



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.

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

The UK Parliament is in recess until 4 June 2019.

Due to the Jewish Festival of Shavuot, the next issue of MEMO will be published on 11 June 2019.

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Debate

Edinburgh Festivals (Effect of Immigration Policy)

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12128&i=109730#ScottParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Oral Answer

European Union Settlement Scheme

Jenny Gilruth (SNP): Today's report from the House of Commons Home Affairs Committee says that the United Kingdom's settlement scheme for EU citizens risks another Windrush scandal. Is that not a salutary warning that we should not be making EU citizens apply to remain in their homes? Have the Tories learned nothing from last week's election, when their hostility towards immigrants was roundly—and rightly—rejected?

Reply from the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon): I think that, from most of what the Tories have had to say in the past few days, they—certainly the Scottish Tories—have learned nothing at all from the fact that they have been pushed into fourth place in Scotland in the elections. They should carry on. The longer that they fail to learn those lessons, the better it is for those of us on the Scottish National Party benches.

Jenny Gilruth raises a serious issue. Windrush was a scandal—even the Tories would concede that. What European nationals are being put through—they are having to apply for the right to continue to live here in their own country—is shocking, and it risks repeating that scandal. They should not be being put in that situation. This is their home and they should be able to stay here. We should all continue to argue against those measures and send the clearest possible message that those who choose to make this country their home are welcome here and we want them to stay.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12128&i=109719#ScotParlOR>

The report referred to above can be read at

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmhaff/1945/1945.pdf>

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-17450 Bill Kidd (SNP): Tea with a Refugee – That the Parliament commends the efforts of the High School of Glasgow for providing a welcoming environment for refugees; congratulates the Holocaust Educational Trust for its thoughtful awareness of the ongoing tragedy of refugees across the world, and wishes the school and the trust the very best at the "Tea with a Refugee" event, which is being held on 12 June 2019 at the school.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-17450>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Passports: Ethnic Groups

Imran Hussain (Labour) [257051] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 5 March 2019 to Question 225536, what the average length of time is for HM Passport Office to process passport applications from people from a BME background.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Her Majesty's Passport Office does not require data on ethnicity to be provided as part of the passport application process, and therefore no statistical information is held.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257051/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-02-25/225536/>

Immigration: Applications

Stephen Morgan (Labour) [257070] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people who secured indefinite leave to remain in the last 12 months (a) obtained legal advice and (b) did not obtain legal advice on their applications.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Information on the number of applicants who were granted with Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) who obtained legal advice as part of their application is not collated centrally as part of the production of the quarterly Immigration Statistics.

The published statistics on leave to remain applications that have been processed within service standard can be found in the migration transparency data release <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/in-country-migration-data-february-2019>

at: InC_02: Percentage of In-Country visa applications, for each Route, processed within Service Standards

It is open to applicants to obtain legal representation from a qualified UK immigration adviser. In the UK, the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC) regulates immigration advisers. The OISC website

www.gov.uk/find-an-immigration-adviser-provides-a-list-of-immigration-advisers

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257070/>

Visas: Mental Health

Chuka Umunna (Change UK) [256324] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department takes to safeguard visa applicants from stress and other mental health problems which occur as a result of delayed decisions and other complications in the application process.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Comprehensive guidance is published on GOV.UK on the visa application process. This includes information regarding our Customer Service Standards (CSS) timescales for processing visa applications.

If an application is complex or delayed for any reason, Visas & Citizenship staff contact the applicant and inform them if it is anticipated that the CSS will not be met. Applicants can contact V&C should the need arise. Contact details are published on the GOV.UK website here:

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

If V&C are made aware of any compelling or compassionate circumstances, consideration will be given to expediting assessment of the application, where appropriate and possible.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-20/256324/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Jess Philips (Labour) [257035] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many women detained for immigration purposes disclosed experience of domestic abuse in (a) 2016, (b) 2017 and (c) 2018.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office is unable to report on how many women detained for immigration purposes disclosed experience of domestic abuse, as such detail is recorded on individual Home Office files and to obtain this information would require a manual trawl and could only be obtained at disproportionate cost.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257035/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Deportation: Females

Jess Philips (Labour) [257036] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many women removed from the UK were identified by immigration enforcement as a result of reporting a crime to the police in (a) 2016, (b) 2017 and (c) 2018.

Immigrants: Detainees

Jess Philips (Labour) [257037] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many women detained for immigration purposes were identified by immigration enforcement as a result of reporting a crime to the police in (a) 2016, (b) 2017 and (c) 2018.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Whilst the Home Office holds data on the number of individuals referred to Immigration Enforcement by the Police, it does not set out detail of the referral in a reportable manner or how such individuals came to the attention of the Police in the first instance. We are therefore unable to say how many individuals have been referred to Immigration Enforcement as a result of reporting a crime to the Police.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257036/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257037/>

The following five questions all received the same answer

Deportation: India

Jess Philips (Labour) [257039] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many women removed to India disclosed experience of domestic abuse in (a) 2016, (b) 2017 and (c) 2018.

Deportation: Pakistan

Jess Philips (Labour) [257040] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many women removed to Pakistan disclosed experience of domestic abuse in (a) 2016, (b) 2017 and (c) 2018.

