



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

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

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The Scottish Parliament is in recess until 2 September.

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Motions

S5M-18078 Kenneth Gibson (SNP): Home Office Should Allow Lizanne Zietsman Leave to Remain That the Parliament notes with concern the decision by the Home Office to refuse Lizanne Zietsman, who is a South African national but now lives in Corrie on the Isle of Arran, the right to remain in the UK; further notes that Lizanne has lived with her husband, John Malpas, a UK citizen, on the island since 2016 but is now expected to leave the UK by 12 July 2019; is aware that Lizanne, together with her husband, owns and operates the Sandwich Station, which is one of the island's most popular eateries; is concerned by what it sees as the Home Office's callous assertion that Mr Malpas can simply relocate to live with Lizanne in South Africa, given that the couple's assets are all invested in Scotland and that there are no guarantees that he would be permitted a visa to live in South Africa; is further concerned that the Home Office has, it believes, stated that Lizanne lived in South Africa until the age of 34, which it considers is not the case as

she has provided travel history documents that confirm that she was born in Zimbabwe and only travelled to South Africa on occasional holidays; recognises what it sees as the invaluable social and economic contribution that Lizanne has made to the island over the past few years; deeply regrets what it considers the hostile environment that the UK Government has created for people who choose to live, work and build their lives in Scotland, and recognises the calls from many people in Arran and beyond for the UK Government to allow Lizanne the right to remain in the UK and continue living and working on the Isle of Arran.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-18078>

UK Parliament Debates

English for Speakers of Other Languages

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-07-03/debates/56F90AB8-4172-407E-82EC-D239B0BBE294/EnglishForSpeakersOfOtherLanguages>

Tier 5 Religious Worker Visas

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-07-04/debates/B7C7BF26-85F9-4650-893E-43341AB6583A/Tier5ReligiousWorkerVisas>

UK Parliament, Ministerial Statement

Windrush Generation: Compensation Scheme

The Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sajid Javid): [HCWS1693] The Government deeply regret what has happened to some members of the Windrush generation and when I became Home Secretary I made clear that responding to this was a priority. The compensation scheme I launched in April is a key part of this response.

The compensation scheme has been open to receive claims since April 2019 and the Home Office is now in a position to start making payments.

Specific legislation to give direct financial authority for payments made under the scheme will be brought forward to Parliament when parliamentary time allows. In the meantime, it is lawful for the Home Office to make payments for compensation scheme claims, without specific legislative authority for this new expenditure. As Home Secretary I am able to consider other factors, including the sound policy objectives behind the scheme and the importance of righting the wrongs suffered by the Windrush generation.

I have therefore written to the permanent secretary today formally directing him, as accounting officer for the Home Office, to implement the compensation scheme for the Windrush generation and to ensure that compensation payments can be made pending the passage of the legislation. The exchange of letters relating to this direction can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/correspondence-on-the-work-of-the-home-office-windrush>. This direction has been issued on the basis of regularity.

I am committed to providing members of the Windrush generation with assurance that they will be appropriately and promptly compensated where it is shown that they have been disadvantaged by historical Government policy. A direction to proceed is therefore optimal to ensure the Government are acting in the best interests of affected members of the Windrush generation.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-07-04/debates/19070413000010/WindrushGenerationCompensationScheme>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answer

Prime Minister's Questions

Vernon Coaker (Labour): Eve Leadbeater, a constituent of mine, and Lord Dubs arrived on the Kindertransport 80 years ago this week. Is it not important that we learn from history? Three years after Lord Dubs's amendment to the Immigration Act 2016 gave 480 places to child refugees, only 220 of the places have been filled. Is it not important for the thousands upon thousands of child refugees in camps across Europe and the middle east that we honour that pledge and allow 1,000 child refugees to come into our country each year for the next 10 years, so that we can turn the rhetoric, the crying, the care and the compassion for those child refugees into a public policy that actually meets their needs and does something about their suffering? [911712]

Reply from the Prime Minister: I do not know about the hon. Gentleman's constituent, but I know that Lord Dubs came here on the Kindertransport organised by my late constituent, Sir Nicholas Winton. We as a country can be proud of everything we have done to help refugees and other vulnerable children who are affected by conflict, violence and instability. Since the start of 2010, we have provided asylum or an alternative form of protection to more than 34,600 children, and we have granted family reunion visas to an additional 26,000.

