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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 Oral Answers

#### Dungavel House (Children)

**Linda Fabiani (SNP):** To ask the Deputy First Minister what the Scottish Government's response is to reports that children are still being held at Dungavel house. (S5F-03394)

**Reply from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (John Swinney):** If children are still being detained at Dungavel house a decade after the Home Office committed to ending that appalling practice, that would be completely unacceptable and a clear contravention of its stated policy.

The Scottish Government has repeatedly pressed the United Kingdom Government to implement more humane asylum and immigration systems. On 15 May, the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government wrote to the UK

immigration minister to express the Scottish Government's deep concerns following reports about the detention of children and pregnant women at Dungavel house. On 1 April, she wrote to support calls for a time limit on immigration detention. The Scottish Government continues to seek clarity from the Home Office about the detention of children at Dungavel house.

**Linda Fabiani:** I ask the Deputy First Minister to cast his mind back to the Smith commission, all parties to which, as the Smith agreement notes, recommended that the operation of asylum support be devolved. Does the Deputy First Minister agree that having some responsibility for asylum and greater insight into what happens at Dungavel would allow us to better protect vulnerable adults and children, and can he give the Parliament an update on progress towards that recommendation?

**Reply from John Swinney:** I recall the discussions in the Smith commission that Linda Fabiani referred to. As a consequence of them, the Scottish Government had a number of discussions at official level with the Home Office on the commission's proposals on asylum. However, despite the commission's recommendations, the Home Office refused to accept the case for devolving asylum accommodation, financial support and advice or the ability for an asylum claim to be lodged in Scotland so that we could provide for a more dignified and humane system. The fact that we were unable to make progress on something that was agreed by all parties to and participants in the Smith commission should perhaps come as no surprise to us, given that the Home Office has been continually criticised for creating a hostile environment in this area of policy. That serves none of us well, and it is, in my view, a scar on the United Kingdom's reputation for welcoming people who face jeopardy in our world.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12167&i=109916#ScotParlOR>

## Scottish Parliament Written Answer

### Asylum: Young People

**S5W-23268 Anas Sarwar (Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government what procedures are in place within Scottish local authorities to undertake an age assessment of an unaccompanied asylum-seeking young person who has previously been age assessed by another statutory agency in a different geographic location and determined to be an adult when they maintain they are a child.

**Reply from Aileen Campbell:** Each Scottish local authority determines its own approach to age assessment and each case is taken on a case-by-case basis. The key principles are set out in the Scottish Government guidance:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/age-assessment-practice-guidance-scotland-good-practice-guidance-support-social/>.

A person seeking asylum who wishes to dispute an age assessment undertaken by another statutory body can self-refer to the local authority, however in most instances a solicitor or third sector organisation who is supporting a young person will do this on their behalf.

If the young person does not agree with the outcome of an age assessment they can appeal the outcome with the help of a solicitor.

A person looking for legal advice on an immigration or asylum case has the right to the full range of publicly funded legal assistance available in Scotland.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-23268>

## UK Parliament, Ministerial Statement

### Student Finance: EEA and Swiss Nationals

**The Minister for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation (Chris Skidmore)** [HCWS1593] I am confirming that eligibility rules for students from the EEA and Switzerland, and their family members, who commence courses in England in the academic year starting in August 2020 will remain unchanged. EEA/Swiss nationals will remain eligible for home fee status, undergraduate, postgraduate and advanced learner financial support from Student Finance England for the duration of their course under the current eligibility rules. This will provide certainty to providers and their prospective students from the EEA and Switzerland.

This announcement also applies to funding for apprenticeships, advanced learner loans and further education 19-plus.

EEA and Swiss students and staff make an important contribution to our universities and it is testament to our system that so many students from abroad choose to come and study here.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-06-04/debates/19060415000010/StudentFinanceEEAAndSwissNationals>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

### Illegal Seaborne Migration

**Philip Hollobone (Conservative):** To ask the Home Secretary if he will prevent illegal seaborne migration across the short straits of the English channel.

**Reply from the Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes):** The English channel is one of the busiest shipping lanes in the world. Every crossing attempted by migrants, often in unsuitable and very small boats, is life-threatening for those on board. These attempts not only represent a hazard to other vessels but threaten the safety of the Border Force, coastguard and lifeboat crews who come to their rescue. The Government are committed to preventing migrant crossings in small boats. My right hon. Friend the Home Secretary declared a major incident in December last year, and our heightened response remains in place.

In January, the Home Secretary met his counterpart Monsieur Castaner and agreed a joint action plan to tackle seaborne arrivals. He will be speaking to him again later this week. The joint action plan builds on the extensive work we have undertaken in partnership with France over the past few years, including under the 2018 Sandhurst treaty. It demonstrates the strength and depth of our bilateral relationship and both countries' enduring determination to secure our shared border and prevent illegal migration through France. Through measures such as increased surveillance and co-ordination of our joint response via the joint information centre, the plan enhances our robust border security.

The solution is not all about increased surveillance in the UK but also about preventing vessels from leaving France in the first place. We have recently delivered drones and other surveillance equipment to France, enabling its law enforcement officers to intercept and disrupt attempted crossings. We continue to look at a range of tactical options that work on both land and sea. Those attempting to cross should be aware that their efforts will be in vain. Since January, more than 30 people who arrived illegally in the UK in small boats have been returned to France and other member states under the Dublin regulation. We have many more in the pipeline for return.

Finally, we are tackling the organised crime gangs who are exploiting vulnerable and desperate individuals. Only yesterday, a French court sentenced two men to

prison for helping migrants to make the treacherous journey across the channel. The summer months and settled weather will present us with further challenges, but we will continue to work co-operatively with France to secure our borders and seek to prevent further crossings from taking place.

**Philip Hollobone:** ... In December 2018, the Home Secretary declared a major incident and said that countering this illegal migration would be an operational priority for the Home Office. That was in response to 40 illegal migrants who were picked up on Christmas day crossing the short straits. The Home Secretary had to rush back from his Christmas holiday to try to deal with the crisis. Despite what the Minister says, the problem is getting not better, but worse. At the end of May, 74 people—a record number—were intercepted on one day in a record number of boats. Some 140 migrants were picked up in the month of May, the highest number since December. I have no doubt that the Government say that this is an important issue and that they want to tackle it. In a Westminster Hall debate that I held on 30 January, the Minister responded that “we have an absolute duty to protect the border and stop organised crime gangs exploiting vulnerable individuals who want to come here by sending them through the busiest shipping lane in the world. That is why we must stop this incredibly dangerous route becoming the new normal for those wanting to enter the UK illegally.” —[[Official Report, 30 January 2019; Vol. 653, c. 424WH.](#)]

The police have said that trying to cross the short straits is like trying to “cross the M25 at rush-hour on foot”. It is incredibly dangerous for the families and children involved. We must be able to defend our coastline from this illegal immigration.

We are spending some €50 million—we are giving that amount to the French Government—to try to stamp out this migration flow, but it is not working. In 2018, 543 illegal migrants attempted to cross to this country from France. There were 438 in the three months from October to December. Eighty per cent. of them are Iranian, and apart from Germany, we are the biggest recipient of asylum claims from Iran of any EU country. The way to solve the problem is not to throw money at the French, but simply to take these people back to France when they are intercepted at sea. That will stop them attempting the crossing in the first place. If they know that they cannot come here and that they will be taken back to French ports, it will put an end to the horrible trade of human trafficking, which is driving this illegal activity.

The Government have, I am afraid, introduced largely cosmetic measures to show that we are trying to tackle this problem. We have had the Royal Navy offshore patrol vessel, HMS Mersey, bobbing around in the channel while Border Force cutters were being returned from the Mediterranean. Not one asylum seeker was intercepted by the Royal Navy, despite the best efforts of all the sailors. I have huge praise for all the men and women in the Border Force, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, the coastguard and the Royal Navy, who have been doing their best, but the way to solve the problem is for the Government to take a strategic decision that once these people are intercepted at sea they are returned to France. If they make it to our coast, they should be returned under the Dublin regulations. Returning 30 of these poor individuals is simply not enough when over 500 are coming here during any one-year period. Indeed, 35,000 people claim asylum each year and we have returned only 1,186 since 2015. Will the Minister assure the House that we will have not just warm words, but effective action and a change of policy to send these people back to France?

