



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

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

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### Immigration and Asylum

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

**Immigration Inquiry: evidence session**

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11748&i=106350#ScotParlOR>

#### UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

##### Leaving the EU: Rights of EU Citizens

**Yvette Cooper (Labour):** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if he will make a statement on the arrangements for EU citizens in the event of no deal being agreed in the Article 50 negotiations.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** While we are confident about agreeing a good deal

for both sides, as a responsible Government we will continue to prepare for all scenarios, including the unlikely outcome that we leave the EU without any deal in March 2019. We have reached an agreement with the EU on citizens' rights that will protect EU citizens and their family members who are resident in the UK until the end of the planned implementation period on 31 December 2020.

We are introducing the EU settlement scheme under UK immigration law for resident EU citizens and their family members covered by the draft withdrawal agreement. That will enable those who are resident in the UK before the end of the planned implementation period to confirm their status under the settlement scheme. Anyone who already has five years' continuous residence in the UK when they apply under the scheme will be eligible to apply for settled status. Those who have not yet reached the point of five years' continuous residence will be eligible to be granted pre-settled status, and will be able to apply for settled status once they have reached that point.

The Prime Minister has already confirmed that, in the unlikely event of no deal, all EU citizens who are resident here by 29 March 2019 will be welcome to stay. They are part of our community and part of our country, and we welcome the contribution that they make. Last week the Prime Minister extended that commitment to citizens of Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein, and we are close to reaching an agreement with Switzerland. We will set out further details shortly, so that those affected can have the clarity and certainty that they need.

**Yvette Cooper:** Unfortunately, the Minister did not give us the clarity that we need. Nor did she clear up the confusion from last week, which I had hoped she would do, especially at a time when there is considerable concern for EU citizens, as well as practical concerns for employers about what arrangements will apply in April, May and June next year if no deal takes place.

I welcome the Government's commitment to respect the rights of those currently living here, who will be able to stay and work as now, but I am still none the wiser about what checks will apply to those EU citizens in the event of no deal. The Minister and the Home Office officials suggested to us that there would be additional employer checks, and also that free movement would be turned off in March. However, the Home Secretary has told the media that in fact there will be a transition period, and that there will be no additional checks for employers if there is no deal.

Will the Minister tell us whether there will be additional employer checks on EU citizens immediately after no deal—yes or no? Will she confirm that EU citizens will not have to provide anything other than a passport or an identity card in order to be able to work? Will she also tell us whether that will then apply until the completion of the roll-out of the EU settlement scheme, which is due to be completed in June 2021? If not, what on earth are EU citizens supposed to provide as proof of their right to work before June 2021 if the settlement scheme has not been completed?

The Minister and the Home Office have now said that there is no way of differentiating between EU citizens arriving here for the first time and those who have been here for many years. Will the Minister confirm that newly arriving EU citizens will also not have to provide anything other than a passport or an ID card, and that they will continue to be able to work under the same arrangements, also until June 2021?

Those are basic questions that the Home Office really should be able to answer. If the facts are not as I have put them to the Minister, she should be able to tell us what the alternative facts are, what alternative information and proof EU citizens are supposed to provide, and what alternative questions employers are supposed to ask. The clock is ticking, and there are only five months left. Surely the Home Office has a grip of those basic questions.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** I thank the right hon. Lady for affording me the opportunity to clarify this point. Employers will of course continue to need to check passports or ID cards—as they do now for EU citizens, and indeed for British citizens, when making a new job offer. We will not be asking employers to

differentiate even if there is no deal, and the right hon. Lady will of course be conscious that we are working hard to secure a deal. The Prime Minister has been very clear, as indeed has the Brexit Secretary, that we will honour our commitment to EU citizens and their family members, and more information will be set out in due course, with a specific statement on citizens from the Brexit Secretary, who of course wishes to make clear that people are incredibly important and should not simply be reliant on a technical notice. ...

**To continue reading this very lengthy question and answer session see**

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-11-05/debates/B740C145-93A4-4F22-8B2E-9EA9A35F6A00/LeavingTheEURightsOfEUCitizens>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

### Department for Exiting the European Union: Migrant Workers

**Tom Brake (Liberal Democrat)** [183814] To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, 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 Chris Heaton-Harris:** Based on the self-declaration rates held on our system at the time of this question, the number of staff in the Department for Exiting the European Union of non - UK EU countries, is fewer than 10. This figure is based entirely on people identifying themselves as an EU national on the Department's HR system.

The Department has no agencies or non-departmental public bodies.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-25/183814/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### Migration Impacts Fund

**Roger Godsiff (Labour)** [185490] To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, if he will make an assessment of the merits for communities of reinstating the migrant impact fund.

**Rosena Allin-Khan (Labour)** [186421] To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, what assessment he has made of the potential merits of reinstating the Migration Impact Fund.

**Reply from Heather Wheeler:** We launched the Controlling Migration Fund in October 2016, with £100 million available over four years, to provide additional support to local areas that are facing pressure as a result of recent migration. To date we have funded £74 million. The deadline for bids from local authorities for a share of the remaining £26 million in the Fund was 1 October. My officials are assessing the applications that were submitted and successful projects will be announced in the new year. We will consider how best to continue to provide support for areas in response to the impacts of recent migration as part of the next Spending Review.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-30/185490/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-31/186421/>

### Agriculture: Migrant Workers

**Nigel Dodds (DUP)** [185539] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what agri-food related occupations will be eligible under the Migration Advisory Committee's recommendations to expand Tier 2 migrant access after the UK has left the EU.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The Government recognises the valuable contribution that overseas workers make to the UK economy and to our society. We are currently developing options for the future system which will be designed to work in the national interest.

On the 18 September, the Migration Advisory Committee published their final report on the current patterns of EEA migration into the UK. We are carefully considering their fourteen recommendations. We plan to publish a White Paper setting out more detail on the future arrangements later in the Autumn.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-30/185539/>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/741926/Final\\_EEA\\_report.PDF](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/741926/Final_EEA_report.PDF)

### **Immigrants: EU Nationals**

**John Woodcock (Independent)** [187007] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether (a) permanent residence and (b) settled status will be required to apply for citizenship after the UK leaves the EU.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** One of the requirements for naturalisation as a British citizen is that the person is free of immigration time restrictions. This will not change. EU citizens and their family members can currently meet that requirement by having permanent residence under the EEA Regulations. They will be able to apply for indefinite leave to remain in the UK under the EU Settlement Scheme, which will allow them to show that they meet this requirement after the UK leaves the EU.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-01/187007/>

### **Employment: EU Nationals**

**Hilary Benn (Labour)** [186212] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what guidance he has issued to employers on how to check the entitlement to work of EU citizens in the event that the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Employers already need to carry out right to work checks on EU citizens, as they do with all prospective employees to prevent illegal working. The statutory code of practice and published guidance for employers are clear that EU citizens can evidence their right to work by showing a passport or national identity card, and employers should continue to refer to these documents. EU nationals may also use Home Office residence documentation as evidence of their right to work, but they are not currently required to do so. That will not change next March in the event we leave the EU without a deal. We will publish a White Paper on the future immigration system later this year.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-31/186212/>

### **Immigration: Biometrics**

**Madeleine Moon (Labour)** [185547] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have been issued with a Biometric Residence Permit that will require them to leave the UK when their youngest child reaches the age of 18 in each of the last five years; and if he will make a statement.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The Home Office does not collate or publish the statistical information in the format requested.