We are determined to continue these efforts. We have introduced a new form of leave exclusively for children brought to the UK from the Calais camps, so that they can continue to rebuild their lives with families in the UK. That Calais leave will grant those who qualify the right to study, to work, to access public funds and healthcare and to apply for settlement after 10 years. We have a proud record of helping refugees, and we will continue with that proud record.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-07-03/debates/5A86E5BB-2661-4F48-B38C-F33FDCF84499/Engagements#contribution-8426985E-7EE5-42E3-9FCB-9067EE9E3115>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Immigrants: Suicide

Vince Cable (Liberal Democrat) [269604] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what information his Department holds on immigrants who have died by suicide within the first three years of moving to the UK.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the Authority to reply. ...

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) publishes suicide rates for the UK, constituent countries, regions and local authorities in England and Wales in an annual bulletin which can be found on the ONS website¹. The information we hold on deaths is limited to what is recorded at death registration, which is based primarily on the death certificate by a doctor or information about the cause and circumstances of the death provided by a coroner. We are unable at present to provide figures specifically on suicide in immigrants, since information on the deceased's immigration status or their previous addresses is not among the particulars generally recorded.

¹ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/bulletins/suicidesintheunitedkingdom/2017registrations>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-26/269604/>

Suicide: Ethnic Groups and Immigrants

Vince Cable (Liberal Democrat) [269605] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and

Social Care, what recent assessment his Department has made of the suicide risk among (a) immigrants and (b) each ethnic minority group.

Reply from Jackie Doyle-Price: Ethnicity and immigration status is not recorded at the time of death registration so this information is not available.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-26/269605/>

Courts: Translation Services

Yasmin Qureshi (Labour) [271430] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what estimate he has made of the (a) number of court cases rescheduled due to problems with interpreting or translating services and (b) additional cost incurred from that rescheduling in each of the last three years.

Reply from Paul Maynard: The Ministry does not hold central data for all jurisdictions and hearing types in which interpreters are used and to manually review each case would incur disproportionate costs. However, central information does exist on the number of trials listed in the criminal courts which were adjourned as a result of interpreters being unavailable. This data is published in Criminal Court Statistics.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-court-statistics>

A table detailing such occurrences over the last three years for which data is available is copied below.

Year	Crown Courts			Magistrates' Courts		
	Number of trials	Adjourned due to interpreter availability	% of trials adjourned due to interpreter availability	Number of trials	Adjourned due to interpreter availability	% of trials adjourned due to interpreter availability
2016	37,339	30	0.10%	149,423	495	0.30%
2017	34,579	29	0.10%	136,962	423	0.30%
2018	29,583	17	0.10%	123,023	495	0.40%

As the associated costs for HMCTS of rescheduling trial cases will vary, depending on whether other work was able to be heard in that courtroom, this information is not held centrally.

The department continues to monitor its language service contracts closely and work with the suppliers to drive improvements and reduce the cost on the taxpayer. The Language Service contract has achieved a fulfilment rate of 97% over the first quarter of 2019.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-01/271430/>

Legal Aid Scheme

Marcus Fysh (Conservative) [270423] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many and what proportion of applications for legal aid in relation to (a) family law mediation costs and (b) immigration cases were successful since 2016.

Reply from Paul Maynard: Mediation for family law cases is already available under Part I of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (LASPO).

The department recently conducted an extensive review of LASPO and has announced several changes as part of the Legal Support Action Plan. These included expanding the scope of legal aid in family law to cover representation for

special guardianship orders and placement orders.