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** ... I reassure my hon. Friend that gold command still meets on a weekly basis and continues to do so, because we have always been conscious that the summer months may well bring better weather that would further incentivise people to make what is an incredibly risky journey.

My hon. Friend talked about Dublin returns, but I am very conscious that in many cases, these people have fallen prey to organised crime gangs. Their journey through Europe is incredibly rapid. There is very little evidence of them being in any camps around the Calais area before they seek to make a crossing, and there is

simply no hit on the Eurodac system to demonstrate that they have been in another EU country before they arrive here. Under those circumstances, one cannot use the Dublin regulation to return them because they have simply not been recorded in another EU member state. More returns are in the pipeline—there have been 30 so far. We continue to work with not just EU member states but countries of origin to make sure that we can make progress in returning people to their home country. My hon. Friend said that surveillance equipment and resources provided to the French were not doing the job and were cosmetic, but far from it. We have provided significant surveillance equipment, including drones, night vision goggles and high-powered wharf lights, to enable the French to redouble their efforts on the beaches. It is important to reflect that the coastline is very long—120 km—and has many sandy beaches and small tracks that enable vehicular access.

The French disrupt about 40% of attempted crossings before they leave the beaches, which is absolutely where the disruption should be taking place; it should not be taking place in the middle of the channel, which is incredibly hazardous for the lifeboat crews, the Border Force cutters, the coastguard and the migrants themselves, who put themselves at incredible risk. We will continue to use our best endeavours to deny the crossings the opportunity to launch, because once they are mid-channel, it must be about preserving life. I do not want to see in the English channel repeats of the scenes in the Aegean, where people have lost their lives in significant numbers, so I make no apologies for making sure that the efforts in the channel are about rescue.

**Dianne Abbott (Labour):** I query the framing of the urgent question, which talks about “illegal seaborne migration”. We cannot know whether these people are genuine refugees until we have had the opportunity to examine their cases. ...

We need to be careful not to be unduly alarmist. We are not being invaded. There is no comparison to D-day, or whatever flights of imagination some of our media resort to. When the issue of asylum seekers crossing the channel last arose, back in February, the Home Secretary was roundly criticised for his comments. He questioned whether the people apprehended were genuine refugees, and he added: “If you somehow do make it to the UK, we will do everything we can to make sure you are ultimately not successful because we need to break the link”.

That is not correct. It does not conform to international law. As I said, no one can possibly know whether every one of these cases is not a genuine claim for asylum. That decision must await the application itself and its examination. What the Home Secretary should have said is that we will do everything to uphold the law, and that means not making assumptions about the people crossing the channel but examining all applications impartially, granting asylum where it is justified and denying it where it is not. Each application must be judged on its individual merit, irrespective of how that person reached this country. That is the law. ...

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** ... I hope I can reassure her that members of this cohort are treated no differently from others on receipt of their asylum claims. We study them in relation to our convention obligations under the human rights charter and, of course, EU regulations and directives.

When we have ascertained that Eurodac hits show that people have previously claimed asylum in another country, we will, of course, seek to return them under the Dublin regulation. As I have said, there have been 30 such cases so far, and there are many more in the pipeline. But the important point, which the right hon. Lady also emphasised, is that these are people in a vulnerable position, and it is absolutely our duty under maritime law to ensure that they are safe at sea. ...

**To continue reading the very lengthy question and answer session in full see**  
<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-06-04/debates/86A563FB-2459-4F6F-918A-3FEAF372756B/IllegalSeaborneMigration>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

### Electoral Register: EU Nationals

**Catherine West (Labour)** [257793] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how many EU citizens were registered to vote in the 2019 local elections.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The Cabinet Office does not hold information on the numbers of European Union nationals resident in the UK who do or do not register to vote in local elections

Estimates of the number of eligible people on the registers for electoral events are published by the Electoral Commission following each poll, but have not previously included a breakdown of the numbers of EU citizens eligible to vote. These reports are available online at: [www.electoralcommission.org.uk](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk)

Each Electoral Registration Officer maintains a register for their own local area. Some headline registration statistics by area are collated and published annually by the Office for National Statistics, however, this does not include a breakdown of the numbers of EU citizens registered to vote. The total number of UK local government electors – which includes EU citizens – in the year to December 2018 was 47.8 million.

The latest bulletin is available at:

[www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/elections/electoralregistration](http://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/elections/electoralregistration)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-23/257793/>

### Health Services: Immigrants

**Louise Ellman (Labour Co-op)** [257498] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what plans he has to suspend charging of migrants using NHS services and to repeal Section 38 and 39 of the Immigration Act 2014; and if he will make a statement.

**Reply from Stephen Hammond:** The Government believes it is only right that people who are not ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom contribute to the costs of National Health Service care they may need whilst visiting or staying here. The Department has no plans to suspend The National Health Service (Charges to Overseas Visitors) Regulations or repeal Section 38 and 39 of the 2014 Immigration Act.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-22/257498/>

### Domestic Abuse: Immigrants

**Jess Philips (Labour)** [257034] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will make it his policy to hold discussions with migrant women survivors of domestic abuse on the draft Domestic Abuse Bill.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** The Government is committed to supporting all victims of domestic abuse and continues to engage with victims, survivors and the sector on this issue.

On 8 March 2018 the Government published the consultation, Transforming the Response to Domestic Abuse, setting out our proposed approach to tackling domestic abuse. The consultation received over 3200 responses from a range of sources including, victims and survivors, support organisations and research experts. The knowledge and expertise extracted from the consultation have informed the measures included in the draft Domestic Abuse Bill and package of non-legislative initiatives.

On 15 May 2019, I, together with the Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes), the Minister of State for Equalities (Baroness Williams of Trafford) and the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of Justice (Edward Argar)

co-hosted a Round Table on migrant women affected by domestic abuse. Representatives from the sector were invited to discuss the issues facing migrant women affected by domestic abuse and the opportunities to tackle these issues. The Home Secretary and I are committed to continue this engagement with domestic abuse survivors and representatives from the sector, to ensure the Bill and supporting programme of work is effective and achieves our aim to transform the Government's response to domestic abuse.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257034/>

### **Immigration: Enforcement**

**Jo Stevens (Labour)** [257765] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people were subject to immigration enforcement action in each of the last five years.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The Home Office does not hold the specific information requested in a reportable format. The department undertakes a wide range of enforcement action. This action includes application of sanctions against individuals and employers, prosecution of foreign national criminals, the disruption of serious and organised crime as well as our work to encourage and enforce the return of those who have no legal right to stay in the UK. The department does publish information on returns. Published returns figures only include those who have been removed not all of those who were subject to immigration enforcement action.

The Home Office publishes the number of returns from the UK, by year in table rt\_01 (returns data tables, volume 1) in 'Immigration Statistics, year ending March 2019', available from the GOV.uk website at:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/803173/returns1-mar-2019-tables.ods](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/803173/returns1-mar-2019-tables.ods).

Further information about Immigration Enforcement activity is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-enforcement-data-may-2019>

As detailed at paragraph 5 in the published information linked above; The Home Office is proposing to review the enforcement data that it publishes in order to ensure it provides a comprehensive overview of the detention and returns system. This will involve a consultation in 2019, where it will invite public views on its proposals.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-23/257765/>

### **Immigration: Equality**

**Stephen Morgan (Labour)** [257047] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the equity of the application process for indefinite leave to remain.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Indefinite leave to remain is a type of leave which can be granted as a result of several application types. We consider the majority of straightforward applications within six months, however where an application is defined as non-straightforward due to complexity, the customer will be written to within the normal processing time to explain why it will not be decided within the normal standard, and to explain what will happen next.