The Home Office does not routinely require people to leave the UK on the expiry of a Biometric Residence Permit. It is open to such individuals to make an appropriate application for further leave in the UK prior to the expiry of any Biometric Residence Permit they may hold.



<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-30/185547/>

### **Immigration: Biometrics**

**Meg Hillier (Labour Co-op)** [186985] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many biometric residence permits have been issued in the last three months; and what the average time taken has been for issuing such permits in the most recent period for which figures are available.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The data required to answer the first part of the question is not recorded in a way that can be reported on accurately. As well as biometric residence permits (BRPs) issued following a grant of leave to enter or remain, the total number of cards issued by the Home Office includes replacements for lost or stolen BRPs, biometric residence cards for the dependents of EEA nationals, asylum application registration cards and BRPs reissued to correct customer reported errors.

Information regarding processing times for immigration leave applications is available through the transparency data published on GOV.UK. The latest data available is for August 2018:

<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/2018-11-01/186985/>

### **Immigration: Biometrics**

**Meg Hillier (Labour Co-op)** [186986] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 16 October 2018 to Question 176098, how his Department plans to contact people with existing leave to remain in the UK on applying for a biometric residence permit.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Individuals with indefinite leave to remain who hold legacy immigration documents can access information on GOV.UK on how to upgrade to a biometric residence permit.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-01/186986/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-08/176098/>

### **Visas**

**David Lammy (Labour)** [186166] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether there is a prescribed test for determining whether an application is deemed to be complex and therefore falls outside Home Office service standards.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** There is no prescribed test for when a case is deemed to be complex.

Each case is dealt with on its own merits and while reviewing an application a trained caseworker will make an assessment of whether the particular circumstances of that application would deem it to be classed as complex. If a case is classed as complex we will write to the customer explaining why.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-31/186166/>

### **Visas**

**Madeleine Moon (Labour)** [185548] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many settlement visas his Department has issued in each of the last 10 years; and if he will make a statement.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Information on the number of visas granted by detailed category 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/2018-10-30/185548/>

### Visas

**Jo Stevens (Labour)** [185632] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 29 October 2018 to Question 183507 on Visas: Tourism, what information his Department holds on the number of visitor visa requests that have been refused in each of the last three years.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Information on the number of visit visa application outcomes (grants, refusals, withdrawn and lapsed cases) 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/2018-10-30/185632/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

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

### Refugees

**Vicky Foxcroft (Labour)** [185669] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate his Department has made of the number of applications for refugee status that have (a) been made, (b) refused, (c) accepted and (d) accepted after appeal by applicants in (i) the UK, (ii) London and (iii) the London Borough of Lewisham in the last two years.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The Home Office does not publish data relating to the number of applications for refugee status that have been made, granted, refused or granted at appeal from specific parts of the UK. Providing such 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>.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-30/185669/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### Refugees: Families

**Nicky Morgan (Conservative)** [173568] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of visas granted in 2017 for refugee family reunion under part 11 of the Immigration Rules were used.

**Nicky Morgan (Conservative)** [173569] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many visas for refugee family reunion were granted outside the rules in 2017.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Statistics on refugee family reunion can be found in Home Office Asylum tables volume 5, table as\_21\_q –

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/734178/asylum5-jun-2018-tables.ods](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/734178/asylum5-jun-2018-tables.ods)

Information can also be found in the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration re-inspection of the family reunion process, focusing on applications received at the Amman Entry Clearance Decision Making Centre:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/737724/Final\\_Artwork\\_Reinspection\\_Family\\_Reunion\\_Amman.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/737724/Final_Artwork_Reinspection_Family_Reunion_Amman.pdf)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-09-11/173568/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-09-11/173569/>

### **Refugees: Families**

**Nicky Morgan (Conservative)** [185008] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 14 September 2018 to Question 173569 on Refugees: Families and with reference to the Figure 4 of the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration's report entitled A re-inspection of the family reunion process, focusing on applications received at the Amman Entry Clearance Decision Making Centre November 2017 – April 2018 published in September 2018, how many of the 81 family reunion applications referred for consideration for leave outside the rules in 2017 were subsequently granted.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The information requested is not available. The Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration's report did not publish full data on the number of cases referred for consideration of leave outside the rules which were subsequently granted and this information does not form part of published immigration statistics.

Published Home Office statistics relating to family reunion applications can be found at:

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

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/185008/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-09-11/173569/>

### **Refugees: Families**

**Caroline Spelman (Conservative)** [184880] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department is taking to help refugee families reunite in the UK.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The Government provides a safe and legal route to bring families together through its family reunion policy. Under our refugee family reunion policy, we have granted visas to nearly 26,000 partners and children of those granted protection in the UK in the last five years.

Our policy allows immediate pre-flight family members of those granted protection here to reunite with them. It also includes a provision to grant visas outside the Rules in exceptional circumstances; this enables reunion between family members who otherwise do not qualify under the Rules. However, we are listening carefully to calls to expand the scope of the refugee family reunion rules and continue our productive discussions with non-governmental organisations in this area.

Family reunion is only part of the Government's wider package of support for refugees and we have resettled a total of 5,702 people under our resettlement schemes in the year ending June 2018.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/184880/>

### **Refugees: Families**

**Thangam Debbonaire (Labour)** [184999] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home

Department, with reference to his Oral contribution of 25 October 2015 on Immigration: DNA Tests, Official Report, column 467. whether he plans to reinstate funding for DNA tests in refugee family reunion applications.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Those applying for refugee family reunion are not required to provide DNA evidence to prove their family relationship and can rely on other evidence to support their application. However, if they wish to do so, they can voluntarily provide DNA evidence at their own expense and this will be considered alongside all other supporting evidence provided.

Our guidance on considering family reunion applications highlights the challenges that applicants may face in obtaining documents to support their application and makes clear the types of evidence that can be provided. This is available on Gov.UK at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/family-reunion-instruction>.

We have no current plans to change the policy, but we will keep our approach to DNA evidence in refugee family reunion cases under review.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/184999/>

*The date of the oral contribution referred to above is wrong – the statement was made on 25 October 2018. It can be read at*

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-10-25/debates/F1CFD0C3-3776-401A-98DE-642E62E3869A/ImmigrationDNATests>

### **Refugees: Families**

**Nicky Morgan (Conservative)** [185007] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 14 September 2018 to Question 173568 on Refugees: Families and with reference to table as\_21\_q of the Home Office Asylum tables volume 5, how many of the refugee family reunion visas that were granted in 2017 were subsequently used.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The information requested is not published. The available information relates to refugee family reunion visa granted, published in the quarterly Immigration Statistics at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/185007/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-09-11/173568/>

### **Further Education: Refugees**

**Ruth Smeeth (Labour)** [186410] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what financial support further education and sixth form colleges receive for students who entered the UK via the Syrian Children's Resettlement Scheme.

**Reply from Anne Milton:** The government considers refugees, who entered the UK via the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme or the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme, eligible for funding on the same basis for 16-19 study programmes as all other eligible students.