Deportation: Bangladesh

Jess Philips (Labour) [257041] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many women removed to Bangladesh disclosed experience of domestic abuse in (a) 2016, (b) 2017 and (c) 2018.

Deportation: Brazil

Jess Philips (Labour) [257042] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many women removed to Brazil disclosed experience of domestic abuse in (a) 2016 (b) 2017 and (c) 2018.

Deportation: Colombia

Jess Philips (Labour) [257043] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many women removed to Colombia disclosed experience of domestic abuse in (a) 2016, (b) 2017 and (c) 2018.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The information requested is not held centrally by the Home Office.

The number of enforced returns from the UK by year and country of nationality is published in table rt_02 (returns data tables, volume 1) in 'Immigration Statistics, year ending December 2018', available from the GOV.uk website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-year-ending-december-2018/how-many-people-are-detained-or-returned>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257039/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257040/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257041/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257042/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257043/>

Press Releases

198,000 non-UK nationals working in Scotland

<https://www.gov.scot/news/198-000-non-uk-nationals-working-in-scotland/>

Best start grant for young asylum seekers

<https://www.gov.scot/news/best-start-grant-for-young-asylum-seekers/>

Migration Advisory Committee recommends adding to shortage occupation list

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/migration-advisory-committee-recommends-adding-to-shortage-occupation-list>

Minister hears from construction workers on immigration system

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/minister-hears-from-construction-workers-on-immigration-system>

EU student funding continued for 2020/21

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/eu-student-funding-continued-for-202021>

EU Nationals and Student Finance in England

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/eu-nationals-and-student-finance-in-england>

Council of Europe experts underline the need to help victims of human trafficking

https://search.coe.int/directorate_of_communications/Pages/result_details.aspx?ObjectId=090000168094afe4

New Publications

Refugee Integration Evidence in Scotland: A Study of Evidence Available to Support the New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy 2018-2022

<https://tinyurl.com/y62z9jlu>

Migration Advisory Committee: Full review of the Shortage Occupation List

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/804504/Full-review-of-the-shortage-occupation-list.pdf

EU Settlement Scheme statistics, April 2019

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/805100/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics-april-2019.pdf

Home Affairs Committee Report: EU Settlement Scheme

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmhaff/1945/1945.pdf>

Identity at the margins: Identification systems for refugees

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5cecedd6ed915d2475aca8c5/Identity-At-The-Margins-Identification-Systems-for-Refugees.pdf>

News

New poll finds warm attitudes towards refugees in Scotland

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3441_new_poll_finds_warm_attitudes_towards_refugees_in_scotland

Quarter of people believe Scotland should welcome more refugees, according to poll

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/quarter-of-people-believe-scotland-should-welcome-more-refugees-according-to-poll-1-4937164>

Scottish Government ensures young asylum seekers can apply for child benefit

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/scottish-government-ensures-young-asylum-seekers-can-apply-for-child-benefit-1-4937154>

Young asylum seekers can access child benefit

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-05-30/scotland/boost-for-young-asylum-seekers-t2l6g3cnk>

Number of foreign workers in Scotland fall by 21,000

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-48446468>

Home Secretary: EU Settlement Scheme is performing well

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-eu-settlement-scheme-is-performing-well>

UK government 'risks another Windrush' over EU citizens, MPs say

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-48451424>

Majority of EU citizens in Scotland have not begun for settled status applications

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/majority-of-eu-citizens-in-scotland-have-not-begun-for-settled-status-applications-1-4938046>

EU applications to settle in Britain pass 750,000

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-05-31/news/eu-applications-to-settle-in-britain-pass-750-000-ck9h7v7b5>

More EU citizens are seeking help for stress and anxiety over Brexit

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/jun/02/eu-citizens-seeking-help-stress-anxiety-brexit>

UK needs more skilled workers from abroad, government told

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/may/29/uk-needs-more-skilled-workers-from-abroad-government-told>

Increase in migration from outside EU needed to plug UK jobs gap

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/home-office-brexit-jobs-workers-migration-advisory-committee-a8934436.html>

Channel migrants: 'Record number' of boats and 74 people intercepted

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-48484017>

75 migrants rescued after clinging all night to fish pen

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-05-30/world/75-migrants-found-clinging-to-fish-farm-rigging-in-mediterranean-czmbqpw2q>

New migrant crossings prompt criticism of Home Office response to influx

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/06/01/new-migrant-crossings-prompt-criticism-home-office-response/>

Migrants hide inside dashboards

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-05-28/world/migrants-hide-inside-dashboards-wn6hn30br>

Home Office labelling child asylum seekers as adults leads to abuse

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/may/29/home-office-labelling-child-asylum-seekers-as-adults-leads-to-abuse>

Immigration unit 'breaches human rights'

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-05-31/news/immigration-unit-breaches-human-rights-qj5rr6qmb>

'At risk' adults held at Dungavel immigration centre

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-48367896>

Dungavel shame: vulnerable refugees detained

<http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/tfn-news/dungavel-shame-vulnerable-refugees-detained>

MSPs demand investigation into reports children still detained in Dungavel

<https://www.heraldsotland.com/news/17678643.msps-demand-investigation-into-reports-children-still-detained-in-dungavel/>