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](http://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/2019-05-21/257047/>

### **Immigration: British National (Overseas)**

**Martyn Day (SNP)** [259333] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many British National (Overseas) Citizens have been refused leave to remain and how many of those refusals were due to applicants exceeding the permitted number of days outside of the UK in each of year since 2010.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Information on grants and refusals of indefinite leave to remain, by nationality, is published in the quarterly Immigration Statistics, Settlement table se\_03 latest edition at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-year-ending-march-2019/list-of-tables>.

Information on the reasons for refusal, as requested, is not in published information.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-03/259333/>

### **Migrant Workers: Dentistry**

**Rosie Duffield (Labour)** [259393] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether the Government plans to exclude (a) dentists and (b) dental nurses from the cap on Tier 2 visas.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** On 6 July 2018, an Immigration Rules change to the Tier 2 (General) cap came into effect, to address particular pressures facing the NHS.

This change exempted doctors and nurses from the cap and freed up more spaces for other sponsored high-skilled occupations, including dentists. Since this exemption, no dentist has been refused a Tier 2 (General) place and the cap has not been breached. There are no current plans to make further changes to the operation of the Tier 2 cap within the current immigration system.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-03/259393/>

### **Visas: Migrant Workers**

**Stephen Timms (Labour)** [258941] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent assessment he has made of the effectiveness of Sopra Steria in handling UK visa applications for migrants living and working in the UK.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** UK Visa and Citizenship Application Service Centres are run by Sopra Steria Ltd (SSL) on behalf of UK Visas & Immigration (UKVI). The new service offered by SSL provides a modernised, digital and more secure process for customers to submit key evidence and personal information.

UKVCAS also provides an opportunity for migrants living and working in the UK to opt for priority services to speed up their application decision and purchase additional, optional services from SSL to enhance the overall experience. UKVI regularly monitor SSL performance through Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) within the contract. Currently SSL are experiencing some demand issues, but I can reassure you that SSL continue to assess customer demand, working closely with UKVI. As a result SSL have recently opened three additional service points in Sheffield, Leeds and Manchester to meet the demand in the surrounding areas. In addition, to increasing the number of service points, SSL are working with the existing network of UKVCAS centres to increase the number of appointments offered to customers to increase overall capacity.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-03/258941/>



## Visas: Applications

**Meg Hillier (Labour Co-op)** [257700] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of UK settlement visa applicants that paid for the priority service received a response within his Department's deadline.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Information on in country premium service applications for settlement visas and processing performance against service standards is published in the Migration Transparency data, table InC07, latest edition at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/in-country-migration-data-may-2019>

Information on overseas premium service applications for settlement visas and processing performance against service standards are not published in the International Operations Transparency data, but the number of out of country settlement applications received and processed within service standards is published in table Visa\_01, which can be found here

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/international-operations-transparency-data-may-2019>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-23/257700/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

## Refugees: Bangladesh

**Imran Hussain (Labour)** [257048] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many refugees from the Kutupalong refugee camp in Bangladesh have made an application to enter the UK since August 2017.

**Imran Hussain (Labour)** [257049] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many refugees from the Kutupalong refugee camp in Bangladesh have entered the UK since August 2017.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The information requested is not published.

The Government of Bangladesh does not currently permit refugees living in refugee camps in Cox's Bazar to leave the camps either for the purpose of making a visa application or to leave Bangladesh to travel to a third country.

The Government has raised this issue of exit permits with the Government of Bangladesh, but the Government of Bangladesh position remains unchanged.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257048/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257049/>

## Refugees

**Alex Norris (Labour Co-op)** [257554] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 29 April 2019 to Question 246569 on Refugees, what plans his Department has to support local authorities prior to an announcement on the future of UK resettlement in maintaining their current capacity to resettle refugees.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The Department continues to engage with local authorities through Strategic Migration Partnerships and through our network of resettlement contact officers. We plan to keep the channels of communication open through established stakeholder fora as our future Asylum and Resettlement Strategy develops, including consideration of the UK's resettlement offer, beyond 2020.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-22/257554/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-23/246569/>

### Libya: Asylum

**Tulip Siddiq (Labour)** [259361] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, pursuant to Answer of 23 May to Question 256340, how many refugees were resettled; and whether those resettled places were additional to existing resettlement quotas.

**Reply from Alan Duncan:** Further to my written answer of 23 May, we are making good progress on the resettlement of the 92 refugees referred for resettlement to the UK by United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees – many of whom have now arrived in the UK. These resettlement places are within existing global resettlement quotas.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-03/259361/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-20/256340/>

### Asylum: Applications

**Kate Green (Labour)** [255321] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many further submissions relating to asylum applications were submitted in each year since 2014.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Home Office records report that, between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2018, a total of 28,953 people lodged Further Submissions after initially having their asylum claim refused.

A breakdown for each year is provided in the table below.

Since March 2015, the Home Office has required non-detained refused asylum seekers to lodge Further Submissions by appointment at the Further Submissions Unit based in Liverpool. The figures in the table note how many people lodged a Further Submission at the Further Submissions Unit, and how many people lodged their submission by a different route, including cases where a Further Submission was raised in detention and cases where a Further Submission is raised during the Family Returns Process.

Table showing breakdown of people who made Further Submissions following refusal of asylum between 2014 and 2018.

Year	Submission not made in person in Liverpool	Submission made in person at Further Submissions Unit in Liverpool	(Total)
2014	-	-	4,521
2015	1,971	2,124	4,095
2016	1,420	3,324	4,744
2017	1,546	5,053	6,599
2018	1,618	7,376	8,994
(Total)	6,555	17,877	28,953

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-16/255321/>

### Asylum: Applications

**Kate Green (Labour)** [255322] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department,

how many further submissions relating to asylum applications were accepted as fresh claims in each year in 2014.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The Home Office publish data on the number of fresh claims in table as\_01 (asylum, volume 1) of the quarterly Immigration Statistics <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release> publication. The latest release covering the year ending December 2018 can be found <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-december-2018>

The figures are also provided below from the latest publication for ease of reference. Please note these totals are not a subset of the information included in response to UIN 255321.

Year	Fresh Claims
2014	552
2015	307
2016	300
2017	214
2018	237

Home Office statisticians have identified some data issues with the published time series on fresh claims, which suggest the figures are undercounting the total number of fresh claims. Work is ongoing to better understand the nature of these issues. As a result it is likely the data will be revised once the issues are resolved.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-16/255322/>

### Asylum: Applications

**Kate Green (Labour)** [255323] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many times has the requirement to submit further submissions in relation to an asylum application in person been waived in each year since 2014.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Our records indicate that a total of 1,677 postal further submissions have been made as a result of the Further Submissions in Person policy being waived (since the introduction of the policy in March 2015). A yearly breakdown of these is provided in table 1 below.

Year	Number of postal submissions
2015	217
2016	306
2017	396
2018	758
(Total)	1,677

#### Notes

1. These statistics have been taken from a live operational database. As such, numbers may change as information on that system is updated
2. Data extracted on 19/05/2019
3. Data relates to main applicants who lodged a postal further submission to Liverpool, between 30/03/2015 and 31/12/2018, who had previously applied for asylum
4. The further submissions in person policy was implemented in Liverpool on 30/03/2015

5. Postal further submissions are lodged when the requirement to lodge in person has been waived

6. The latest reportable period in line with published immigration statistics is 31/12/2018.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-16/255323/>

### **Asylum: Children**

**Jim Cunningham (Labour)** [258977] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department is taking to ensure that the age of child asylum seekers is assessed accurately.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Age assessment is a highly complex and challenging area of work. There is no single method or combination of methods which can accurately predict age.

Where clear and credible documentary evidence of age is not available, criteria including physical appearance and demeanour are used as part of the process to assess whether a person is under 18. When there is doubt about an individual's claim to be a child, Home Office policy is to refer them to the relevant local authority to carry out a careful "Merton" compliant age assessment. A "Merton compliant" age assessment must be carried out by two social workers and should adhere to guidelines set out by the Courts.

The Home Office keeps its policies and processes under review and we remain committed to striking the right balance between ensuring that children who claim asylum are appropriately supported and maintaining the integrity of the asylum system by preventing adults being treated as children.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-03/258977/>

### **Human Trafficking: Children**

**Carolyn Harris (Labour)** [257104] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps he is taking to increase the availability and quality of specialist care and support for child victims of trafficking.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** Independent Child Trafficking Advocates (ICTAs) are an independent source of advice for trafficked children and somebody who can speak up on their behalf.