In addition, the department provides a number of financial support programmes for economically disadvantaged 16 to 19 year olds, in particular the 16-19 bursary fund, 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 whatever their financial situation, and 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/2018-10-31/186410/>



## Asylum

**Jo Stevens (Labour)** [186353] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the cost was of support to asylum seekers whose case has taken more than 52 weeks to resolve in the 2017-18 financial year.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Asylum Seekers can apply for Home Office support at any time during the asylum process, and eligibility for support continues until an asylum claim is fully determined. However, for those whose claims are rejected, eligibility for support can continue if there are children in the household or if the person is taking reasonable steps to leave the UK or there is a temporary or legal or practical obstacle that prevents their departure

Information on the cost of providing support to those whose claims have taken more than 52 weeks to resolve is not held in a reportable format and would therefore only be available at disproportionate cost.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-31/186353/>

## Asylum

**Vicky Foxcroft (Labour)** [185668] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate he has made of (a) the number of asylum seekers living in the UK awaiting a decision on their claim for refugee status and (b) the average amount of support from the public purse that those asylum seekers are receiving each week.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** 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 before a decision is taken. Where an asylum claimant establishes a well founded fear of persecution or serious harm in their country of origin, they are normally granted protection and are not expected to return there.

The number of asylum seekers living in the UK awaiting a decision on their claim for refugee status currently stands at 22,579. This figure has been taken from Asylum Transparency data - August 2018, found at the following link:

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

The COMPASS contracts provide asylum seekers, who claim to be destitute, with full board accommodation, in Initial Accommodation, while their means are assessed. Dispersal Accommodation is available to those who qualify, and a small weekly allowance of £37.75 per person per week for food and other essential expenses is provided whilst their application for asylum is being considered.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-30/185668/>

## Asylum: Unemployment

**Yasmin Qureshi (Labour)** [184377] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the effect on the mental health of asylum seekers of extended periods without employment.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The UK has a proud history of providing protection to those who need it and this Government is committed to delivering a fair and humane asylum system.

Whilst the Government has not assessed the effect on the mental health of asylum seekers of extended periods without employment, our current policy is consistent with EU law and permits asylum seekers to work, in jobs on the Shortage Occupation List, if they have been waiting for a decision on their claim for 12 months or more and the delay is through no fault of their own. We are tackling delays in decision-making and have plans in place to improve the speed

at which outstanding claims are decided.

It is important to focus on providing support for those who are recognised as refugees, to help them to integrate and find employment, so that they can rebuild their lives here.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-26/184377/>

#### **Asylum: Employment**

**Steve Double (Conservative)** [185032] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the effect on the economy of granting asylum seekers the right to work in the UK.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The UK has a proud history of providing protection to those who need it and this Government is committed to delivering a fair and humane asylum system.

Whilst the Government has not assessed the effect on the economy of granting asylum seekers the right to work in the UK, our current policy is consistent with EU law and permits asylum seekers to work, in jobs on the Shortage Occupation List, if they have been waiting for a decision on their claim for 12 months or more and the delay is through no fault of their own. We are tackling delays in decision-making and have plans in place to improve the speed at which outstanding claims are decided.

It is important to focus on providing support for those who are recognised as refugees, to help them to integrate and find employment, so that they can rebuild their lives here.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/185032/>

#### **Asylum: Employment**

**Vicky Foxcroft (Labour)** [185666] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Lift the Ban report entitled Why people seeking asylum should have the right to work, published in October 2018, what assessment the Government has made of the economic cost of preventing people seeking asylum from working.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The UK has a proud history of providing protection to those who need it and this Government is committed to delivering a fair and humane asylum system.

Whilst the Government has not assessed the economic cost of granting asylum seekers the right to work in the UK, our current policy is consistent with EU law and permits asylum seekers to work, in jobs on the Shortage Occupation List, if they have been waiting for a decision on their claim for 12 months or more and the delay is through no fault of their own. We are tackling delays in decision-making and have plans in place to improve the speed at which outstanding claims are decided.

It is important to focus on providing support for those who are recognised as refugees, to help them to integrate and find employment, so that they can rebuild their lives here.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-30/185666/>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.refugee-action.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Lift-the-Ban-report.pdf>

#### **Asylum: Employment**

**Vicky Foxcroft (Labour)** [185667] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the effect of restrictions on the right to work for people seeking asylum on the long-term integration prospects of people who are

subsequently granted leave to remain.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Government support towards integration is focussed on those recognised as those being in need of protection.

This Government is committed to ensuring that all those recognised as refugees in the UK are able to integrate and realise their potential. The Government published the Integrated Communities Strategy Green Paper in March 2018, which included measures relating to integration for refugees. We are considering responses to the consultation, and plan to publish the Government's response later this year.

Our current policy on the right to work for asylum seekers is consistent with EU law and permits asylum seekers to work, in jobs on the Shortage Occupation List, if they have been waiting for a decision on their claim for 12 months or more and the delay is through no fault of their own.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-30/185667/>

*The Green Paper referred to above can be read at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/696993/Integrated\\_Communities\\_Strategy.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/696993/Integrated_Communities_Strategy.pdf)

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

#### **Asylum: Housing**

**Alex Cunningham (Labour)** [184992] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether his Department has a target for the number of local authorities participating in the asylum dispersal programme; and what contingency plans are in place should that number be insufficient.

**Alex Cunningham (Labour)** [184993] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what information he holds on the reasons why some local authorities have not signed up to the asylum dispersal programme; and if he will make a statement.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The Home Office is working closely with a wide range of local authorities to increase the number of areas across the UK that agree to accommodate and support people seeking protection.

We take a coordinated approach to the delivery of the various resettlement and asylum schemes and engage through the Regional Strategic Migration Partnerships to consider the impact on communities and local services so that adjustments can be made where appropriate. Participation in asylum dispersal is subject to discussion and agreement with individual local authorities and there is no target level of participation - every local authority is encouraged to contribute.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/184992/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/184993/>

#### **Asylum: Housing**

**Gareth Snell (Labour Co-op)** [185133] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the fifty fourth report of the Public Accounts Committee of Session 2013-14 entitled COMPASS: provision of asylum accommodation, HC 1000, what measures his Department have in place to respond to the lessons learned following the transition to and implementation of the COMPASS contracts in preparations for the transition to the new contracts.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Since the establishment of the Asylum Accommodation and Support Transformation Project in the autumn of 2016, there has been extensive consideration of lessons learnt from the existing contracts, stakeholder feedback and external review documents, including the fifty fourth report from the Public Accounts Committee.

The new contracts include over 400 substantive changes that will provide a more

accessible and easy to navigate system which ensures the safety, security and welfare of service users and their host communities. These changes will include a longer mobilisation and transition period; improved data quality and sharing with providers and a more robust contract compliance regime to improve accommodation standards.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/185133/>

### **Immigrants: Detainees**

**Matthew Pennycook (Labour)** [186411] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he has made an assessment of the implications for his Department's policies of the recommendations contained in the Independent Monitoring Board's Charter Flights Annual Report of (a) 2016 and (b) 2017.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Independent scrutiny is a vital part of assurance that our charter operations are safe, secure and humane.