Data is not held on successful cases, but the Legal Aid Agency does hold data on cases that have started (and are funded by legal aid). These statistics are included below for both family law mediation and immigration cases for the last three years:

Financial Year	Family Mediation starts
2016-17	7,611
2017-18	6,302
2018-19	6,515

Note: 'Proportion started' data is not held for family mediation matters, as the application process and decision on whether to grant funding is devolved to the solicitor in question (the provider).

Legal aid in cases involving Immigration				
Legal help		Civil representation		
Financial Year	Grants	Applications	Grants	Proportion granted
2016-17	29,111	1,904	1,404	74%
2017-18	26,609	1,596	1,203	75%
2018-19	28,821	1,535	1,155	75%

Legal help is assistance short of representation.

Note: 'Proportion granted' data is not held for Legal Help matters, as the application process and decision on whether to grant funding is devolved to the solicitor in question (the provider).

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-27/270423/>

Migrant Workers: Qualifications

Chris Ruane (Labour) [266100] To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, with reference to the IPPR report Measuring the benefits of integration: The value of tackling skills underutilisation published 18 June 2019, what assessment her Department has made of the number of migrants in the UK employed in positions for which they are overqualified.

Reply from Alok Sharma: The department has made no assessment of the number of migrants in the UK employed in positions for which they are overqualified.

We are working closely with the Department for Education, Mayoral Combined Authorities/Local Enterprise Partnerships, learning providers and employers to develop Local Industrial Strategies and implement Skills Advisory Panels within local areas which will help achieve a better balance between skills supply and labour market demand in local areas.

We are building evidence to develop an understanding of what works to support people on Universal Credit, who are working, to progress. One of the ways in which people can progress is to consider their skills and abilities. We wish to ensure that claimants make good decisions that are right for them, as well as understanding their barriers and support needs. Our programme of research and testing seeks to deliver this evidence to help us support people to reach their potential.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-18/266100/>

The report referred to above can be read at

<https://www.ippr.org/files/2019-06/measuring-the-benefits-of-integration-june19.pdf>

Migrant Workers: Physiotherapy

Ruth Jones (Labour) [269751] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he plans to change the minimum earnings limit for physiotherapists renewing a work visa to increase the number of physiotherapists working in the NHS.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government values the important work that physiotherapists do for the NHS. The current Tier 2 system, through which physiotherapists can be recruited, ensures that experienced workers are paid the higher of either a minimum of £30,000 or the 'going rate' for this occupation, the latter of which is based on data provided by the Office for National Statistics. This system is designed to ensure that migrants are paid a fair wage and that the resident workforce is not undercut.

However, we have been clear that decisions on the future immigration system should be based on clear evidence. That is why, on 24 June 2019, the Government asked the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to consider the issue of minimum salary thresholds in more detail. As part of this new commission, we have asked the MAC to look at a number of issues including the approach to calculating salary thresholds, the levels at which they should be set, the case for greater regional variation and the impact of exemptions from minimum salary thresholds. This report is due by January 2020.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-26/269751/>

UK Visas and Immigration: Standards

Rosie Cooper (Labour) [270731] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether UK Visas and Immigration policy is to consider all claims within six months.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Information on the percentage of UK Visa and Immigration applications considered within published service standard by application type are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data#uk-visas-and-immigration>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-28/270731/>

UK Visas and Immigration: Biometrics

Jo Stevens (Labour) [271540] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of trends in the availability of appointments at UK Visa and Immigration biometric services in each year from 2016 to 2019.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: It is not possible to assess trends in availability of appointments at UK Visa and Immigration biometric services in each year from 2016 to 2019. In 2016, applicants to UKVI did not make an appointment to provide biometrics to UK Visas and Immigration. UKVI sent a letter to customers which asked them to attend a branch of Post Office Limited at a convenient time, within 7 working days.

From November 2018, the UK Visa and Citizenship Application Service (UKVCAS) was launched. This new service requires applicants to make an appointment. Appointments are available for free in 6 major cities, and there are an additional 56 local user-pay service centres located in libraries, and 1 premium lounge.