Former England boxer released from immigration centre

<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2019/may/31/former-england-boxer-released-from-immigration-centre-kelvin-bilal-fawaz>

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Equality

New Publication

Ethnic diversity in politics and public life

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN01156/SN01156.pdf>

News

Businesswoman to become first black Oxbridge college head

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/cambridge-sonita-alleyne-first-black-head-oxbridge-jesus-college-a8930886.html>

TOP

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-17454 Fulton MacGregor (SNP): Report by Close the Gap – That the Parliament welcomes the recent launch of the Close the Gap report, *Still Not Visible: Black and minority ethnic women's experiences of employment in Scotland*; recognises that this new research aims to deliver information, statistics and experiences of the inequalities that BME women face in Scotland; notes with concern findings in the report, which show that almost three-quarters of BME women in the workplace have experienced racism, discrimination, racial prejudice and bias, while 42% indicated they had experienced bullying, harassment or victimisation, simply because they were a BME woman; understands that further evidence in the report highlights problems with workplace reporting mechanisms, with over half of the victims choosing not to report a complaint, and with less than a quarter feeling satisfied with how their complaint was handled; considers that this report provides strong evidence that BME women continue to face high levels of racism, racial prejudice and discrimination in the labour market; considers that tackling BME women's labour market inequalities, particularly where there is also wealth- and poverty-related inequality, is a necessary step if Scotland is to realise its ambition for inclusive growth; further considers that this requires transformational change, with policymakers and employers adopting intersectional approaches and targeted solutions, and congratulates Close the Gap on producing this report in the fight to reduce inequality for women from a BME background in the labour market.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-17454>

The report referred to above can be read at

https://www.closesthegap.org.uk/content/resources/1557499847_Still-Not-Visible.pdf

Press Releases

Investigation opened into The Labour Party following complaints about antisemitism

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/news/investigation-opened-labour-party-following-complaints-about-antisemitism>

UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights: briefing notes anti-semitism

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24652&LangID=E>

Speak Up

<https://actiononprejudice.info/speak-up/>

New Publication

Speak Up: A young person's guide to intervening in a hate crime situation

https://actiononprejudice.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/2019/05/Speak-Up_Final_compressed.pdf

News

Muslim Council demands Tory Islamophobia inquiry

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-48434202>

Muslim Council of Britain submits formal complaint to EHRC over Conservative party islamophobia

<https://mcb.org.uk/press-releases/muslim-council-of-britain-submits-formal-complaint-to-ehrc-over-conservative-party-islamophobia/>

Watchdog urged to launch inquiry into Tory Islamophobia

<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2019/may/28/watchdog-urged-to-launch-inquiry-into-tory-islamophobia>

Tories under pressure to suspend councillors over anti-Islam tweets

<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2019/may/30/tories-under-pressure-to-suspend-councillors-over-anti-islam-tweets>

Tory party Islamophobia 'must be investigated by equality watchdog'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/conservative-party-islamophobia-racism-muslim-uk-investigate-tory-a8932851.html>

Equality watchdog launches Labour anti-Semitism probe

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-48433964>

Labour Party under investigation by watchdog over anti-Semitism complaints

<https://www.heraldsotland.com/news/17669104.labour-party-under-investigation-by-watchdog-over-anti-semitism-complaints/>

Equality body launches investigation of Labour antisemitism claims

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/may/28/equality-body-launches-investigation-of-labour-antisemitism-claims>

Labour antisemitism: Equality watchdog launches formal investigation

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/labour-antisemitism-jewish-members-mps-racism-equality-human-rights-commission-a8932876.html>

Watchdog launches inquiry into Labour antisemitism

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-05-28/news/watchdog-launches-inquiry-into-party-bias-against-jews-knpbqc902>

Labour must be investigated for antisemitism before it can call itself an anti-racist party

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-05-29/news/labour-antisemitism-jewish-movement-racism-commission-human-rights-v2qfvs6l0>

Peter Willsman: Labour suspends NEC member over anti-Semitism remarks
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-48472977>

Labour suspends NEC member over antisemitism claims
<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2019/may/31/israeli-embassy-labour-antisemitism-claims-peter-willsman>

Labour chief Peter Willsman suspended over antisemitism
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-05-31/news/labour-antisemitism-crisis-whipped-up-by-israel-says-nec-member-peter-willsman-plzkh8pkr>

Labour embroiled in fresh anti-Semitism row as Corbyn ally accuses Israeli embassy of 'whipping up' allegations
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/05/31/labour-embroiled-fresh-anti-semitism-row-corbyn-ally-accuses/>

Labour Peterborough by-election candidate liked 'Zionist Slave Masters' post
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/team-corbyn-failed-to-investigate-sex-pest-prescott-jr-pf3fzxqb2>

How a radical new form of anti-racism can save Labour
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/may/29/radical-anti-racism-save-labour-antisemitism>

Senior trade unionist urged to apologise over comments about anti-semitism 'witch hunt' film
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17678836.senior-trade-unionist-urged-to-apologise-over-comments-about-anti-semitism-witch-hunt-film/>

Orange Order lose fight to stop rerouting of weekend loyalist marches in Glasgow
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17677677.orange-order-lose-fight-to-stop-rerouting-of-weekend-loyalist-marches-in-glasgow/>