We accepted or partially accepted 16 of the 19 recommendations to the Home Office and our escorting contractor in the 2017 report. We continue to work closely with the Independent Monitoring Boards to assess their ongoing recommendations. As a result of that relationship, the Home Office has introduced new measures to further support returnees on charter flight operations.

The Immigration Minister responded to the Team Leader of the Charter Flight Monitoring Team in June 2018 in respect of the 2016 and 2017 IMB reports.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-31/186411/>

*The reports referred to above can be read at*

<https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/imb-prod-storage-1ocod6bqky0vo/uploads/2017/07/IMB-Charter-Flights-2016.pdf>

*and*

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

## **UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers**

### **Immigration: Appeals**

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat):** To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps the Home Office will take to ensure that fewer decisions on immigration matters are reversed on appeal.

**Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Williams of Trafford):** My Lords, UK Visas and Immigration is focused on improving the quality of all decision-making. While appeals are allowed for a variety of reasons, and many of those appeals being heard now are fairly historic, we recognise that continued improvement is necessary. That is why investment is being made via a stronger assurance regime, better and more frequent training, strengthening feedback loops and creating new governance and structures. Additionally, we are working with HM Courts & Tribunals Service on reducing the number of outstanding appeals and the time taken through the appeal system.

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno:** I thank the Minister for those comments. She will be aware that whereas 17% of those who went to appeal in 2005 won their appeal, this year 35% won and last year the figure was 40%. This is totally wrong, as even the Government must understand. One thing we could do is record every interview from an applicant. Then we would not have disputes over what was said—whether the language was understood, the interviewer was hostile or the questioning was aggressive. We could go some way towards remedying this problem by keeping voice recordings of each of the interviews.



**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** I appreciate what the noble Lord is saying, and on face value it looks sensible, but quite often new evidence is presented just before the tribunal which is not available to the original decision-maker. For that reason, the noble Lord's point would not be valid. The consequence of information being presented too late is that it is often too late for the Home Office to then withdraw the case.

**Lord Pannick (Crossbench):** My Lords, does the Minister agree that there would be fewer appeals if the immigration department was prepared to adopt the policy that, where it rejects an application because of inadequate documentation, it should then be open to the applicant to supply the missing documents rather than undergo the expense and delay of either appealing or making a fresh application. The Minister knows of my interest in this subject because she has been making heroic efforts to get an answer from the immigration department as to whether or not it is prepared to adopt such a practice in the case of Ramie Smith and Gideon Cohen, who married recently, as well as in other cases. When does the Minister think she will get an answer from the immigration department to this very basic question?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** It is a shame the immigration department is not at the Dispatch Box. I agree with the noble Lord; we have had several discussions on this. My right honourable friend the Immigration Minister is absolutely aware of this and is trying to make improvements in the process. What the noble Lord and I have been talking about is that the process is not entirely clear in some of these cases.

**Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour):** My Lords, will the review of Home Office culture and practices instigated by the Home Secretary include the "hostile"/"compliant" environment policy? If not, it is unlikely to have much impact on decisions on immigration matters.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** My right honourable friend the Home Secretary has made very clear that he does not want a hostile environment; he wants a compliant environment. That would benefit those with genuine reasons to come to this country as well as sifting out some of the more spurious claims for either asylum or immigration.

**Lord Reid of Cardowan (Labour):** My Lords, what steps is the Home Office taking to address the very serious accusations of inadequacies made by the former Home Secretary, Ms Amber Rudd?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Like the noble Lord, I was very sad when my right honourable friend the former Home Secretary had to resign her position. I have seen the document—the Statement—that everyone else has seen. I am sure there will be measures in train to make sure that Ministers are sufficiently supported in the job they do.

**Lord Woolf (Crossbench):** My Lords, I have been very pleased to hear what the Minister has said so far about the efforts that are being made. However, is it not quite obvious that one of the most important steps that could be taken would be to improve the representation available to immigrants, who often find the complex law on immigration beyond their capabilities?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The noble and learned Lord makes a good point. My response to the noble Lord, Lord Roberts, threw up a slightly different but substantial reason for things being delayed and appeals being upheld—that is, documentation coming forward at the last minute, making it too late for the Home Office to withdraw the appeal and sort out the issue. The noble and learned Lord is absolutely right: for many, it can be a very confusing and distressing time. However, we are making huge efforts to improve the process—for example, by withdrawing cases at the 20-week point to make sure that they are looked at again and that we do not have the problem that noble Lords are referring to. ...

**Lord Marlesford (Conservative):** My Lords, is not a fundamental and long-standing

problem the quality of management in the Home Office? If the Home Office were any sort of private sector outfit, the management would have been changed long ago. When there is a failure of management, the owners, whether they be the Government or the shareholders, insist on a change. It seems to me that until there is really good management at Civil Service level, there will not be an improvement.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** I know that my noble friend takes a rather dim view of some of the people who work in the Home Office, but he points to absolutely the right issue. We are now identifying and reviewing cases, and improving technical capability in the Home Office to help UKVI decisions, but we are also trying to ensure consistency in casework to prevent the occurrence of some of the issues raised by the noble Lord, Lord Pannick.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-11-06/debates/89AEDC30-3040-4621-8DE6-435E12D69043/ImmigrationAppeals>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

### British Nationality: Children

**Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour)** [HL10945] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many children have had their applications for British citizenship denied because they failed the good character test in each of the last five years for which information is available.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The available published information on the total number of decisions to refuse applications for British citizenship where the applicant is found to be not of good character for applicants of all ages are published in Home Office's Immigration Statistics, year ending June 2018, Citizenship tables cz\_09 (Refusals of citizenship by reason) available from

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

The table below provides figures for the last 5 calendar years.

Refusals of British citizenship by reason					
Reason for refusal	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Incomplete applications	687	728	254	128	52
Parent not a British citizen	553	510	749	931	300
Not of good character	2,295	1,095	4,524	5,525	3,119
Delay in replying to enquiries from UKVI	423	1,234	1,254	1,698	1,319
Residence	2,264	1,224	2,825	2,632	1,659
Oath not taken in time	0	6	14	9	1
Insufficient Knowledge of English and KOL	62	489	531	673	720
Other	536	423	495	996	544
<b>Total refusals</b>	<b>6,820</b>	<b>5,709</b>	<b>10,646</b>	<b>12,592</b>	<b>7,714</b>
British already	375	383	312	496	598
Withdrawn	74	82	125	220	120
<b>Total refused or withdrawn</b>	<b>7,269</b>	<b>6,174</b>	<b>11,083</b>	<b>13,308</b>	<b>8,432</b>
Rejected applications	97	81	525	1,852	838
Source: Home Office, Migration Border Analysis.					
Immigration Statistics year to June 2018 - subset of table cz_09.					

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-23/HL10945/>

### Asylum

**Lord Hylton (Crossbench)** [HL11165] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether

asylum applicants who are required to attend regular appointments at reporting centres are now obliged to travel to Salford; and if so, why they may not attend appointments near the place where they reside.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Asylum seekers are not required to report until they have received a negative decision on their application and when they are in receipt of support, their travel costs are met.