The Government has successfully rolled out ICTAs to one third of all local authorities in England and Wales, in line with the commitment made in July last year. Where the service is available, all children that are potential victims of trafficking are eligible for support.

The Independent Review of the Modern Slavery Act led by Frank Field, Baroness Butler-Sloss and Maria Miller has recently considered Section 48 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, which makes provisions for ICTAs. The Review's final report can be found

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-review-of-the-modern-slavery-act-final-report>

The Government is currently carefully considering the recommendations of the review on the improvements we can make to the ICTA service, and we remain committed to rolling ICTAs out nationally.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257104/>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

### Illegal Seaborne Migration

*Baroness Williams of Trafford repeated the answer about “Illegal Seaborne Migration” given in the House of Commons by the Minister of Immigration, Caroline Nokes (included under “UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers” above)*

**Lord Kennedy of Southwark (Labour Co-op):** My Lords, can the Minister set out for the House what further action the Government plan to take with our French partners to deal with the criminal gangs that are exploiting these vulnerable people? Of the people who arrive here and are picked up by the authorities having crossed the Channel, how many of them are making asylum applications and what is the timescale now for concluding those applications? Finally, what do the Government expect the commanding officers and crew of ships using this busy seaway to do on sighting small, unsuitable craft attempting to cross the Channel?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** ... Most of the people who cross the Channel do claim asylum and the vast majority of them are Iranian men. He asked what work the UK is doing with the French to address this problem further. I referred to the joint action plan in the Statement. In more detail, it includes: over £6 million, or €7 million, of investment in new security equipment; increased CCTV coverage of beaches and ports; air surveillance, shared intelligence and a mutual commitment to conduct returns as quickly as possible under international and domestic laws. Just over half of that investment will come from the £44.5 million already allocated under the Sandhurst treaty agreement on UK-France co-operation, signed by the PM and President Macron in January 2018. In addition, there is £3.2 million of new funding for equipment and measures to tackle illegal migration by small boats, such as CCTV, night goggles and number plate recognition capability, which I think noble Lords would agree will help the UK and France to crack down on illegal activity. ...

**Lord Paddick (Liberal Democrat):** My Lords, the Statement describes how dangerous the Channel crossing is and says that 30 people have been returned to France and other member states under the Dublin regulation. How many asylum seekers have been allowed to remain in the UK and what is the UK doing to provide safe routes for these people, so that they do not have to risk their lives crossing the Channel? What do the Government intend to do if the UK is no longer a member of the EU, no longer party to the Dublin regulation and no longer able to return asylum seekers to other member states?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** I do not have the actual number for how many asylum claims have been successful but, as I said to the noble Lord, Lord Kennedy, most of the people who arrive claim asylum and we attempt to determine those claims within six months. On the Dublin regulation, clearly we will meet our obligations on asylum for people who claim it in this country. Returns under Dublin actually make up a relatively small proportion of the people who we go on to return, but we will continue to work with the French and other European partners on returns. In terms of safe routes, at the heart of this issue is that people should claim asylum in the first safe country where they arrive and not make dangerous journeys across the Channel, which is of course one of the most congested shipping lanes in the world. It is an incredibly dangerous place in which to be in a small boat. ...

**Lord Swinfen (Conservative):** My Lords, what proportion of these people are Christians and what is being done to help them?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** As I said earlier, the vast majority of the individuals who have attempted to cross the Channel have declared themselves as Iranian. Some who have gone on to claim asylum have declared their conversion

to Christianity. Therefore, I assume that they would have been Muslims converting to Christianity, but I cannot say for definite. However, a number of asylum claims have been based on conversion to Christianity. ...

**To read the lengthy question and answer session in full see**

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2019-06-05/debates/314B4B0E-C7B9-4A39-843C-3419760E43DF/IllegalSeaborneMigration>

## Press Releases

**New framework to improve integration support**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-framework-to-improve-integration-support>

**Home Secretary apologises to members of Windrush generation**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-apologises-to-members-of-windrush-generation>

**Home Secretary and French counterpart discuss illegal migration**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-and-french-counterpart-discuss-illegal-migration>

## New Publications

**Family Integration Practice Guide Improving lives of refugee families in Scotland**

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0001/8790/SRC\\_Guide\\_Practice\\_004\\_.pdf](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0001/8790/SRC_Guide_Practice_004_.pdf)

**Home Office Indicators of Integration framework 2019**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/805870/home-office-indicators-of-integration-framework-2019-horr109.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/805870/home-office-indicators-of-integration-framework-2019-horr109.pdf)

**Home Office Indicators of Integration framework 2019: Theory of Change Guide: notes Part A**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/805872/home-office-indicators-of-integration-framework-2019-theory-of-change-guide-notes-parta.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/805872/home-office-indicators-of-integration-framework-2019-theory-of-change-guide-notes-parta.pdf)

**Home Office Indicators of Integration framework 2019: Applying Theory of Change Guide: notes Part B**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/805873/home-office-indicators-of-integration-framework-2019-theory-of-change-guide-notes-partb.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/805873/home-office-indicators-of-integration-framework-2019-theory-of-change-guide-notes-partb.pdf)

**Theory of change for achieving integration**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/805874/theory-of-change-for-achieving-integration-2019.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/805874/theory-of-change-for-achieving-integration-2019.pdf)

**Home Office Indicators of Integration framework 2019 Toolkit**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/805875/home-office-integration-interactive-toolkit-2019.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/805875/home-office-integration-interactive-toolkit-2019.pdf)

## **Home Office Indicators of Integration framework 2019 Toolkit**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/805881/indicators-of-integration-toolkit.xlsx](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/805881/indicators-of-integration-toolkit.xlsx)

## **Integrating refugees What works? What can work? What does not work? A summary of the evidence**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/805878/intergrating-refugees-2019.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/805878/intergrating-refugees-2019.pdf)

## **House of Commons Briefing Paper: Migration Statistics**

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN06077/SN06077.pdf>

## **The Windrush Scheme**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/807384/windrush-scheme-v3.0-ext.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/807384/windrush-scheme-v3.0-ext.pdf)

## **Updated: Windrush Scheme casework guidance**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/807365/windrush-scheme-casework-guidance-v3.0-ext.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/807365/windrush-scheme-casework-guidance-v3.0-ext.pdf)

## **Update to the HASC on Windrush: 10 June 2019**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/807493/Update to the HASC on Windrush - 10 June 2019.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/807493/Update%20to%20the%20HASC%20on%20Windrush%20-%2010%20June%202019.pdf)

## **An inspection of the Home Office's approach to Illegal Working August – December 2018**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/800641/An inspection of the Home Office s approach to Illegal Working Published May 2018.PDF](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/800641/An%20inspection%20of%20the%20Home%20Office%20s%20approach%20to%20Illegal%20Working%20Published%20May%202018.PDF)

## **News**

### **Tories warn against 'one size fits all' immigration system**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/tories-warn-against-one-size-fits-all-immigration-system-295mj9925>

### **Windrush: Sajid Javid apologises to 49 more victims of scandal**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-48585147>

### **Brexit settlement scheme could give us Windrush part 2**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/eu-settlement-scheme-could-give-us-windrush-pt-2-x6hlzr0kh>

### **Festival chiefs lobby Government over visas**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17689568.festival-chiefs-lobby-government-over-visas/>

### **Edinburgh book festival fears losing star authors to overseas rivals over visa hassles**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/people/edinburgh-book-festival-fears-losing-star-authors-to-overseas-rivals-over-visa-hassles-1-4942713>

### **Edinburgh arts festivals lobby for urgent visa reforms**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/jun/06/edinburgh-arts-festivals-lobby-for-urgent-visa-reforms>

### **Complex visa rules threaten city's festivals**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/complex-visa-rules-threaten-city-s-festivals-rnhn7c0sc>