Orange marchers sue council
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17672160.orange-marchers-sue-council/>

Susan Aitken refuses to meet group over marches past Catholic churches
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17666602.susan-aitken-refuses-to-meet-group-over-marches-past-catholic-churches/>

Anti-Semitism row: University of Essex sacks lecturer
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-essex-48438565>

Race hate crimes against children reach 3 year high
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-we-do/news-opinion/race-hate-crimes-against-children-reach-3-year-high/>

Children whitening skin to avoid racial hate crime, charity finds
<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2019/may/30/children-whitening-skin-to-avoid-racial-hate-charity-finds>

Mark Zuckerberg's security chief placed on leave after racism allegations
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/2019/05/31/mark-zuckerbergs-security-chief-placed-leave-racism-allegations/>

Grangemouth schoolboys charged with racist offences
<https://www.scotsman.com/news/crime/grangemouth-schoolboys-charged-with-racist-offences-1-4936911>

Far Right Extremist Admits Arson Attack on Synagogue in Exeter
<https://www.faith-matters.org/2019/05/31/far-right-extremist-admits-arson-attack-on-synagogue-in-exeter/>

La Liga president continues row with Manchester City chairman over suggestions of racism
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2019/05/30/la-liga-president-continues-row-manchester-city-chairman-suggestions/>

FA rule that Sophie Jones had fabricated part of her story to cover up racial abuse
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2019/05/29/fa-rule-sophie-jones-had-fabricated-part-story-cover-racial/>

TOP

Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Ministerial Statement

Next Steps in Scotland's Future

The Cabinet Secretary for Government Business and Constitutional Relations (Michael Russell): Much has happened since late April, when the First Minister set out the Scottish Government's view of the continuing Brexit chaos and of the measures that this Government must bring forward to protect the people of this country.

Last Thursday, Scotland said, loudly and clearly, that it is a European nation and it intends to remain one. It also rejected all attempts to deflect that argument with spurious assertions about other matters and showed its contempt for equivocation. ...

On 11 April, when the European Union threw the United Kingdom a lifeline so that it could avoid a no-deal Brexit, Donald Tusk, the President of the European Council, said to Westminster: "Please do not waste this time".

He has been ignored. Not only has nothing happened to resolve the Brexit impasse, the stalemate looks like lasting for several more months whilst ever more extreme Tory members of Parliament vie with each other to present the most hard-line positions to their party faithful. ...

So let me at the outset make one thing very clear to the Tories at Westminster and the Tories in this chamber. The Scottish National Party manifesto on which we won the Holyrood election in 2016, and on which this Government is founded, said that the Scottish Parliament should have the right to hold another referendum "if there is a significant and material change in the circumstances that prevailed in 2014, such as Scotland being taken out of the EU against our will."

Any deal that takes Scotland out of the EU against the wishes of the majority of people in Scotland has that effect. ...

If a new Tory prime minister attempts a no-deal Brexit, although we will do everything possible to stop it, and everything we can to mitigate it, it will be yet further proof that the

conditions set out in our manifesto in April 2016 have been met in full, and there will be even greater urgency to give Scotland the choice of a different future. ...

I can confirm that despite the chaos that we witness in Whitehall, my colleagues and I will continue to attend intergovernmental meetings with UK and Welsh—and hopefully soon Northern Irish—counterparts. The destination that the Scottish Government wishes for this country is independence, but as we travel towards that, we have a role in helping to improve the structures under which we presently live and work. ...

Let us now turn to the destination and the three areas of activity that the First Minister set out in her April statement.

First, the Referendums (Scotland) Bill was introduced to the Parliament yesterday and has been published this morning. It is hoped that the bill will have completed its parliamentary progress by the end of this calendar year. As the First Minister said in April, it is the intention of the Scottish Government to offer the people of Scotland a choice on independence later in the term of this Parliament. Of course, should circumstances change, we would have the option of seeking Parliament's agreement to proceed on an accelerated timetable. ...

As the First Minister indicated in her statement, at a future date, we intend to negotiate with the UK Government for a section 30 order to put beyond doubt our competence to hold a referendum on independence. ...

The proposed franchise will be based on that used for local government and Scottish Parliament elections, which includes EU citizens and 16 and 17-year-olds. ...

Finally, we have made considerable progress on the creation of a citizens assembly. ...

There is already a lot of interest in and enthusiasm for the assembly. I hope that all parties will welcome and become involved in the initiative ...

To read the full statement see

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12125&i=109668#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Oral Answer

Female Genital Mutilation (Proposed Legislation)

Gillian Martin (SNP): How will proposed legislation on female genital mutilation increase protection for women and girls?