Individuals may be required to attend the nearest reporting centre or other location, including police stations, to their home address. There is no upper limit to the distance which an individual may be required to travel in order to attend their nearest reporting location but the Home Office assesses the needs of all types of reportees, not only asylum seekers when deciding reporting frequency and location.

As part of Immigration Enforcement's transformation programme the Home Office is rationalising the use of reporting locations to move reportees to locations which are fully resourced to deal with each individual and their needs. We work closely with our estates partners to identify sites that provide adequate access to the public, security and accommodation that would enable us to provide a good level of service to the reporting population.

Individuals would only be required to report to Salford if this is the nearest suitable reporting location to their address.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-31/HL11165/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

#### **Slavery: Children**

**Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative)** [HL10887] To ask Her Majesty's Government what percentage of children referred to the National Referral Mechanism as potential victims of modern slavery turned 18 years old before receiving a conclusive grounds decision in (1) 2015, (2) 2016, and (3) 2017.

**Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative)** [HL10888] To ask Her Majesty's Government what was the average number of days between a positive reasonable grounds decision and a conclusive grounds decision for children who were (1) British nationals, (2) nationals of other EEA countries, and (3) nationals of non-EEA countries who were referred to the National Referral Mechanism for victims of modern slavery between 2014 and 2017.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The National Crime Agency (NCA) regularly publishes National Referral Mechanism (NRM) data but does not publish data about the timescales for reaching reasonable grounds or conclusive grounds decisions by either UKVI or the Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Unit in the NCA.

The National Crime Agency does not publish data regarding the age of potential victims when an NRM decision is made, only whether they were an adult or child at the time when the exploitation took place.

Latest statistics on NRM referrals and decisions are available at the following link:

<http://nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/national-referral-mechanism-statistics/2018-nrm-statistics>

Further information is also available in the

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/749346/2018\\_UK\\_Annual\\_Report\\_on\\_Modern\\_Slavery.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/749346/2018_UK_Annual_Report_on_Modern_Slavery.pdf)

which was published on 18 October 2018.

[UK Annual Report on Modern Slavery](#)

[NCA Quarter 2 - April - June 2018](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-22/HL10887/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-22/HL10888/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Slavery: Children**

**Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative)** [HL10889] To ask Her Majesty's Government what percentage of children who were exited from the Independent Child Trafficking Advocate service because they had turned 18 years old did so before receiving a conclusive grounds decision under the National Referral Mechanism from 30 January 2017 to date.

**Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative)** [HL10890] To ask Her Majesty's Government what arrangements are in place to provide ongoing specialist support to young people in any period between leaving the Independent Child Trafficking Advocate scheme at 18 years old and receiving a conclusive grounds decision under the National Referral Mechanism.

**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

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/an-assessment-of-independent-child-trafficking-advocates-interim-findings>

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.

[Assessment - Independent Child Trafficking Finding](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-22/HL10889/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-22/HL10890/>

## **Press Releases**

**Campsfield House immigration removal centre to close**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/campsfield-house-immigration-removal-centre-to-close>

**Humanitarian visas: "A right to be heard without risking your life"**

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/world/20181031STO18177/humanitarian-visas-a-right-to-be-heard-without-risking-your-life>

## **New Publication**

**Letter from Caroline Nokes MP to Yvette Cooper MP regarding the EU settlement scheme for resident EU citizens and their family members to obtain UK immigration status**

[http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2018-1082/Caroline Nokes to HASC Chair-EU Settlement scheme.pdf](http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2018-1082/Caroline+Nokes+to+HASC+Chair-EU+Settlement+scheme.pdf)



## News

### **Immigration minister says sorry for Windrush generation's treatment**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/nov/07/immigration-minister-caroline-nokes-apologises-for-home-offices-treatment-of-windrush-generation>

### **Citizens from more than 60 countries referred to Windrush taskforce**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-windrush-nationality-crisis-immigrants-france-germany-a8622166.html>

### **Home Office cuts to modern slavery victims' benefits are unlawful, High Court rules**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-modern-slavery-victims-trafficking-cuts-austerity-support-high-court-ruling-a8623586.html>

### **No additional checks on EU employees required, says immigration minister**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/nov/05/firms-no-additional-checks-eu-employees-nokes>

### **EU migrants aged between 18 and 30 will be able to come to Britain under post-Brexit visa scheme**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2018/11/07/eu-migrants-aged-18-30-will-able-come-britain-post-brexit-visa/>

### **Home Office faces £1m bill for shortchanging victims of trafficking**

<https://www.theguardian.com/law/2018/nov/08/cuts-to-trafficking-victims-support-payments-ruled-unlawful>

### **New Zealand man blocked from seeing new-born baby after Home Office loses passport and 'lies' about visa refusal**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-visa-new-zealand-baby-passport-visa-error-luke-thomas-simone-brookes-a8617186.html>

### **Andy Burnham criticises 'mounting chaos' of UK's asylum system**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/nov/07/andy-burnham-criticises-mounting-chaos-of-uk-asylum-system>

### **Anger as influential economist has UK residency bid rejected**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/nov/08/anger-as-mariana-mazzucato-has-uk-residency-bid-rejected>

### **Refusing academic visas is threat to Britain's reputation, say scientists**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/refusing-academic-visas-is-threat-to-uk-s-reputation-say-scientists-8bmk6rlkz>

### **International students are abandoning Britain – we must stem the tide**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/nov/06/international-students-britain-universities-immigration-policy>

### **Removal centre to close after string of scandals hit detention estate**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/immigration-removal-centre-close-campfield-home-office-scandals-detention-estate-a8626466.html>

### **Eleven children found in refrigerated lorry entering UK**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/nov/07/six-adults-and-15-children-found-in-refrigerated-lorry-newhaven>

**Twenty-one migrants including children as young as 12 found inside lorry in Sussex**  
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/11/07/twenty-one-migrants-including-children-young-12-found-inside/>

**Fifteen children found in refrigerated lorry attempting to enter UK**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/children-lorry-migration-uk-newhaven-sussex-france-dieppe-vietnam-driver-a8621356.html>

**Migration, not climate, is world's biggest challenge**  
<https://www.scotsman.com/news/opinion/migration-not-climate-is-world-s-biggest-challenge-bill-jamieson-1-4826073>

**Criminals on the run from deportation**  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-11-09/news/criminals-on-the-run-from-deportation-cn96hkr3>

**Human trafficking rescues increase in Northern Ireland**  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-46092085>

**Reunited: Syrian refugee and the artist who drew him in Calais**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2018/nov/10/reunited-syrian-refugee-and-the-artist-who-drew-him-in-calais>

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## Community Relations

### Scottish Parliament Motion

**S5M-14623 James Dornan (SNP): Multicultural Football Festival and the Year of Young People** – That the Parliament commends the SFA and BEMIS Scotland on the success of their partnership, culminating in the Multicultural Football Festival, which was held on 27 October 2018 at Toryglen Regional Football Centre to celebrate the Year of Young People; notes that 22 diverse teams and over 200 players from diverse backgrounds across Scotland participated in this unique annual event; understands that the festival is the latest outcome of the positive cooperation between BEMIS Scotland and the SFA aimed at increasing inclusive participation of diverse communities in all aspects of football, locally, regionally and nationally, including involvement in playing, training, coaching and volunteering, as well as providing opportunities to use football as a means to celebrate active citizenship, community cohesion, health and inclusive community spirit; acknowledges that the festival is part of the Year of Young People 2018 national programmes delivered by BEMIS Scotland and the SFA to celebrate Scotland and its diverse young people; highlights that the aims of the collaboration and the Multicultural Football Festival are to celebrate diversity and equality and the promotion of active citizenship for young people, and shares BEMIS Scotland and the SFA's message of an equal, fair and responsive Scotland where its youth and inclusive national identity are cherished.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-14623>

