Social inclusion, loneliness and belonging in society** (closing date not stated)

<http://app.surveymethods.com/EndUser.aspx?B397FBE3BAF0E3E2B3>

**** Teaching Migration & Empire Survey** (closing date not stated)

<http://app.surveymethods.com/EndUser.aspx?88ACC0D881CBDDD882>

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

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Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Three Mottos for Excellence in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

7 November 2018 in Glasgow (1.00-4.30)

Interfaith Scotland course to consider why some people ignore or deny the disadvantages that others experience; how to respond to misunderstandings or offence; and the impact of our inner narratives on our interactions. For information and to book see <https://tinyurl.com/y8eyezz2>

**** this week!**

Bullying – It's never acceptable

8 November 2018 in Glasgow (9.30-4.30)

28 November 2018 in Inverness (9.30-4.30)

RespectMe training on bullying behaviours and practical strategies which can be used to address bullying behaviour wherever it occurs. For information see <https://actiononprejudice.info/events/bullying-never-acceptable-multiple-dates-locations/>

**** this week!**

Diwali storytelling event

10 November 2018 in Glasgow (2.30-5.30)

Forestry Commission Scotland event to celebrate Diwali, the Hindu and Sikh festival of light. Storyteller, lantern making, and walk around the country park as it gets dark. For information see <https://www.damstodarnley.org/diwali.htm>

**** this week!**

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/>

**** Interfaith Open Doors Aberdeen**

12 November 2018 in Aberdeen (2.00-4.00)

Aberdeen Interfaith Group event for Scottish Interfaith Week visiting Aberdeen Synagogue and Community Centre, Syed Shah Mustafa Jame Masjid (Mosque), and Aberdeen Quakers Meeting House, and providing an opportunity to experience meditation led by Brahma Kumaris. For information see

<http://scottishinterfaithweek.org/listings/interfaith-open-doors-aberdeen>

**** Islamophobia**

13 November 2018 in Kirkcaldy (8.00pm)

Fife Interfaith Group talk by Sid Akbar of "Tell Mama" followed by question and answer session. For information see <http://scottishinterfaithweek.org/listings/islamaphobia>

**** Building Bridges Symposium 2018**

15 November 2018 in Dundee (9.30-4.00)

Al-Maktoum College of Higher Education event for Scottish Interfaith Week to embrace diversity and allow for people from different generations to learn and develop their knowledge about different faith groups within the Dundee community. For information see <http://scottishinterfaithweek.org/listings/building-bridges-symposium-2018>

**** Honest Conversations**

15 November 2018 in Dundee (10.00-4.45)

Church of Scotland event for Scottish Interfaith week including talks and interactive workshops exploring the themes of what it means to be a Muslim and a Christian in Scotland today. For information see <http://scottishinterfaithweek.org/listings/honest-conversations-exploring-the-challenges-of-mission-dialogue-and-encounter-in-muslim-christian-relations-2>

**** Launch of The Ground We Share website**

15 November 2018 in Edinburgh (12.30-2.00)

Launch of a national website resource 'The Ground We Share' which challenges prejudices and misconceptions towards people of faith. Keynote speaker: Aileen Campbell, Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government. For information see <http://scottishinterfaithweek.org/listings/launch-of-the-ground-we-share-website>

**** What Makes Home, Home for You**

15 November 2018 in Motherwell (1.00-3.00)

Scottish Interfaith Week event providing an opportunity to discuss the impact of living in a vibrant multicultural multi-faith region of Scotland, learn about the beliefs and cultural practices of some of the main religions in represented in Lanarkshire, and discuss individual needs that may arise from a person's faith or belief identity. For information see <http://scottishinterfaithweek.org/listings/what-makes-home-home-for-you>

Mainstreaming Anti-Sectarianism in Equalities Toolkit

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

**** What is Charity? Exploring Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Texts**

15 November 2018 in Glasgow (6.00-8.30)

Interfaith Glasgow event for Scottish Interfaith week bringing together students from the University of Strathclyde and people experienced in this method to explore the theme of “Charity” through the sacred texts of Islam, Judaism and Christianity. For information see <http://scottishinterfaithweek.org/listings/what-is-charity-exploring-jewish-christian-and-muslim-texts>

**** Scotland's Census 2021 Questions and Outputs**

22 November 2018 in Edinburgh (9.30-4.00)

29 November 2018 in Aberdeen ((.30-4.00)

5 December 2018 (9.30-4.00)

National Records of Scotland event to provide an update on the development of questions and outputs for the 2021 census, including the ethnicity, national identity, and religion questions. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/ydyh6778>

Ethnic Minority Impact Awards 2018

23 November 2018 in Glasgow (6.00-11.00pm)

CEMVO Ethnic Minority Impact Awards recognise individuals or organisations that have contributed to Scottish society or made a difference to their community locally or nationally. For information see <https://www.cemvoscotland.org.uk/event/ethnic-minority-impact-awards-2018/>

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Useful Links

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Interfaith Scotland <https://interfaithscotland.org/>

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

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

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

ACAS <http://www.acas.org.uk/>

SCVO <https://scvo.org.uk/>

Volunteer Scotland <https://www.volunteerscotland.net/>

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

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

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

Volunteer Scotland Disclosure Services <https://www.volunteerscotland.net/for-organisations/disclosure-services/>

BBC News <https://www.bbc.com/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) <https://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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