Reply from the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon): I thank Gillian Martin for raising that issue. I am very pleased that we have now introduced the Female Genital Mutilation (Protection and Guidance) (Scotland) Bill, which will increase the protections for women and girls. The new legislation is an important step in the Government's efforts to make Scotland equally safe for women and girls. It will create a new protection order to protect women and girls who may be victims of, or at risk of, FGM and will ensure that ministers issue statutory guidance to public bodies to improve the response to FGM. The bill is part of our wider work through the implementation of our national action plan on ending FGM, which focuses on prevention, protection from harm and the provision of services for women and girls. I hope that the bill will attract the support of members right across the chamber.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12128&i=109721#ScotParlOR>

Press Releases

New law to prevent female genital mutilation

<https://www.gov.scot/news/new-law-to-prevent-female-genital-mutilation/>

Presiding Officer launches Scotland wide tour to strengthen engagement with local communities

<https://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/111915.aspx>

News

Extra protection against female genital mutilation under proposed legislation

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17673599.extra-protection-against-female-genital-mutilation-under-proposed-legislation/>

Sturgeon wants Indyref2 in 'second half of 2020'

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-48424906>

Nicola Sturgeon plans for indyref2 next year

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17667485.nicola-sturgeon-plans-for-indyref2-next-year/>

Nicola Sturgeon calls for independence referendum in second half of 2020

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/nicola-sturgeon-calls-for-independence-referendum-in-second-half-of-2020-1-4935892>

Two MSPs quit Scottish Labour front bench team

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-48435192>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Religious Freedom

Andrew Rosindell (Conservative) [257016] To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, what discussions he has had with Islamic community leaders on freedom of religion and belief; and what steps he is taking to protect individuals accused of apostasy.

Reply from Rishi Sunak: MHCLG regularly discusses matters concerning Freedom of Religion and Belief with all our faith community partners

The right to change religion, as set out in Article 18 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, is absolute and is not subject to any limitations.

The UK has some of the strongest hate crime legislation in the world, which includes protecting people who have been targeted as a result of leaving a faith.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257016/>

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European Parliament Elections

Scottish Parliament Oral Answers

European Elections (Results)

George Adam (SNP): To ask the Scottish Government what its response is to the results of the European elections. (S5T-01676)

Reply from the Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs (Fiona Hyslop): The Scottish Government welcomes the results of the European Parliament elections ... The elections have confirmed that there is overwhelming support in Scotland for remaining in the European Union. It is clear that the results from across the United Kingdom tell a tale of two countries that have different political views, values and visions for the future. ...

George Adam: The cabinet secretary will be aware of the shocking reports of EU citizens in Scotland and the rest of the UK being denied their votes on polling day. What pressure has the Scottish Government put on the UK Government to investigate that scandal? ...

Reply from Fiona Hyslop: Participation in the European Parliament elections in whichever member state they have chosen to live in is a fundamental right of all EU citizens. The Scottish Government is therefore deeply concerned about the difficulties that were encountered by some EU citizens who were denied their right to vote. It is important that we understand that their experience was different in different parts of the country. However, Mr Adam is absolutely right. That challenge had been foreseen and the UK Government could—and should—have done something to ensure that no EU citizens were disadvantaged in exercising their fundamental rights. The Scottish Government has written to the UK Government to call for a full investigation and will share any response with this Parliament at the appropriate time. ...

Patrick Harvie (Green): Is the Scottish Government still committed to legislation that would ensure that the right to vote is based on residence and not citizenship? It seems to me that that is one of the most important things that we can do to address the concerns that Mr Adams raised and which I share about EU citizens being disenfranchised. ...

Reply from Fiona Hyslop: Patrick Harvie is right to raise that fundamental issue. I talked about the rights of citizens, and the legislation that we plan to bring forward recognises the importance of residence in relation to the franchise. I reiterate that it is important that we gather information about different experiences, particularly in different parts of the country—I know that my own council area did not have the same issues that there were elsewhere. That underlines the fact that the issue could, and should, have been tackled, and that it is a disgrace and a scandal that many of our fellow citizens here in Scotland were not able to exercise their fundamental rights.

To read the full question and answer session see

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12122&i=109638#ScottParlOR>

European Union Elections (Disenfranchisement of EU Nationals)

Gail Ross (SNP): To ask the First Minister what actions the Scottish Government is taking to investigate the disenfranchisement of EU nationals who were denied their vote at the recent EU elections. (S5F-03383)

Reply from the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon): The number of EU nationals who appear to have been denied the vote in the European elections last week is nothing short of disgraceful. They are people who live and work here, and this is their home. They had as much right to vote as any of the rest of us had. The issues that arose were clearly a result of insufficient preparation time because of the

prevarication over Brexit and a failure to address concerns that were raised by the Electoral Commission following the European elections in 2014. The fact that the United Kingdom Government appears to have taken no action to address the matter is unacceptable.

The Cabinet Secretary for Government Business and Constitutional Relations wrote to the UK Government in advance of the election warning that this could happen, and he has now written again, calling for a full investigation into the issue to take place.

Gail Ross: In yesterday's statement, the cabinet secretary said that the proposed franchise for any future referendum would rightly include EU citizens and 16 and 17-year-olds. To save confusion or mistakes reoccurring, surely that must be the standard for all elections. Will the First Minister therefore continue to press the UK Government to adopt that system at Westminster or, even better, put full control for holding democratic votes in the hands of this Parliament?