### **Foreign nurses forced to take jobs as nannies**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/foreign-nurses-forced-to-take-jobs-as-nannies-vdrsgp5w3>

### **No tuition fee rise for EU students starting university in NI**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-48562001>

### **Sajid Javid: make it easier for overseas students to work in UK**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/jun/07/sajid-javid-make-it-easier-for-overseas-students-to-work-in-uk>

### **Seeking asylum: 'Trusting our lives to people smugglers'**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-48464886>

### **Seeking asylum: 'We were told to leave, convert or die'**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-48461147>

### **Cold, alone and scared: teenage refugee tells of Channel crossing**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/jun/09/teenage-refugee-tells-of-channel-crossing>

### **#LiftTheBan National Day of Action in Glasgow**

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/news/3447\\_lifttheban\\_national\\_day\\_of\\_action\\_in\\_glasgow](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3447_lifttheban_national_day_of_action_in_glasgow)

### **Scottish Refugee Council launches new practitioners guide on refugee family integration**

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/news/3448\\_scottish\\_refugee\\_council\\_launches\\_new\\_practitioners\\_guide\\_on\\_refugee\\_family\\_integration](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3448_scottish_refugee_council_launches_new_practitioners_guide_on_refugee_family_integration)

### **Home Office sending modern slavery victims back to addresses where they were abused, lawyers warn**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-modern-slavery-trafficking-victims-abuse-address-immigration-detention-a8937036.html>

### **Man whose wife died after deportation attempt fights removal order**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/jun/06/man-whose-wife-died-after-deportation-bid-fights-removal-order>

### **Gay rugby player facing deportation to Kenya gets reprieve**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/jun/06/gay-rugby-player-ken-macharia-facing-deportation-to-kenya-gets-reprieve>

### **Gay rugby player facing deportation to Kenya gets reprieve from Home Office**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/gay-rugby-player-deportation-kenya-ken-macharia-bristol-bisons-a8947721.html>

### **Home Office accused of 'hypocrisy' after adopting Pride flag while deporting gay rugby player to Kenya**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-gay-pride-asylum-refused-kenneth-macharia-bristol-bisons-a8943376.html>



**I've watched the Home Office terrorise my patients – now it's happening to my family too**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/home-office-windrush-scandal-tory-leadership-sajid-javid-hostile-a8940546.html>

**Crossing Divides - Immigration: Is Britain becoming less anxious?**  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-48545143>

**'We should be ashamed': bearing witness to migrant deaths at sea**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2019/jun/08/migrant-deaths-at-sea-exhibitor-sink-without-trace>

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## Community Relations

### News

**How it feels to... be black in rural Britain, by the author Rachel Edwards**  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/how-it-feels-to-be-black-in-rural-britain-by-the-author-rachel-edwards-p7cjb75>

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## Equality

### Scottish Parliament Motion

**S5M-17631 Mary Fee (Labour): Gypsy Roma Traveller History Month June 2019 –**  
That the Parliament welcomes June 2019 as the annual Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month (GRTHM); understands that every June, Gypsy, Roma and Traveller groups and individuals, alongside partner organisations, celebrate and share the richness of art, culture and history within the community; notes that GRTHM has been celebrated in the UK since 2001; further notes that a range of exciting events are taking place across Scotland in June 2019, which include awareness-raising sessions, family fun days and museum exhibitions; considers that the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community faces challenges of discrimination and inequality, and commends GRTHM as a celebration of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller contributions to Scottish society.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-17631>

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

#### **Fire and Rescue Services: Ethnic Groups**

**Karen Lee (Labour) [257815]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department is taking to increase ethnic diversity in the fire and rescue service.

**Reply from Nick Hurd:** Diversity in fire and rescue services is not an optional extra and Government has been active in driving reform in this vital area.

As well as publishing workforce diversity data, we have established a new

inspection regime which is shining a light on local fire and rescue services. In August 2018 the Home Office launched a national campaign to highlight fire and rescue as a career for underrepresented groups, working with sector leaders who are ultimately responsible for recruitment.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-23/257815/>

## Press Release

**New national strategy to tackle Gypsy, Roma and Traveller inequalities (England & Wales)**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-national-strategy-to-tackle-gypsy-roma-and-traveller-inequalities>

## News

**Increase in ethnic minority honours making little difference on the ground, says Stephen Lawrence Trust boss**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/06/07/increase-ethnic-minority-honours-making-little-difference-ground/>

**Engineer aims to inspire children from minority backgrounds with STEM campaign**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17695657.engineer-aims-to-inspire-children-from-minority-backgrounds-with-stem-campaign/>

**Record ethnic minority students at Oxford**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-48541423>

**The idea that Oxbridge is a bastion of white privilege is simply not true**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/06/09/idea-oxbridge-bastion-white-privilege-simply-not-true/>

**English Football League commit to regulation addressing under-representation of BAME managers**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/football-league/english-football-league-bame-managers-regulations-rooney-rule-a8949081.html>

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## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

#### Religious Hatred: Islam

**Nic Dakin (Labour) [257527]** To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, what steps the Government (a) is taking and (b) plans to take to address Islamophobia in the UK.

**Reply from Heather Wheeler:** We remain deeply concerned at hatred directed against British Muslims and others because of their faith or heritage. This is utterly unacceptable and does not reflect the values of our country.

This Government has done more than any other to tackle Islamophobia and anti-

Muslim hatred. In early March 2019, the Communities Secretary and Home Secretary chaired a high-level roundtable discussion on Islamophobia to hear directly from communities about their concerns. In addition, the Cross-Government Working Group to Tackle Anti-Muslim Hatred plays a critical role as the Government's main forum for discussing issues of concern around Islamophobia and anti-Muslim hatred.

Alongside, we have supported Tell MAMA (Measuring Anti-Muslim Attacks) with over £2.5 million between 2016 and 2020 to monitor and combat anti-Muslim hatred. We have committed £1.6 million for the Places of Worship Security Grant this year, and a further £5 million over three years to support security training for places of worship.

To agree a formal definition of Islamophobia the government will be appointing two advisers, building on the important work already undertaken by the Anti Muslim Hatred Working Group.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-22/257527/>

## UK Parliament Early Day Motion

**Fiona Bruce (Conservative) (2453) UN International Day commemorating the victims of acts of violence based on religion or belief** – That this House welcomes the establishment by the UN General Assembly of the UN International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief on 22 August each year; is deeply concerned that acts of violence based on religion or belief are increasing all over the world and often flourish with impunity; notes the concerning findings of the interim report of the Bishop of Truro's Independent Review for the Foreign Secretary of FCO Support for Persecuted Christians; recognises the dire situation of religious minorities in many parts of the world; calls on the Government to mark the International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief and use the initiative to develop and implement a comprehensive action plan, across Departments to address religious persecution whenever and wherever it occurs; and further calls on the Government to use all its diplomatic powers to combat religious persecution around the world and bring impunity for such atrocities to an end.