In March 2019, the Service and Support Centres (SSCs) began capturing biometrics, again requiring an appointment to be made. There are seven SSCs located in major cities in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-01/271540/>

UK Visas and Immigration: Biometrics

Jo Stevens (Labour) [271542] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment his Department has made of the potential for local spikes in applications for UK Visa and Immigration biometric services by international students.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Sopra Steria Limited (SSL) deliver the UK Visa and Citizenship Application Services (UK VCAS) on behalf of UK Visas & Immigration (UKVI).

UKVI are currently working closely with SSL, and in consultation with the education sector, to plan effectively for the increase in student applications in the Autumn. To manage the high volume of applications successfully, SSL plan to take the following measures:

- Increasing capacity at core and enhanced service points during the surge period
- Student-only appointment days at some service points including the Premium Lounge
- University-hosted enhanced service points
- Customised services for smaller institutions

UKVI have provided SSL with historical data based on in country demand for student applications to assist planning and will work with the education sector to extend the period for making applications.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-01/271542/>

Visas: Fees and Charges

Hywel Williams (Plaid Cymru) [268417] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reason his Department decided to charge visa applicants £5.48 for email inquiries.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The £5.48 email charge is levied to fund the UKVI contact centre commercial contract as the UK government believes it is right that those who use and benefit directly from the UK immigration system make an appropriate contribution towards meeting the costs of it. This email charge includes the initial e-mail enquiry plus any follow-up e-mails to and from the contact centre relating to the same enquiry.

The international charge (£5.48 per email enquiry) was introduced on 1st June 2017 as part of the UKVI Contact Centre operations contract awarded to SITEL UK Ltd. Those who use the services are predominantly from outside the UK. Our web site www.gov.uk is the main source of information and advice and is free of charge. Further details of the financial arrangement in place between the Home Office and SITEL UK Ltd for the provision of Contact Centre Services (UK and International) is not available due to it being commercially sensitive.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-24/268417/>

Visas: Fees and Charges

Hywel Williams (Plaid Cymru) [268420] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many visa or settlement applicants paid for the priority service in 2018; and how many of those applicants received a response within one working day.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Home Office published information on in-country applications performance is available at

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

The Home Office does not publish information on the out of country Priority and Super Priority visa service. Published information on the international visa operation is available at

<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/2019-06-24/268420/>

Overseas Students: English Language

Paul Farrelly (Labour) [270313] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the news article, Foreign students demand home secretary put things right after thousands targeted in cheating scandal, published by the Independent on 27 June, if he will make it his policy to undertake a review of his Department's decision not to allow a right of appeal for students accused of cheating in English language tests; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Parliament legislated to amend the appeals system in the Immigration Act 2014 so that an appeal only arises where a claim raising asylum, humanitarian protection or human rights is refused, where protection status is revoked and for deprivation of citizenship. Similar provisions are set out in the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2016. Given the passage of time, many of those refused on the basis of alleged cheating in English language tests will now have arguable human rights claims. Even if refused, these will normally generate an in-country right of appeal.

The Home Secretary is considering the findings of the National Audit Office report in response to cheating in English language tests. He will then make a statement to Parliament.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-27/270313/>

The article referred to above can be read at

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/foreign-students-cheating-scandal-english-language-tests-home-office-sajid-javid-a8975886.html>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [271538] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate he has made of the number of applications that have been (a) received, (b) concluded and (c) turned down for the EU Settlement Scheme at 31 May 2019.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The second official statistics – ‘EU Settlement Scheme Statistics, May 2019’ – on the operation of the scheme were published on 20 June 2019, including applications received and decisions made to 31st May 2019. These can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics-may-2019>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-07-01/271538/>

Information about the EU settlement scheme, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [270376] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 20 June 2019 to Question 267306, if he will place in the House of Commons Library a copy of any (a) minutes of meetings where the decision to exclude tax credit records was discussed or made and (b) equality impact assessment conducted to inform that decision.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The purpose of the automated checks is to help the applicant establish their continuous residence in the UK. Eligibility to receive

benefits is not dependent upon being continuously resident in the UK. Benefits except Job Seekers Allowance and Maternity Allowance on their own are not strong indicators of continuous residence unless receipt of them persists over a period of 12 months. There are also overlaps with other data that is available from the checks. For instance, PAYE data covers most applicants who claim working tax credits and receipt of other benefits included in the checks will overlap with receipt of child tax credits. Child Benefit is not included in the automated checks because it is not a sufficient indicator of continuous UK residence. A full explanation of how the automated checks work has been published at

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/eu-settlement-scheme-uk-tax-and-benefits-records-automated-check>.