Reply from the First Minister: I certainly agree that we should do the latter but, short of that, I think that 16 and 17-year-olds and EU nationals should have the right to vote in all elections in Scotland. As Mike Russell said yesterday, and as will be covered in separate legislation, we want to extend the right to vote to anybody who is legally resident in this country, regardless of which country they come from. I think that that is fair and a sign of the open, inclusive and progressive country that we want to be. We will continue to press the UK Government on those matters. We should not lose sight of what happened last week. I will not be the only one who spoke to people at polling stations who had been denied their right to vote. I spoke to one constituent who was almost in tears and who felt that this was the final straw with all the stress and anxiety that he has gone through over the past three years. There should be an investigation into the issue, and any necessary steps should be taken to ensure that this disgrace is never allowed to happen again.

Christine Grahame (SNP): I, like many members in the chamber, have constituents who were denied the right to vote, despite having filled in the appropriate UC1 form. I do not have faith in the Westminster investigation. I note what the cabinet secretary has done. Would the Government also consider opening a contact point for EU citizens in Scotland to register with, if they were

Reply from the First Minister: We will certainly give that consideration. As Christine Grahame will be aware, we have established an advice line for EU nationals seeking to apply for the right to remain here after Brexit. It may be that we can do something similar to allow people who were denied the right to vote to register that fact, which would give us the opportunity to understand the scale of the issue. I see that Mike Russell is noting that down; I will ask him to explore that possibility and report back to Christine Grahame once we have had the opportunity to look into it.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12128&i=109722#ScotParlOR>

Press Release

Elections 2019: highest turnout in 20 years

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/eu-affairs/20190523STO52402/elections-2019-highest-turnout-in-20-years>

New Publication

Infographic: European elections 2019: what's next?

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/resources/library/images/20190430PHT43603/20190430PHT43603_original.jpg

News

European Election 2019: UK results in maps and charts

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-48403131>

European Election 2019: Results in maps and charts

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-48417191>

European elections 2019: Brexit Party dominates as Tories and Labour suffer

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-48417228>

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Other News

Children from disadvantaged backgrounds and ethnic minorities 'do less exercise'

<https://www.scotsman.com/health/children-from-disadvantaged-backgrounds-and-ethnic-minorities-do-less-exercise-1-4935933>

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Bills in Progress ** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

** Female Genital Mutilation (Protection and Guidance) (Scotland) Bill

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/111850.aspx>

Bill as introduced

[https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/Female%20Genital%20Mutilation%20\(Protection%20and%20Guidance\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/SPBill47S052019.pdf](https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/Female%20Genital%20Mutilation%20(Protection%20and%20Guidance)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/SPBill47S052019.pdf)

Policy Memorandum

[https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/Female%20Genital%20Mutilation%20\(Protection%20and%20Guidance\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/SPBill47PMS052019.pdf](https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/Female%20Genital%20Mutilation%20(Protection%20and%20Guidance)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/SPBill47PMS052019.pdf)

Explanatory Notes

[https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/Female%20Genital%20Mutilation%20\(Protection%20and%20Guidance\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/SPBill47ENS052019.pdf](https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/Female%20Genital%20Mutilation%20(Protection%20and%20Guidance)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/SPBill47ENS052019.pdf)

Financial Memorandum

[https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/Female%20Genital%20Mutilation%20\(Protection%20and%20Guidance\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/SPBill47FMS052019.pdf](https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/Female%20Genital%20Mutilation%20(Protection%20and%20Guidance)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/SPBill47FMS052019.pdf)

Statements on Legislative Competence

[https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/Female%20Genital%20Mutilation%20\(Protection%20and%20Guidance\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/SPBILL47LCS052019.pdf](https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/Female%20Genital%20Mutilation%20(Protection%20and%20Guidance)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/SPBILL47LCS052019.pdf)

Human Tissue (Authorisation) (Scotland) Bill

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

UK Parliament

Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) Bill

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

Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) (No. 2)

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/asylumseekerspermissiontoworkno2.html>

Banknote Diversity

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

Border Control Bill

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

EEA Nationals (Indefinite Leave to Remain) Bill

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

Gypsy and Traveller Communities (Housing, Planning and Education)

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/gypsyandtravellercommunitieshousingplanningandeducation.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 and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Bill

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

Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill

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

Immigration (Time Limit on Detention) Bill

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

Unauthorised Encampments

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

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

Scottish Human Rights Commission Draft Strategic Plan (closing date 28 June 2019)

<http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/media/1860/strategic-plan-consultation-vfinal-eh.docx>

Online Harms White Paper (closing date 1 July 2019)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/online-harms-white-paper>

**** Use of interpreters in the asylum process** (closing date not stated)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/call-for-evidence-use-of-interpreters-in-the-asylum-process>

Experiences of Islamophobia (closing date not stated)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/amina-islamophobia>

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

Investing in Communities fund

Closing date 14 June 2019

Scottish Government funding to empower communities, enabling them to tackle poverty, inequality and disadvantage on their own terms, in turn supporting inclusive growth. This new fund supports a range of activity through a staged funding approach, enabling communities to:

- build community capacity and strengthen community anchor organisations
- better understand and identify their local aspirations and priorities
- increase active inclusion and develop opportunities for enhanced engagement for groups who are more vulnerable and harder to reach
- create local plans and proposals in collaboration with partners
- prioritise local budgets and access funds
- develop local assets, services and projects that respond to the needs of the people in their communities
- deliver community-led solutions that tackle priorities that matter most to communities; and/or
- develop local interventions which offer opportunities and pathways for social and community integration.