<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/52988/un-international-day-commemorating-the-victims-of-acts-of-violence-based-on-religion-or-belief>

## Press Release

**Rising inequalities and harassment as fundamental rights protection falters**

<https://fra.europa.eu/en/press-release/2019/rising-inequalities-and-harassment-fundamental-rights-protection-falters>

## New Publications

**Digital Training: Responding to Hate and Extremism**

<http://www.centreforhatestudies.com/>

**Can Exposure to Celebrities Reduce Prejudice? The Effect of Mohamed Salah on Islamophobic Behaviors and Attitudes**

<https://osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/eq8ca/download>

**European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) conclusions on the implementation of the recommendations in respect of the United Kingdom subject to interim follow-up**

<https://rm.coe.int/interim-follow-up-conclusions-on-the-united-kingdom-5th-monitoring-cyc/168094ce06>

**European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) Fundamental Rights Report 2019**

[https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra\\_uploads/fra-2019-fundamental-rights-report-2019\\_en.pdf](https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2019-fundamental-rights-report-2019_en.pdf)

## News

**Muslim Council asks why Trump banquet excluded Sajid Javid**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/jun/07/muslim-council-asks-why-sajid-javid-was-excluded-from-trump-banquet>

**Sajid Javid was left out of the president's state banquet – another Muslim thrown under the Trump bus**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/sajid-javid-trump-uk-state-visit-banquet-muslim-pakistani-sadiq-khan-a8943551.html>

**Jeremy Corbyn: new MP Lisa Forbes ‘not a racist’ for liking anti-semitic post**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/jeremy-corbyn-new-mp-lisa-forbes-not-a-racist-for-liking-anti-semitic-post-c3vknp0sq>

**Jeremy Corbyn: new Labour MP Lisa Forbes ‘not a racist in any way’**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/jun/08/jeremy-corbyn-new-peterborough-labour-mp-lisa-forbes-not-a-racist-in-any-way>

**New Labour MP ‘must be suspended’**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/new-labour-mp-must-be-suspended-hd6dsxqjw>

**Barry Gardiner: Antisemitism row MP Lisa Forbes ‘should be forgiven over careless tweet’**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/barry-gardiner-antisemitism-row-mp-lisa-forbes-should-be-forgiven-over-careless-tweet-bk2756b7k>

**Labour candidate Lisa Forbes apologises for backing antisemitic post**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/labour-antisemitism-lisa-forbes-apologises-for-backing-post-that-claimed-theresa-may-had-zionist-agenda-qvdl5sbpd>

**Peterborough by-election: Labour urged to disown candidate who endorsed antisemitic Facebook post**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/peterborough-byelection-labour-antisemitism-lisa-forbes-theresa-may-zionist-a8940696.html>

**Shame on the Labour ‘moderates’ who ditched their lofty stance on anti-Semitism at the first hint of power**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/06/07/shame-labour-moderates-ditched-lofty-principles-help-elect-anti/>

**Conservative Cllr John Moss suspended over anti-Muslim Twitter conduct**

<https://tellmamauk.org/conservative-cllr-john-moss-suspended-over-anti-muslim-twitter-conduct/>

**Labour MP Rupa Huq accused of taunting employee over Star of David bag**  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/labour-mp-rupa-huq-accused-of-taunting-employee-over-star-of-david-bag-990d2m08n>

**George Galloway refuses to apologise for alleged anti-Semitic comments**  
<https://www.heraldsotland.com/news/17682387.george-galloway-refuses-to-apologise-for-alleged-anti-semitic-comments/>

**Islamophobia definition raises more questions than answers**  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/islamophobia-definition-raises-more-questions-than-answers-fk3fmms8n>

**TalkRadio sacks George Galloway over 'antisemitic views'**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/jun/03/talkradio-sacks-george-galloway>

**Arrests after Cardiff mosque 'disturbance'**  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-48475598>

**Man arrested after assault at Rhyl mosque**  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-48491937>

**University of Essex academic dismissed after speaking out against setting up Jewish society**  
<https://www.thejc.com/news/uk-news/university-of-essex-academic-dismissed-after-speaking-out-against-establishment-of-jewish-society-1.484848>

**Travellers 'live in squalor after cash is withheld by prejudiced politicians'**  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/travellers-live-in-squalor-after-cash-is-withheld-by-prejudiced-politicians-hddspmljh>

**Pope Francis apologises to Roma for Catholic discrimination**  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-48490942>

**Lecturer sacked over claims he wrote 'racist' on controversial Prevent programme poster**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/sandwell-college-dave-muritu-prevent-poster-racist-university-college-union-petition-a8945161.html>

**Mohamed Salah has caused Islamophobia in Liverpool to fall since joining club, study finds**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/news-and-comment/mohamed-salah-liverpool-islamophobia-muslim-goal-celebration-study-a8943501.html>

**Mo Salah success scores home win against Islamophobia in Liverpool**  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/mo-salah-success-scores-home-win-against-islamophobia-in-liverpool-6dnhtvp0>

**YouTube bans videos promoting Nazi ideology**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2019/jun/05/youtube-bans-videos-promoting-nazi-ideology>

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# Other Scottish Parliament and Government

## Scottish Parliament Written Answers

### Victims of Crime: Ethnicity

**S5W-23375 Annie Wells (Conservative):** To ask the Scottish Government how many people from ethnic minorities have been victims of crime in each of the last five years, also broken down by ethnicity.

**Reply from Humza Yousaf:** The Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) is the main source of evidence on the extent of victimisation in Scotland. It provides information on the proportion of adults experiencing crime, including incidents not reported to the police, rather than the number of victims.

Results from the SCJS on the proportion of adults experiencing crime over the last five years, broken down by ethnicity, and any changes in the victimisation rate over time are shown in Table 1. The sample sizes for each group are shown in Table 2. SCJS results are not released for groups where the underlying sample size is less than 50. As such, some groups must be aggregated in order to provide results by ethnicity – although where possible more detailed breakdowns are provided. Survey results are estimates with associated margins of error, rather than precise values. Generally where sample sizes are smaller the margin of error around results is larger. Statistical tests are used to assess whether apparent differences between results are statistically significant. There was no SCJS conducted in 2013-14 or 2015-16

The SCJS finds: In 2017-18, an estimated 15.2% of adults from minority ethnic groups experienced crime, unchanged from 2012-13 – the apparent decrease from 18.0% is not statistically significant.

In 2017-18, the estimated proportion of adults from each ethnic minority group experiencing crime was no different to the proportion of White Scottish adults who were victims of crime – any apparent differences shown in Table 1 are not statistically significant.

Table 1: Proportion of adults experiencing crime by ethnicity.

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	Percentage point change 2012-13 to 2017-18		Percentage point change 2016-17 to 2017-18	
White – Scottish	17.00%	N/A	14.40%	N/A	13.40%	12.80%	-4.3	*	-0.6	
White - Other British	15.20%	N/A	13.70%	N/A	12.00%	10.40%	-4.8	*	-1.6	
White – Other (i and ii combined)	18.70%	N/A	16.70%	N/A	12.10%	10.40%	-8.3	*	-1.6	
(i) White Polish	21.70%	N/A	20.60%	N/A	16.40%	12.40%	-9.3		-3.9	
(ii) All other white groups	17.70%	N/A	14.90%	N/A	10.20%	9.70%	-8	*	-0.5	
Minority Ethnic (iii and iv combined)	18.00%	N/A	16.30%	N/A	18.50%	15.20%	-2.9		-3.3	
(iii) Asian	15.80%	N/A	16.00%	N/A	14.10%	18.60%	2.8		4.5	
(iv) All other ethnic groups	23.30%	N/A	16.70%	N/A	25.50%	10.20%	-13.1	*	-15.3	*
Total	16.90%	N/A	14.50%	N/A	13.40%	12.50%	-4.5	*	-1	

Source: Scottish Crime and Justice Survey, 2012-13 to 2017-18

1. Statistically significant changes over time are indicated by ‘\*’.

2. The ‘All other white groups’ sub-group contains: people who identify as Irish, Gypsy/Traveller or ‘any other white ethnic group’.

3. The ‘All other ethnic groups’ sub-group contains adults who identify as having a mixed or multiple ethnic background and adults who describe their ethnicity as: African, Caribbean or Black, Arab or ‘other’ (i.e. their ethnicity is not listed in the pre-defined answer options).

Table 2: Sample sizes for results shown in Table 1

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
White - Scottish	9657	N/A	8932	N/A	4343	4199
White - Other British	1533	N/A	1531	N/A	725	725
White – Other (i & ii combined)	521	N/A	625	N/A	281	343
(i) White Polish	132	N/A	183	N/A	78	92
(ii) All other white groups	389	N/A	442	N/A	203	251
Minority Ethnic (iii and iv combined)	318	N/A	364	N/A	210	197
(iii) Asian	208	N/A	210	N/A	115	105
(iv) All other ethnic groups	110	N/A	154	N/A	95	92
Total	12045	N/A	11472	N/A	5567	5475

Source: Scottish Crime and Justice Survey, 2012-13 to 2017-18

1. The ‘All other white groups’ sub-group contains: people who identify as Irish, Gypsy/Traveller or ‘any other white ethnic group’.