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### UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

#### Home Office: Staff

**Lord Pearson of Rannoch (UKIP)** [HL11043] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many individuals who have declared as (1) Muslims, and (2) members of other faiths and none, there were in the top four grades of the Home Office on (a) 1 September 2012, and (b) 31 September 2014.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The information is provided in the table below

Religion	Sep-12	Sep-14
Muslim	*****	*****
Other Faiths	64%	70%
No Religion	*****	*****

- Data Source: Data View - Office for National Statistics compliant monthly snapshot corporate Human Resources data for Home Office. Period Covered:01/10/2011 to 30/09/2012, 01/10/2013 to 30/09/2014 Organisational Coverage:
- Home Office Employee Coverage: Data is based on Headcount of current paid permanent civil servants in SCS grade, Top 4 grades classed as SCS members (SCS PB1, PB2 (Directors), PB3 (Director Generals) and PB4 (Permanent Secretary))Note: Figures for protected characteristics of Religious Belief are representative of only those staff who have made a positive statement.
- Those who 'Prefer not to say' or are 'Not Surveyed' have been excluded. Statistical disclosure controls: these have been applied to this information to comply with the UK Statistics Authority Code of Practice and the Data Protection Act.
- Where a category has either (a) fewer than 5 employees or (b) no employees figures have been redacted and replaced with \*\*\*\*\* (5 stars) to prevent the disclosure of small numbers. This enables transparency of as much information as possible without the need to redact the overall figures.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-25/HL11043/>

#### Travellers: Caravan Sites

**Baroness Whitaker (Labour)** [HL11013] To ask Her Majesty's Government how they plan to provide sufficient Gypsy and Traveller sites to meet the recommendations of (1) the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, (2) the UN Committee on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, (3) the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, (4) the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, and (5) the Council of Europe Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities; and whether the response to their consultation on powers for dealing with unauthorised development and encampments will address this issue.

**Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth:** The Planning Policy for Travellers Sites asks local planning authorities to assess the need for traveller sites in their area, and to identify sites to meet that need. Local authorities are best placed to make decisions about the number and location of such sites locally, having had due regard to national policy and local circumstances. Our recent consultation on unauthorised encampments has sought views on whether there are barriers to the provision of sites, and whether there is anything Government can do to help overcome them. We are currently considering the responses to this consultation.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-24/HL11013/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Health Services: Travellers**

**Baroness Whitaker (Labour)** [HL11014] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the NHS Data Model and Dictionary will include entries for (1) Gypsies, (2) Travellers, and (3) Roma; and if so, when.

**Baroness Whitaker (Labour)** [HL11015] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord O'Shaughnessy on 9 April (HL6732), whether they are taking account of the finding in the report by the Social Exclusion Task Force and Department of Health, Inclusion Health, published in March 2010, that lack of ethnic monitoring in relation to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities "makes it difficult to ascertain which services are making a difference, to whom, and by how much"; and what progress they have made with NHS England to investigate whether data collection in the NHS could include more of the protected characteristics listed under the Equality Act 2010 to provide better information about Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities' access to healthcare.

**Reply from Lord O'Shaughnessy:** The Department is in the process of reviewing the collection of data within the National Health Service and has commissioned NHS England to complete a scoping exercise to understand how information on protected characteristics is gathered in existing NHS datasets, including the NHS Data Model and Dictionary which currently use the 2001 census ethnicity categories. Subject to the publication of the 2021 Census White Paper, we plan to complete an initial assessment by the end of 2018, which will form the basis for future decision-making on NHS data collection.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-24/HL11014/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-24/HL11015/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-03-27/HL6732/>

### **Digital Technology: Travellers**

**Baroness Whitaker (Labour)** [HL10972] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they intend to respond to the report by Friends, Family and Travellers, Digital Exclusion in Gypsy and Traveller communities in the United Kingdom, published in September.

**Reply from Lord Ashton of Hyde:** We are committed to tackling digital exclusion and the UK Digital Strategy, published in March 2017, describes the steps we are taking across government, including establishing the Digital Skills Partnership, which brings together stakeholders from the private, public and charity sectors to join efforts to help people increase their digital skills at all levels; introducing fully-funded basic digital skills training for adults lacking these vital skills from 2020; and using the 3000 libraries across England to provide a trusted network of accessible locations with trained staff and volunteers, free Wi-Fi, computers, and other technology as well as Assisted Digital access to a wide range of digital public services where individuals are unable for whatever reason to access these services independently.

The Race Disparity Audit showed us Roma, Gypsy and Traveller communities are amongst the most disadvantaged in British society and we agree that more needs to be done to make sure nobody is excluded or left behind.

The Government funds the Future Digital Inclusion programme managed by the Good Things Foundation and delivered through the 3,000 strong Online Centres network. To date this programme has supported over 800,000 adult learners to develop their basic digital skills, many of whom are socially excluded.

The NHS Digital Widening Digital Participation programme, delivered in partnership with Good Things Foundation, develops projects that enable people in



England to improve their digital health skills and to increase their access to digital services and tools that support their health and care. Partnership working is at the heart of this programme. In order to better understand the needs of those with low literacy (including low health & digital literacy), NHS Digital regularly works with national and local organisations who know them best and really understand the barriers and challenges for them with getting online.

The UK Digital Strategy, published in 2017, states that one of the Government's objectives is to 'enable people in every part of society - irrespective of age, gender, physical ability, ethnicity, health conditions, or socio-economic status - to access the opportunities of the internet', and to deliver this, the Government will focus on 'ensuring that we continue to tackle the root causes of digital exclusion and that everyone can increase their digital capability to make the most of the digital world.'