For information see

<https://www.gov.scot/policies/community-empowerment/empowering-communities-fund/>

and for application forms and guidance see

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/investing-in-communities-fund-application-form-and-guidance/>

Diversity Week Activity Fund – Fife

Closing date not stated

Fife Centre for Equalities funding of up to £100 for groups hosting a one-off activity that will take place during Fife Centre for Equalities Diversity Week 2-8 September 2019, and will encourage people to celebrate the diverse population in Fife. For information and to apply see <https://tinyurl.com/y45jmk92>

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Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Volunteers' Week Scotland 2019

1-7 June 2019 (Scotland-wide)

Volunteers' Week is a time to say thank you for the fantastic contribution volunteers make, and recognise their invaluable and diverse contribution to the UK. For information see

<https://www.volunteersweek.scot/>

Windrush Compensation Scheme

11 June 2019 in Glasgow (2.00-4.00)

Home Office event to raise awareness of the Windrush Compensation Scheme, offer practical information about the Scheme, and provide information about how to make a claim. For information see www.scojec.org/memo/files/19vi_windrush.pdf

No Recourse to Public Funds

11 June 2019 in Glasgow

Positive Action in Housing course to help frontline workers identify a tenant's current immigration status, clarify what this means in terms of access to public funds and plan effective support to maintain tenancies where difficulties arise. For information see <http://www.paih.org/training/>

Scotland's Census 2021

11 June 2019 in Edinburgh (10.00-4.00)

13 June 2019 in Aberdeen (10.00-4.00)

18 June 2019 in Glasgow (10.00-4.00)

20 June 2019 in Dundee (10.00-4.00)

National Records of Scotland events to update users about their on-going programme of output development, including geography, microdata, origin-destination data, plans for updating our Scotland's Census website, and the different ways in which they will present data and analysis. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yyd3j23w>

Introduction to Race Equality

12 June 2019 in Glasgow (10.00-3.30)

CRER training to increase understanding of race and racism in the Scottish context, including how racism operates on personal, social and institutional levels, the impact of everyday racism, and rights and responsibilities under equality law. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y3n428wy>

Scotland Welcomes Refugees Gathering 2019

15 June 2019 in Glasgow (10.00-4.30)

Scotland Welcomes Refugees Coalition event connecting welcome groups, grassroots movements, like-minded individuals, and refugees. It will be a family-friendly showcase of international art, music, storytelling, and much more, celebrating the variety of backgrounds that refugees bring to our communities. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y4q2hk57>

Refugee Festival Scotland

20-30 June 2019 (Scotland-wide)

Refugee Festival Scotland celebrates the contribution refugees make to life in Scotland, and offers people from different backgrounds the chance to meet and celebrate together. For information and the full programme see <https://www.refugeefestivalscotland.co.uk/about/>

Launch of Refugee Festival Scotland

20 June 2019 in Glasgow (12.00-2.00)

Celebrate the launch of Refugee Festival Scotland 2019, mark World Refugee Day, and show solidarity and support for people who have been forced to flee their homes. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yyomj8bk>

The Global Compacts – A New Vision for the Future of Migrant and Refugee Protection?

21 June 2019 in Glasgow (11.00-12.00)

UNHCR event providing a short overview of the Global Compact on Refugees and the Global Compact on Migration, both adopted by a majority of UN member states in December 2018. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yywm2bql>

So you say you come from ...? Prove it!

21 June 2019 in Glasgow (11.00-1.00)

Interactive event by The Asylum Project highlighting how easy it can be to fall through the cracks and end up stateless in a hostile environment. For information see <https://www.refugeefestivalscotland.co.uk/events/so-you-say-you-come-from-prove-it/>

Collecting Around Migration: A Glimpse Behind the Scenes at Glasgow Museums

21 June 2019 in Glasgow (2.00-5.00)

Glasgow Museums event highlighting refugee stories at the heart of Glasgow's story. Come along to discover more about how this is being done, or if you or your organisation would like to be a part of shaping this ongoing process. You are invited to bring an object or story that you find meaningful. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y3lfm9v4>

Trafficking and Displacement – Intersections, Gaps and Solutions

21 June 2019 in Glasgow (5.00-6.00)

UNHCR event to explore the link between displacement and trafficking, highlighting initiatives and gaps to addressing vulnerability to exploitation experienced by asylum-seekers and refugees. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y3r6te6k>

The Great Get Together

21-23 June 2019 (Scotland wide)

The Great Get Together is inspired by Jo Cox, who was killed on 16 June 2016. The organisers believe there is a groundswell of people who reject divisive politics and simply want to bring our communities together and celebrate all that unites us. This is our chance. For information and resources see <http://www.greatgettogether.org/take-part/>

Movement of Identity

22 June 2019 in Edinburgh (1.00-4.00)

Young Academy of Scotland event to hear stories of movement, work being carried out by integration networks in Scotland. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y5yah53w>

Talking Prejudice

25 June 2019 in Glasgow (10.00-4.00)

27 June 2019 in Edinburgh (10.00-4.00)

Youthlink Scotland event for youth workers and other practitioners in diverse communities to hear from other professionals about the tools and services available to address hate crime and prejudice. For information about the Glasgow event see <https://tinyurl.com/y2prbudt> and for the Edinburgh event see <https://tinyurl.com/y2f8wnqv>