2. The ‘All other ethnic groups’ sub-group contains adults who identify as having a mixed or multiple ethnic background and adults who describe their ethnicity as: African, Caribbean or Black, Arab or ‘other’ (i.e. their ethnicity is not listed in the pre-defined answer options).

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-23375>

### Police Custody: Ethnic Minorities

**S5W-23378 Annie Wells (Conservative):** To ask the Scottish Government how many people from ethnic minorities in police custody have been recorded as having (a) self-harmed, (b) been assaulted, (c) been identified as having assaulted other prisoners, (d) been involved in violence involving other prisoners and (e) died by suicide in each of the last five years, also broken down by ethnicity.

**Reply from Humza Yousaf:** This question seeks Police Scotland data, which is not held by the Scottish Government.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-23378>

## Press Release

**Major new initiative to get more women into politics announced**

<https://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/112051.aspx>

## New Publication

**Video: What qualifications do you need to become an MSP?**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G8UioEBteo&feature=youtu.be>

## News

**Scottish Parliament failing to live up to its potential, warns David Mundell**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/scottish-parliament-failing-to-live-up-to-its-potential-warns-david-mundell-1-4940058>

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## Other UK Parliament and Government

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

#### Organs: Donors

**Meg Hillier (Labour Co-op)** [257701] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps his Department is taking to encourage organ donation in BAME communities.

**Reply from Jackie Doyle-Price:** Shortages of organs for transplant are relevant to people from all backgrounds but are particularly acute for black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) patients, who are more likely to need an organ transplant. The Department launched a campaign in July 2018, delivered by NHS Blood and Transplant, with support from the National Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic Transplant Alliance, to increase donation rates by raising awareness and breaking down barriers to donation within these communities. A toolkit for hon. Members is available at the following link:

<http://bit.ly/bameODtoolkit>

As part of the campaign, funding was made available for a community investment scheme and in January 2019, 25 projects were successful in sharing £140,000 in funding to break down myths and barriers and increase support for organ donation among BAME communities. Organisations representing Jain, Sikh, Hindu, Muslim, Swahili, black and Asian Christians, black African and Caribbean and multi-faith groups received funding for their projects.

In addition, the Organ Donation (Deemed Consent Act) 2019 will be introducing a new system of consent for organ and tissue donation in England, from 2020, to help increase the number of donors. In April, NHS Blood and Transplant launched a 12-month communication campaign before the law comes into force, to raise awareness of the changes and the options available under the new system. The campaign will target BAME communities and campaign materials have been developed to resonate with different audiences and communities. NHS Blood and Transplant also plans to translate the leaflet containing details of the new law into different languages. NHS Blood and Transplant will be seeking the support of various BAME communities and faith and belief organisations to spread the campaign message.

From 2020, health education will become compulsory in all state-funded primary and secondary schools. This will include the teaching of the science relating to blood, organ and stem cell donation.



*The following three questions all received the same answer*

**Religious Buildings: Security**

**Imran Hussain (Labour)** [257052] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to his oral statement of 7 May 2019 on Places of Worship: Security Funding, Official Report, column 468, whether places of faith other than places of worship will qualify for funding for the Ramadan Package.

**Imran Hussain (Labour)** [257054] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to his oral statement of 7 May 2019 on Places of Worship: Security Funding, Official Report, column 468, whether places of worship will be required to demonstrate proof of a previous attack to qualify for the Ramadan Package.

**Imran Hussain (Labour)** [257055] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to his oral statement of 7 May 2019 on Places of Worship: Security Funding, Official Report, column 468, how much funding his Department has allocated to date from the Ramadan Package.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** Following the attacks in New Zealand, we recognised the increased security anxieties being felt by mosques as we approach Ramadan. A security training scheme commenced on the 5 May. We originally committed to 12 workshops but following significant interest we have agreed to fund an additional 10 workshops during Ramadan.

These workshops have been open to faith leaders and have not been restricted to those who have experienced a previous hate crime. We have also made available funds to pay for the distribution of written advice to mosques, community centres and madrassahs. This is a short-term project for which we have awarded grant funding of £74,725 that will sit alongside the wider £5m fund that has been announced for security training for all faiths.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257052/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257054/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257055/>

*The statement referred to above can be read at*

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-05-07/debates/21C4190A-5CAB-43DA-8360-AA944753E549/PlacesOfWorshipSecurityFunding>

**Religious Buildings: Security**

**Imran Hussain (Labour)** [257053] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of the security funding for places of worship has been allocated to protect (a) Mosques and (b) other Muslim places of faith since 2016.

**Victoria Atkins:** Over its first three years, the Places of Worship protective security scheme has approved grants worth approximately £1.5m to 134 places of worship. During that time, Ministers have approved 49 grants to mosques worth £638,906.34.

Following the Finsbury Park terror attack in June 2017, we also announced a £1m fund to protect vulnerable faith institutions. Under this scheme, we approved funding to 38 faith institutions including 19 mosques and one Muslim community centre. These grants were worth over £260,000.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-21/257053/>

## Press Release

**Eid al-Fitr 2019: PM Theresa May's message**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/eid-al-fitr-2019-pm-theresa-mays-message>

## New Publication

**Scottish Affairs Committee Report: The relationship between the UK and Scottish Governments**

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmscotaf/1586/1586.pdf>

## News

**Tory leadership: Final 10 contenders named ahead of race to No 10**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-48584011>

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## European Parliament Elections

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

#### EU Parliament Elections: Denial of Votes

**Cat Smith (Labour):** To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office if he will make a statement on why non-UK EU citizens were denied their right to vote in the European parliamentary elections.

**Reply from the Parliamentary Secretary, Cabinet Office (Kevin Foster):** ... Electoral registration officers are under a statutory duty to ensure that people who are eligible to vote in elections have the opportunity to do so. For the recent European Parliament elections—as for all previous such elections—that included making sure that EU citizens who are resident in the UK and registered to vote in local elections were made aware that they needed to complete a voter registration and declaration form, commonly referred to as a UC1 or EC6, so they could vote in the UK. The Electoral Commission supported EROs in this and encouraged them to take additional steps to raise awareness of this requirement locally, through social media channels and other means.

The UC1 form implements a requirement under EU law. EU Council directive 93/109/EC requires all member states to send the details of any EU citizens' declarations to the state they are a citizen of, "sufficiently in advance of polling day", to ensure that an EU citizen does not vote twice in the same European parliamentary election. That is not a new requirement and has been in place for previous European parliamentary elections. Similar provision applies to UK citizens living in other EU member states. The UC1 form was accessible on the websites of the Electoral Commission, local authorities and Your Vote Matters.

On 5 April, the Electoral Commission published guidance for local returning officers

and EROs on the upcoming European parliamentary elections. In it, the Electoral Commission reminded EROs to prepare and issue UC1 forms to EU citizens on the electoral register. On 3 May, the Electoral Commission published guidance advising EU citizens to avoid registering to vote using unofficial registration sites. The guidance further stated: “Any EU citizen who wants to vote in the European Parliamentary election in the UK must also print, complete and return a declaration form stating that they will only vote in the UK.”

The guidance also included a link to the Your Vote Matters website, where the form could be downloaded.

**Cat Smith:** The numbers of non-UK EU citizens who were reportedly denied a vote in the European elections should be a source of shame for the Government. We are talking about people who live and work here and who contribute to our communities, yet for the past three years they have been insulted, exploited, asked to apply to stay in their own homes and now denied a voice in an election that has massive implications for their futures. Have the Government learned nothing from the Windrush scandal about the consequences of shutting citizens out of public life?

After the previous set of European elections, the Electoral Commission warned that we needed to streamline the two-step registration process, like other European countries have done. Why did the Government refuse to listen? They buried their head in the sand in respect of the elections, even at the eleventh hour when it was clear that the House was not going to pass their botched Brexit deal. The Opposition repeatedly warned that EU nationals were not given enough time and notice. We put forward reasonable requests that could have been adopted to mitigate the risks, such as ensuring that EU citizens were handed a copy of the form when they voted in local elections and extending the deadline by a week to ensure that the forms could be returned.