Following analysis conducted on an anonymised sample of 10,000 applications submitted under the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2006, the Home Office estimated that the potential pool of resident EEA citizens who might benefit from tax credits data being included in the automated checks was around two per cent and this was before any consideration of the applicability of that data to proving continuous residence. Individuals who need to rely on tax credits to demonstrate their continuous residence are still able to provide documentary evidence of this as part of their application.

In accordance with section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, we have had due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-27/270376/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-20/267306/>

The following three questions all received the same answer

Immigration: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [269726] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 25 June 2019 to Question 267306 on Immigration: EU Nationals, what estimate he has made of the number of applicants for whom tax credit records would be relevant.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [270744] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to pages 9-10 of the Memorandum of Understanding between his Department and the Department for Work and Pensions and to pages 12-13 of the Memorandum of Understanding between his Department and HMRC, for what reasons automated residency checks will not check applicants' records on child benefit.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [270745] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to pages 9-10 of the Memorandum of Understanding between his Department and the Department for Work and Pensions and to pages 12-13 of the Memorandum of Understanding between his Department and HMRC, whether automatic residency checks will give equal weight when calculating length of residence to evidence of (a) one month of employment and (b) one month of claiming housing benefit, employment support allowance, carer's allowance, personal independence payments, disability living allowance, income support, incapacity benefit, attendance allowance, severe disability allowance and/or universal credit.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The purpose of the automated checks is to help the applicant establish their continuous residence in the UK. Eligibility to receive benefits is not dependent upon being continuously resident in the UK. Benefits except Job Seekers Allowance and Maternity Allowance on their own are not strong indicators of continuous residence unless receipt of them persists over a period of

12 months. There are also overlaps with other data that is available from the checks. For instance, PAYE data covers most applicants who claim working tax credits and receipt of other benefits included in the checks will overlap with receipt of child tax credits. Child Benefit is not included in the automated checks because it is not a sufficient indicator of continuous UK residence. A full explanation of how the automated checks work has been published at

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/eu-settlement-scheme-uk-tax-and-benefits-records-automated-check>.

Following analysis conducted on an anonymised sample of 10,000 applications submitted under the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2006, the Home Office estimated that the potential pool of resident EEA citizens who might benefit from tax credits data being included in the automated checks was around two per cent and this was before any consideration of the applicability of that data to proving continuous residence. Individuals who need to rely on tax credits to demonstrate their continuous residence are still able to provide documentary evidence of this as part of their application.

In accordance with section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, we have had due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-26/269726/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-28/270744/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-28/270745/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-20/267306/>

The Memorandum of Understanding referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/790668/Home_Office_-_DWP_API_EU_Exit_MoU.PDF

The following four questions all received the same answer

Immigration: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [270377] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applicants to the EU Settlement scheme are recorded as being (a) male and (b) female in relation to the outcome of their applications.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [270378] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what data fields are processed by the EU Settlement scheme that are protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [270379] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reasons data disaggregated by protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 is not included in his Department's monthly official statistics on the operation of the EU Settlement Scheme.

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [270380] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 14 May 2019 to Question 252534, what steps his Department is taking to monitor the compliance of the operation of the EU Settlement Scheme with the public sector equality duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The second official statistics – 'EU Settlement Scheme Statistics, May 2019' – on the operation of the scheme were published on 20 June 2019, including applications received by nationality and constituent parts

of the UK. These can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics-may-2019>

The Home Office is committed to publishing more detailed quarterly statistics on the EU Settlement Scheme, alongside our Immigration Statistics, from August 2019. Home Office statisticians and officials are currently considering the content and will take into account the views of statistics users.