Home on the Move: the Impact of Immigration Policy on Participation and the Possibilities for Practice

25 June 2019 in Glasgow (11.00-1.30)

Workshop to present research findings about the meaning and importance of 'home' to migrants, refugees and asylum seekers living in Glasgow. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y5utxt84>

Meet the Charity Regulator

25 June 2019 in Troon (1.15-4.00)

28 August 2019 in Dunfermline (1.15-4.00)

25 September 2019 in Glasgow (1.15-4.00)

1 October 2019 in Fort William (9.30-12.15)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator events to give charity trustees and staff the opportunity to hear about latest developments, meet OSCR staff and board and ask

questions. For information see <https://www.oscr.org.uk/news/meet-the-scottish-charity-regulator-2019/>

Author and Subject – People Seeking Asylum and Refuge Affecting Change

25 June 2019 in Glasgow (5.30-7.00)

Event to explore the different ways asylum seekers and refugees use their experiences and voices to positively affect change in their own lives and in the lives of others. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y44krodd>

Housing for Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Europe

26 June 2019 in Edinburgh (5.00-7.00)

Presentation of research by the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow into housing for refugees and asylum. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y43fjpsb>

Come As You Are #Berlin, and Klezmer Ceilidh

27 June 2019 in Edinburgh (7.00-10.30)

30 June 2019 in Glasgow (7.00-10.30)

Contemporary dance performance from Berlin-based dance company TOTAL BRUTAL. It explores what happens when three refugees from Syria try to find their way into the Berlin art landscape: their hopes, dreams and nightmares. For information about the Edinburgh event see <https://tinyurl.com/y5yjggc4>, and about the Glasgow event see <https://tinyurl.com/y42g8yfr>

Gesturing Refugees

27 June 2019 in Glasgow (7.00-8.00)

Interactive performance by Palestinian dancer and choreographer, Farah Saleh and collaborators to archive hidden stories of refugeehood using the bodies of refugee artists and audience members, while playing with other archive material, testimonies and imagination. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yy5xgocf>

Refugee Cycle

29 June 2019 in Glasgow (10.00-4.00)

UNESCO cycle ride. At regular intervals along the route, there will be informative performances and activities. Central themes are (forced) migration, community building and hospitality. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y5ualhd9>

Challenging The Hostile Environment

29 June 2019 in Glasgow (1.00-5.00)

Stand Up to Racism Scotland event about injustices such as the Windrush scandal, and Serco's threat to evict refused asylum seekers in Glasgow. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y5sbt7fa>

Asylum Seeker and Refugee Scholarships

29 June 2019 in Glasgow (4.00-8.00)

Africa Future conference about the benefits for young people and asylum seekers to study in higher education. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y23w6odp>

Refugee Festival Scotland 2019 Football Tournament

30 June 2019 in Glasgow (11.00-4.00)

Football tournament to stimulate the integration of the local community with people from a refugee background. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yyqx75mm>

Lives in Transit: Written Accounts and Artistic Expressions of Refugee Stories

30 June 2019 in Edinburgh (6.00-9.00)

Opening night of an exhibition presenting the experiences of refugees through a display of interviews with refugees now resettled in Scotland. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y5emrnew>

We Are One – Citizenfest

9-10 August 2019 in Glasgow

Festival asserting and celebrating diversity and equality with a programme of events in a variety of city centre venues: celebrating our rights – ethnic, political, minority, and common human rights – through music, seminars, food, drama, talks, art, and much more. For information see <https://www.facebook.com/citizenfestweareone>

Working with refugees and the asylum process

18 September 2019 in Glasgow

31 October 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine why people might need to flee their own country, how they seek asylum in the UK, and what opportunities exist for rebuilding their lives here in Scotland. Reduced fees available for relevant organisations. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/z68a5k8> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Working with unaccompanied refugee children

26 September 2019 in Glasgow

6 November 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to enable service providers to better understand separated children, and how you can help them in their journey. Reduced fees available. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y7mz5uuv> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Working with refugees and VPRS resettlement

2 October 2019 in Glasgow

21 November 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine the issues facing Syrian refugees as they move from countries around Syria to the UK, and highlight the challenges and opportunities they face as they build new lives in Scotland. Reduced fees available. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/zy436gr> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Refugee rights to housing

7 November 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course identifying the different groups of asylum seekers and refugees most likely to seek housing in Scotland, their legal rights, and the duties and obligations on local authorities and other housing organisations towards them. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y9pvpl5r> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Age assessment awareness

13 November 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to give social workers and other relevant staff an awareness of the components that are used to build a picture of a person's age. It draws on a variety of existing Age Assessment practice guidelines and demonstrates how these apply in Scotland. Reduced fees available.

For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y8f2z7p4> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Engaging with seldom heard voices

5 December 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course looking at the various approaches, tools and techniques we can adopt to reach out to people who are seldom heard. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y8tg2x4k> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Refugee community sponsorship

11 December 2019 in Glasgow

For information see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/what_we_do/training or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

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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>

TOP



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