What was the Government’s response? It was to tell EU citizens to vote in their own country. Not only did that add to the anger and sense of exclusion that many felt, but it was asking people to register to vote in a country that they may not have lived in for decades and where voting registration may well have closed. Does the Minister acknowledge how insulting that was? Will he apologise to those affected? Campaign groups have already raised more than £40,000 to fund a legal challenge; have the Government assessed whether their actions were compliant with the law? The failure to act made this democratic disaster sadly inevitable. In the light of the overwhelming evidence, will the Government conduct a full and urgent investigation?

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** We have to be clear that the process was exactly the same as what was required back in 2014 and 2009. The legal structure for how the vote takes place has not changed.

On the deadlines referred to, I can remember having a discussion with the shadow Minister about whether it would be possible to change the registration date, but that would have run up against the clear requirement that we have to share the declarations “sufficiently in advance of polling day”.

That means sharing them in advance of polling day, not just a day or two before, to allow registers to be completed in home nation states. To be clear, this process has been in place for some years.

I accept the point that obviously people did not necessarily expect the EU elections to happen, given the result of the referendum and the fact that 80% of the people who voted in 2017 did so for parties that had pledged to respect the referendum result—something we have not seen much evidence of on the Opposition Benches. The Electoral Commission will review the European elections, as it reviews any other electoral event, and will look into any issues raised. As a responsible Government, we will of course consider carefully what the Electoral Commission says. ...

***To continue reading the very lengthy question and answer session in full see***

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-06-04/debates/36C6819E-6C6C-479C-9C25-AF786465E08E/EUParliamentElectionsDenialOfVotes>

The Guidance for local returning officers referred to above can be read at [https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/163589/EPE-RO-Part-A-Returning-Officer-role-and-responsibilities.pdf](https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/163589/EPE-RO-Part-A-Returning-Officer-role-and-responsibilities.pdf)

The Guidance for EU citizens referred to above can be read at <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/journalist/electoral-commission-media-centre/to-keep/eu-citizens-urged-to-avoid-unofficial-electoral-registration-websites>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### European Parliament: Elections

**Catherine West (Labour)** [259363] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, whether he plans to launch (a) a review or (b) an official inquiry into the efficacy of the voter registration process for EU nationals following 2019 European elections.

**Madeleine Moon (Labour)** [259087] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, if he will launch an inquiry into why some EU citizens were prevented from voting in the 2019 European elections.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The Government took all the legal steps necessary to prepare for the European Parliamentary elections and put in place all the legislative and funding elements to enable Returning Officers to make their preparations required for the polls.

In line with their statutory duty, the Electoral Commission will be publishing a report into the administration of the polls later this year, which the Government will carefully consider in due course.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-03/259363/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-03/259087/>

*The following three questions all received the same answer*

### European Parliament: Elections

**Catherine West (Labour)** [259365] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how many EU nationals completed the UC1 form to enable them to vote in 2019 European elections.

**Madeleine Moon (Labour)** [259088] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what estimate he has made of the number of EU citizens who were prevented from voting in the European Elections held on 23 May 2019.

**Hilary Benn (Labour)** [259007] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what estimate he has made of the number of EU citizens on the electoral register and living in the UK who were denied the right to vote in the 2019 European elections; and if he will make a statement.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The Government took all the legal steps necessary to prepare for the European Parliamentary elections and put in place all the legislative and funding elements to enable Returning Officers to make their preparations required for the polls on 23 May

Electoral Registration Officers are responsible for administering elections at the local level. They are also under a statutory duty to ensure people who are eligible to vote in elections have the opportunity to do so and are supported by the Electoral Commission in delivering these functions

The Electoral Commission encouraged EROs to take additional steps to raise awareness of this requirement locally, through social media channels and other means.

The Electoral Commission supported EROs in the discharge of this function. It issued guidance on the 4th April which recommended that EROs should identify EU citizens who are on the local government register and send them a declaration form and supporting information explaining how they can declare their intent to vote in these elections in the UK should they wish to.

In line with their statutory duty, the Electoral Commission will be publishing a report into the administration of the polls later this year.

Figures on the number of individuals completing forms or details relating to the processing of those forms are not held centrally by the Government.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-03/259365/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-03/259088/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-03/259007/>

### **European Parliament: Elections**

**Madeleine Moon (Labour)** [259085] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, if he will undertake a review of the requirement for EU citizens to fill in a UC1 or EC6 form in order to participate in the 2019 European elections.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** It is the Government's intention to respect the 2016 referendum result and leave the European Union with a deal as soon as possible, meaning we will not participate in future European Parliamentary elections.

The Electoral Commission will produce a review at the recent European Elections and the Government will consider its conclusions.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-03/259085/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **European Parliament: Elections**

**Madeleine Moon (Labour)** [259086] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what assessment he has made of the adequacy of the information communicated to EU citizens on the requirement for them to fill in a UC1 or EC6 form in order to participate in the 2019 European elections.

**Madeleine Moon (Labour)** [259089] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what steps his Department took to ensure that local authorities communicated with EU citizens on the need to fill in a UC1 or EC6 form in order to participate in the 2019 European elections.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The Government took all the legal steps necessary to prepare for the European Parliamentary elections and put in place all the necessary legislative and funding elements to enable Returning Officers to make their preparations required for the polls on 23 May

Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) are under a statutory duty to ensure people who are eligible to vote in elections have the opportunity to do so. For the recent European Parliamentary elections that included making sure relevant citizens of the EU who are resident in the UK and registered to vote in local elections were made aware they needed to complete a voter registration and declaration form (commonly referred to as a UC1 or EC6 form) in order to enable them to vote.

The Electoral Commission supported EROs in the discharge of this function and

encouraged them to take additional steps to raise awareness of this requirement locally, through social media channels and other means.

The Electoral Commission supported EROs in the discharge of this function. It issued guidance on the 4th April which recommended that EROs should identify EU citizens who are on the local government register and send them a declaration form and supporting information explaining how they can declare their intent to vote in these elections in the UK should they wish to.

In line with their statutory duty, the Electoral Commission will be publishing a report into the administration of the polls later this year.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-03/259086/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-03/259089/>

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## New Publication

**Guiding the Development of the Charities SORP: Report and Recommendations**

<https://www.oscr.org.uk/media/3566/guiding-the-development-of-the-charities-sorp.pdf>

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## Other News

**Charity SORP [Statement of Recommended Practice] must change to meet “new public expectations”, review panel says**

<https://www.oscr.org.uk/news/charity-sorp-must-change-to-meet-new-public-expectations-review-panel-says/>

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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>

Equality Impact Assessment

<https://tinyurl.com/yxjqmma6>

Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment

<https://tinyurl.com/y54kke64>

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

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

Bill as amended at Stage 2

<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdnep.azureedge.net/published/DPLR/2019/6/5/Human-Tissue--Authorisation---Scotland--Bill--as-amended-at-Stage-2/DPLRS052019R32.pdf>

Revised Explanatory Notes

[https://www.parliament.scot/S5\\_Bills/Human%20Tissue%20\(Authorisation\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/SPBill32AENS052019.pdf](https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/Human%20Tissue%20(Authorisation)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/SPBill32AENS052019.pdf)

Stage 3: proposed amendments

[https://www.parliament.scot/S5\\_Bills/Human%20Tissue%20\(Authorisation\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/SPBill32AMLS052019.pdf](https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/Human%20Tissue%20(Authorisation)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/SPBill32AMLS052019.pdf)

SPICe Briefing: Stage 3 Proceedings

<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdnep.azureedge.net/published/2019/6/10/The-Human-Tissue--Authorisation--Scotland--Bill---Stage-3-Proceedings/SB%2019-35.pdf>

## 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

**\*\* closes 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!**

### **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](http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/19vi_windrush.pdf)

**\*\* this week!**

### **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/>

**\*\* this week!**

### **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/yvd3j23w>

**\*\* this week!**

### **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>

**\*\* this week!**

### **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/yywm2bgl>

## **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/y42q8yfr>

### **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/yygx75mm>

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/what_we_do/training) or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / [martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto: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>

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



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



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

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