The application process for the EU Settlement Scheme collects data on the applicant's date of birth, nationality and, where appropriate, marital or civil partnership status. Other data on protected characteristics may be processed as part of the application.

In accordance with the public sector equality duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the Government continues to have due regard to the impacts of the EU Settlement Scheme on those who share a protected characteristic. A Policy Equality Statement, which sets out the Government's consideration of the impacts of the scheme on those who share such a characteristic, will be published shortly.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-27/270377/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-27/270378/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-27/270379/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-27/270380/>

Information about the EU settlement scheme, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [270743] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 11 June 2019 to Question 261210, how many applicants who have asserted in their application that they have been continuously resident in the UK for more than five years have been granted pre-settled status to date.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: All applicants granted pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme will have agreed that they have been continuously resident in the UK for less than five years either in the application or, post-submission, in discussion with a caseworker.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-28/270743/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-06/261210/>

Information about the EU settlement scheme, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Andrea Jenkens (Conservative) [270461] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the adequacy of application rates in the EU Settlement scheme.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: On 10 June 2019, the Home Secretary confirmed that more than 800,000 applications had been received under the EU Settlement

Scheme and that almost 700,000 of these had been granted status.

The second official statistics – ‘EU Settlement Scheme Statistics, May 2019’ – on the operation of the scheme were published on 20 June 2019, including applications received by nationality and constituent parts of the UK. These can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics-may-2019>.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-27/270461/>

Information about the EU settlement scheme, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Dawn Butler (Labour) [270727] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the status is of his Department's internal investigation into the causes of the Windrush scandal; and when he plans to publish the final report of that investigation.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: This is an independent review being led by Wendy Williams, and its independence is crucial to its effectiveness. We are committed to providing Wendy with the time and resources needed to conduct her review to make sure that we learn from, and right the wrongs of the past.

The Department has not yet received Wendy Williams' Lessons Learned Review. On receipt it will be published as soon as practicable.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-28/270727/>

Refugees

Rupa Huq (Labour) [268562] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the potential merits of (a) allowing child refugees to sponsor their close family and (b) changing the definition of family to include young people over the age of 18 and elderly people over the age of 65 so that families can be reunited in the UK.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government provides safe and legal routes to bring families together through its family reunion policy. This allows a partner and children under 18 of those granted protection in the UK to join them here, if they formed part of the family unit before the sponsor fled their country.

There is currently no provision in the Immigration Rules for children with refugee status in the UK to sponsor family members to join them. Allowing children to sponsor parents would create further incentives for more children to be encouraged, or even forced, to leave their family and risk hazardous journeys to the UK to sponsor relatives. This plays into the hands of criminal gangs who exploit vulnerable people and goes against our safeguarding responsibilities.

Our policy makes clear that there is discretion to grant visas outside the Immigration Rules, which caters for extended family members in exceptional circumstances – including young adult sons or daughters who are dependent on family here and living in dangerous situations.

Refugees can also sponsor adult dependent relatives living overseas to join them where, due to age, illness or disability, that person requires long-term personal care that can only be provided by relatives in the UK.

The Government is listening carefully to calls extend refugee family reunion policy and we will continue our productive discussions with stakeholders on this complex and sensitive issue. However, any changes must support the principle that those who need protection claim in the first safe country they reach – and use safe and legal routes to come here.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-24/268562/>

Refugees: Universal Credit

Afzal Khan (Labour) [270446] To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, whether refugees resettled under the resettlement scheme will be subject to the two-child limit for universal credit.

Reply from Alok Sharma: Refugees resettled under resettlement schemes are able to work and have access to some DWP benefits upon arrival.