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-23/HL10972/>

*The Digital Strategy referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-digital-strategy/uk-digital-strategy>

## Welsh Assembly Debate

**The Equality and Human Rights Commission's Wales Committee Annual Review 2017-18**

<http://record.assembly.wales/Plenary/5361#A46446>

## Press Releases

**Helping people from ethnic minority backgrounds into work**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/helping-people-from-ethnic-minority-backgrounds-into-work>

**Greater education opportunities for gypsy traveller families**

<https://www.gov.scot/news/greater-education-opportunities-for-gypsy-traveller-families/>

## New Publications

**Ethnicity based proportions and compositions of people in relative poverty: FOI release**

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/foi-18-02919/>

**Relative and Severe Poverty Rate, Scotland 2007-17**

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/foi-eir-release/2018/11/foi-18-02919/documents/foi-18-02919-information-requested/foi-18-02919-information-requested/govscot%3Adocument>

## News

**Parole Board: No black panel members a 'significant concern'**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-46143909>

**Sir Lenny Henry calls for TV and film tax break to boost diversity**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/46101341>

**It was lonely being a black actor in the 70s. It's even lonelier now behind the camera**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/nov/06/lenny-henry-black-actor-tax-breaks-film-tv-industry>

**Shakespeare can help British Muslims feel less excluded**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/nov/07/shakespeare-help-british-muslims-excluded>

**Oxford University denies it rejected Stormzy scholarship**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/newsbeat-46137674>

**Stormzy: Oxford University denies turning down grime star's scholarship offer for black students**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/music/news/stormzy-scholarship-cambridge-university-oxford-black-students-education-a8623376.html>

**Stormzy's Oxbridge offer might sound great, but it's still just racial discrimination**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/11/09/stormzys-oxbridge-offer-might-sound-great-still-just-racial/>

**Kevin Harper: I want this job to be about me not my skin colour**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/kevin-harper-i-want-this-job-to-be-about-me-not-my-skin-colour-vbq3g805s>

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## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### Scottish Parliament Oral Answer

#### **Attacks on Neil Lennon (Bigotry and Racism)**

**James Kelly (Labour):** The First Minister will be aware of last week's attack on Neil Lennon and the subsequent comments from Mr Lennon that the numerous attacks that he has endured in Scotland resulted from bigotry and racism. Such treatment is wholly unacceptable in a modern and progressive country. Will the First Minister join me in condemning anti-Catholic bigotry and anti-Irish racism and commit the Scottish Government to urgent action to root out those unacceptable attitudes and behaviour?

**Reply from the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon):** I thank James Kelly for raising an issue that is of huge concern to people across country. I condemn unequivocally the attack on Neil Lennon that took place last week. It is a matter for the police to thoroughly investigate. I saw some of Neil Lennon's press conference at the end of last week and I thought that he conducted himself with great dignity. I am sure that we all agree that nobody should have to suffer the abuse and attacks that he has had to suffer.

I unequivocally condemn anti-Catholic bigotry and anti-Irish racism. I condemn sectarianism in any shape or form. This Government will continue to take the action that is needed to ensure that Scotland is a country that demonstrates zero tolerance of that kind of bigotry. Whatever our football loyalties may be, or if we have none, such conduct has no place in modern Scotland and all of us must unite to make that absolutely crystal clear.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11760&i=106455#ScotParlOR>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answer

### Topical Questions: Antisemitism

**Ian Austin (Labour)** [907465] Does the Secretary of State agree that the establishment of the new all-party group on the national holocaust memorial, which is chaired by the hon. Member for Harrow East (Bob Blackman) and me, is very much to be welcomed? Is it not fantastic that so many Members from both sides of the House came together, at a time when antisemitism is on the increase, to establish this group and that we want to commemorate here in Parliament history's greatest crime and support the establishment of this memorial, right here in Westminster, at the centre of not just our political life but our national life?

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** I absolutely recognise and commend what the hon. Gentleman said on how collectively we challenge antisemitism and stand up for the values of this country. I pay tribute to him for the personal contribution that he has made on this issue, and equally, I reflect on the statue of Frank Foley, which the hon. Gentleman was instrumental in bringing into effect. It recognises Frank Foley's contribution in saving the lives of thousands of Jews fleeing from persecution in Germany, and we must never forget the contribution that he and others have made.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-11-05/debates/857487BC-3234-4943-8C0B-2999B9BE53EF/TopicalQuestions#contribution-25F92347-C4CA-428C-B86B-E08D6351F661>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

### Travellers: Hate Crime

**Baroness Whitaker (Labour)** [HL10975] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth on 18 July (HL9254), what steps they are taking with media agencies and the Ofcom to combat hate crime and discrimination against Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities; and what assessment they have made of the findings in the report by Goldsmiths, University of London, Recognise, Report, Resolve, published in June, of hate speech frequently being published on the comments sections of media outlets' websites.

**Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth:** We are clear that there is no place for hate speech anywhere in society. While freedom of speech is a vital cornerstone of our society, everybody must remember that they have responsibilities not to spread hatred or fear.

As part of the EU High Level Group on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Other Forms of Intolerance, the UK has been a leading voice in the creation of a voluntary EU Code of Conduct which holds social media companies responsible for the removal of all illegal hate speech from their platforms within 24 hours. Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, Microsoft, Instagram and other internet companies have signed this Code and the third monitoring exercise in December 2017 showed that the companies removed on average 70 per cent of illegal hate speech notified to them.

As part of the Hate Crime Action Plan, the Government has supported the Society of Editors to produce a Moderation Guide for online comments, which will be revisited in our continuing work with the Society of Editors and Independent Press Standards Organisation to update the Reporting Diversity booklet. This will consider hatred against Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities alongside other racially and religiously motivated hatred.

Additionally, in line with the recommendations given in the report Recognise, Report, Resolve, we support efforts to improve awareness and reporting of hate crime, including through our £55,000 grant to HertsGATE (Gypsy and Traveller Empowerment), to work to encourage reporting of hate crime in Gypsy, Roma and

Traveller communities.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-23/HL10975/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-07-04/HL9254/>

The report referred to above can be read at

<http://www.gateherts.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Recognise-Report-Resolve.pdf>

## Press Releases

**Tackling antisemitism effectively requires proper data**

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2018/tackling-antisemitism-effectively-requires-proper-data>

**Kristallnacht 80 years on**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/kristallnacht-80-years-on>

## New Publications

**Letter from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth to Lords regarding issues raised during the debate on religious tolerance and prejudice: hate crime statistics and the designation "unknown", and the Home Office Places of Worship Security Funding**

[http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2018-1054/Letter\\_to\\_Peers\\_on\\_Religious\\_Intolerance.pdf](http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2018-1054/Letter_to_Peers_on_Religious_Intolerance.pdf)

**Antisemitism – Overview of data available in the European Union 2007–2017**

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra\\_uploads/fra-2018-antisemitism-update-2007-2017\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2018-antisemitism-update-2007-2017_en.pdf)

**Video: British Holocaust survivors recall their memories of Kristallnacht**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=30&v=UXq2HdHlscs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=30&v=UXq2HdHlscs)

**Online resource: Stories That Move – a toolbox for antidiscrimination**

<https://www.storiesthatmove.org/en/home/>

## News

**Nicola Sturgeon pays tribute to 'great dignity' of Neil Lennon after attack**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17210707.nicola-sturgeon-pays-tribute-to-great-dignity-of-neil-lennon-after-attack/?ref=mr&lp=16>

**Labour conference delegate Kayla Bibby posted anti-semitic image**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/labour-conference-delegate-posted-anti-semitic-image-vxxbmb5s>

**Antisemitism endangers us all. We can't afford to be complacent**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/nov/05/pittsburgh-attack-antisemitism-synagogue-london-mayor>

**White fanatic Michael Glynn who made bombs avoids terrorism charges**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-11-06/news/white-fanatic-who-made-bombs-avoids-terrorism-charges-rjzlb3zqb>



**Theresa May urged to sack housing tsar Roger Scruton over 'Islamophobic and antisemitic comments'**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/theresa-may-roger-scruton-islamophobic-antisemitic-homophobic-housing-tsar-government-a8621361.html>