In the same way as other claimants, they are included in the policy not to provide extra benefit entitlements for more than two children unless those children were born before 6 April 2017 or an exception applies.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-27/270446/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

English Language: Education

Nic Dakin (Labour) [268466] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps he is taking to improve access to English for Speakers of Other Languages for refugees.

English Language: Refugees

Nic Dakin (Labour) [269044] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what plans he has to invest in ESOL provision for (a) refugees and (b) migrants.

Reply from Anne Milton: The government recognises that learning English is essential to enabling refugees to rebuild their lives. The government has committed to developing a new strategy for English for speakers of other languages in 2019. The strategy will provide a shared vision for all publicly funded English language provision, including addressing the needs of refugees and migrants. Funding for all programmes beyond 2019/20, including any potential funding for this strategy, will be set during the upcoming Spending Review.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-24/268466/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-25/269044/>

English Language: Education

Alex Sobel (Labour Co-op) [270447] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, whether the Department plans to increase funding for ESOL to ensure that all refugees can access a minimum of eight hours a week of formal accredited English language teaching for their first two years in the UK.

Reply from Anne Milton: The government recognises that learning English is essential to enabling refugees to rebuild their lives. The department supports adults in England through the Adult Education Budget (AEB) to secure the English language skills that they need. The Home Office and the Department for Education have also provided £10 million to enable refugees resettled through the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme to access additional classes. The government has committed to developing a new strategy for English for speakers of other languages in 2019. Funding for all programmes beyond 2019/20, including any potential funding for this strategy, will be set during the upcoming Spending Review.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-27/270447/>

Refugees: Families

Madeleine Moon (Labour) [270742] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 9 May 2019 to Question 250458, in what exceptional circumstances there is discretion to grant visas outside the Immigration Rules for extended family members.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Where a refugee family reunion application does not meet the requirements of the Immigration Rules, caseworkers must consider whether there are any exceptional circumstances or compassionate factors which may justify a grant of leave outside the Immigration Rules. We revised our guidance in 2016 to include more detail on the types of case that may benefit from a visa outside the Rules, this includes young adult sons or daughters who are dependent on family here and living in dangerous situations.

Specifically, exceptional circumstances or compassionate factors apply where a refusal would either breach the right to respect for family life under Article 8 of the ECHR or result in unjustifiably harsh consequences for the applicant or their family. It is for the applicant to demonstrate what the exceptional circumstances or compassionate factors are in their case. Each case must be decided on its individual merits.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-28/270742/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-05-02/250458/>

Refugees: Children and Young People

Alex Sobel (Labour Co-op) [269802] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what support his Department provides to local councils to ensure that young refugees are protected by an adequate level of safeguarding.

Reply from Nadhim Zahawi: Under the Children Act 1989, local authorities are required to provide services for children in their local areas for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting their welfare, this includes children who are refugees. 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (2018) clarifies the core legal requirements for how agencies work together to keep children safe, including responding to their needs.

Some children arrive in the country as unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. Under section 20 of the Children Act 1989, local authorities are under a statutory obligation to provide accommodation for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. This means that they become looked-after children and receive the same safeguards and services as any other looked-after child.

The government recognises that unaccompanied asylum-seeking and refugee children can be some of the most vulnerable in our society. The government's vision and additional commitment to care for these children is set out in the 'Safeguarding Strategy for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking and Refugee Children'. The government has also published statutory guidance on the 'Care of Unaccompanied Migrant Children and Child Victims of Modern Slavery' to help local authorities to care effectively for these children.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-26/269802/>

"Working Together to Safeguard Children", referred to above, can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779401/Working_Together_to_Safeguard-Children.pdf

The Safeguarding Strategy referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/656425/UASC_Safeguarding_Strategy_2017.pdf

“Care of unaccompanied migrant children and child victims of modern slavery”, referred to above, can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/656429/UASC_Statutory_Guidance_2017.pdf

Asylum: Iraq

Fiona Bruce (Conservative) [269707] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate he has made of the number of (a) Yazidis and (b) Christians from Iraq that have been granted asylum in the UK since 2014.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: I refer the Hon. Member to my answer of 3rd June 2019: The Home Office are unable to report on how many Yazidis and Christians from Iraq were granted asylum in the UK in each year since 2014, as the basis of a person’s asylum claim is recorded on their individual Home Office file, but not in a way that can be easily aggregated.