**Housing tsar Sir Roger Scruton 'Islamophobic'**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-11-07/news/housing-tsar-sir-roger-scruton-islamophobic-bw76fd76f>

**'Black soldiers were expendable – then forgettable'**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/nov/11/david-olusoga-black-soldiers-first-world-war-expendable>

**Royal Mint rejected Roald Dahl coin over antisemitic views**

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2018/nov/06/royal-mint-roald-dahl-coin-antisemitic-views>

**Roald Dahl commemorative coin rejected by Royal Mint over author's antisemitic views**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/books/news/roald-dahl-antisemitic-coin-royal-mint-author-matilda-willy-wonka-a8621396.html>

**Roald Dahl coins abandoned over fears about antisemitism**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-11-07/news/roald-dahl-coins-abandoned-over-fears-about-antisemitism-bwqc6qpkq>

**Persecution of Christians ignored because there is no word for it, says Archbishop**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2018/11/09/persecution-christians-ignored-no-word-says-archbishop/>

**Doctor Who star Sharon D Clarke on racism in the industry**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/doctor-who-star-sharon-d-clarke-on-racism-in-the-industry-wz358dkfh>

**Steven Gerrard has not forgotten racist abuse**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/steven-gerrard-has-not-forgotten-racist-abuse-fl5z7jpkk>

**Fancy dress site stops selling KKK costume used to scare Muslims**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/fancy-dress-site-stops-selling-kkk-costume-used-to-scare-muslims-0ld0w0sgf>

**KKK hate crime arrests after searches in Newtownards**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-46143866>

**Tory councillor wears blackface at Kent bonfire celebrations**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/nov/07/tory-councillor-wears-blackface-kent-bonfire-celebrations>

**Ryanair was 'woeful', say lawyers for racially abused passenger**

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2018/nov/05/ryanair-was-woeful-say-lawyers-for-racially-abused-passenger>

**Driver who beeped horn tells of hate-crime ordeal**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/jane-savidge-the-driver-who-beeped-her-horn-tells-of-hate-crime-ordeal-252qwpqxr>

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## Other UK Parliament and Government

### UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

#### **Census: Travellers**

**Baroness Whitaker (Labour)** [HL10973] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the next census in England and Wales will separate Gypsies and Travellers into two categories.

**Reply from Lord Young of Cookham:** The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the Authority to reply. ... Question development for the 2021 Census started in June 2015, with the 2021 Census topic consultation<sup>1</sup>, asking stakeholders for views on our initial thoughts on which topics we should ask questions on in the 2021 Census. 460 stakeholders responded to the Ethnicity and National Identity topics and we published a specific report outlining our next steps for these topics<sup>2</sup>. In response to the consultation, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) conducted research into the need for additional response categories in the ethnic group question, over and above those used in the 2011 Census. A stakeholder follow-up survey identified a need for greater granularity of data and requests for 55 additional tick-boxes were received. We conducted a prioritisation evaluation to consider the strength of need of these additional requests for tick-boxes including those for Gypsy, Irish Traveller and Roma groups. We then evaluated these requests further against additional criteria including: the availability of alternative data sources, data quality, and comparability. After this evaluation we identified four groups (Jewish, Roma, Sikh, Somali) where we needed to undertake further work before deciding whether to recommend any new additional categories. We published an update in December last year<sup>3</sup>, laying out the latest position on the recommendations for which topics will be included in the 2021 Census. This update included details of our progress in the assessment of the ethnic group topic, our research into the need for additional response categories, and the outcome of our prioritisation evaluation considering additional requests for tick-boxes. ONS will make its final recommendations to government on the 2021 Census content later this year. The final topics and questions to be included in the 2021 Census will be put before Parliament for approval, in the form of a Census Order in 2019 and the Census Regulations in 2020.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/censustransformationprogramme/consultations/the2021censusinitialviewoncontentforenglandandwales>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ons.gov.uk/file?uri=/census/censustransformationprogramme/consultations/the2021censusinitialviewoncontentforenglandandwales/topicreport04ethnicityandnationalidentitypostreleaseversion....pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/censustransformationprogramme/questiondevelopment/2021censustopicresearchdecember2017>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-23/HL10973/>

### Press Releases

#### **Prime Minister's Diwali and Bandi Chhor Divas Message**

<https://twitter.com/10DowningStreet/status/1060150163539419136>

#### **Foreign Minister's Diwali Message**

[https://twitter.com/Jeremy\\_Hunt/status/1060209108438138880](https://twitter.com/Jeremy_Hunt/status/1060209108438138880)

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## New Publication

### **Online resource: Police Scotland Youth Hub**

The Youth Hub has been specially designed for young people aged between five and nineteen years old, and gives a wealth of advice on everything from staying safe, life at home, your rights and where to get help if you need it.

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/youth-hub/>

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## Other News

**A great honour for BEMIS CEO Rami Ousta to receive a Fair Saturday award in the Guggenheim / Bilbao on behalf of our staff and the hundreds of community organisations who help create Scotland's Inclusive national identity**

[https://twitter.com/bemis\\_scotland/status/1059542726495088640](https://twitter.com/bemis_scotland/status/1059542726495088640)

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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>

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee Stage 1 Report

<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdneq.azureedge.net/published/DPLR/2018/11/6/Human-Tissue--Authorisation---Scotland--Bill--Stage-1/DPLRS052018R53.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>

### **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!**

**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/>

**\*\* Shortage occupation list review 2018** (closing date 6 January 2019)

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/754865/SOL\\_call\\_for\\_evidence\\_Final\\_Version\\_for\\_publication.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/754865/SOL_call_for_evidence_Final_Version_for_publication.pdf)

**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](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>

**\*\* Raising skills and standards of supporters of refugees and asylum seekers**  
(closing date not stated)  
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3R8SDYN>

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

### **Cyber grants now available to Scottish charities**

***Closing date for applications: 18 December 2018***

The cyber grants help charities to meet the costs of preparing for and receiving Cyber Essentials accreditation. Eligible organisations can receive up to £1,000 towards the costs of achieving Cyber Essentials accreditation. For information and to apply see

<https://scvo.org.uk/digital/evolution/cyber-resilience>

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**\*\* *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/>

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

### **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>

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

### **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>

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

### **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>

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

### **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>

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

### **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>

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

### **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, learn about the beliefs and cultural practices of some of the main religions 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>

**\*\* this week!**

**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](mailto:kperezp@wsrec.co.uk)

**\*\* this week!**

**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 (9.30-4.00)

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>

**\*\* Equalities and Hate Crime Public Awareness**

22 November 2018 in Kirkcaldy (6.00-8.00)

6 December 2018 in Cupar (6.00-8.00)

Fife Centre for Equalities sessions to find out about the Equality Act 2010, learn about how to report hate crime and how to get advice and support, and to share any concerns you may have about something that has happened to you or someone you know. For information about the Kirkcaldy event see <https://tinyurl.com/ybszq9wv> and about the Cupar event see <https://tinyurl.com/ydedubvb>

**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/>

**Bullying – It's never acceptable**

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/>

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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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**SCoJeC**

The Scottish Council of  
**Jewish Communities**

Representing, connecting and supporting Jewish people in Scotland



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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