The Home Office do publish data on those who have been granted asylum in the UK in each year since 2014, broken down by country of nationality, including those from Iraq. The latest published release can be found in tab as_01 at volume 1 of the quarterly Immigration Statistics release:

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

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-26/269707/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-03/259171/>

Asylum: Yazidis

Matthew Offord (Conservative) [269712] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people who identify at Yezidi have been granted asylum under the Syrian Refugee Programme.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The UK’s resettlement programmes follow the humanitarian principles of impartiality and neutrality, which means that we resettle on the basis of needs identified by UNHCR through their established processes, rather than on the basis of ethno-religious origin

In order to protect the privacy of those being resettled we limit the amount of information about them that we make publicly available. We therefore do not routinely publish a religious and ethnic breakdown of those who have been resettled.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-26/269712/>

Asylum

Edward Davey (Liberal Democrat) [268352] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many reporting locations there are for asylum seekers in each local authority area.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Asylum seekers are not required to report to the Secretary of State unless they have had a negative decision or if they have previously been encountered in breach of the Immigration rules

The majority of individuals on reporting conditions are required to report to one of the 14 reporting centres in a Home Office location. Additional reporting currently

takes place in police stations in some of the areas not close to a reporting centre.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-24/268352/>

Asylum

Edward Davey (Liberal Democrat) [268353] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what his policy is on increasing the number of reporting locations for asylum seekers.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: There are currently no plans to increase the number of reporting locations. In some areas of the UK where there are no Reporting Centres, the Home Office require individuals on reporting conditions to report to Non-Home Office locations (Police Stations).

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-24/268353/>

Health Services: Undocumented Migrants

Jim Cunningham (Labour) [269628] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what estimate he has made of the number of undocumented immigrants who have died after they were denied care because they were unable to pay the costs upfront.

Reply from Stephen Hammond: The Department does not hold this information. National guidance is clear that immediately necessary or urgent care should never be withheld or delayed for reasons to do with eligibility or payment. Whether care is urgent is a decision only a clinician can make and on a case-by-case basis, informed by national guidance.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-26/269628/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Immigrants: Detainees

Edward Davey (Liberal Democrat) [268348] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people were detained (a) in total and (b) for more than 24 hours in short-term holding facilities at (i) Heathrow and (ii) Gatwick airport in the last 12 months for which figures are available.

Detention Centres

Edward Davey (Liberal Democrat) [268349] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what progress has been made implementing the recommendations of the Independent Monitoring Boards to improve conditions in short-term holding facilities.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Home Office management information indicates there were 19,434 detentions at the short-term holding facilities at Heathrow airport between June 2018 and May 2019. Of this number, 136 people were detained for more than 24 hours. For the same period 8,386 detentions were recorded in the short-term holding facilities at Gatwick airport, and of these 74 people were detained for more than 24 hours. This is provisional management information that has not been assured to the standard of official statistics.

Independent Monitoring Boards (IMBs) provide vital scrutiny of short-term holding facilities and help ensure that they provide a secure and humane detention environment. IMBs publish annual reports and the Government responds with a published action plan. The Government has responded to the 2018 annual report for the North and Midlands Independent Monitoring Board for short-term holding facilities and will be responding to the 2018 annual reports for Heathrow Airport, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Larne, and Port of Dover short-term holding facility Independent Monitoring Boards in due course.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-24/268348/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-24/268349/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Immigrants: Detainees

Edward Davey (Liberal Democrat) [268350] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people currently in Immigration Removal Centres claim to be under 18 years old.

Edward Davey (Liberal Democrat) [268351] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what his policy is on detaining in Immigration Removal Centres people who claim to be under 18 years old but whose age is disputed by his Department.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government ended the routine detention of children in immigration removal centres in 2010. Current Home Office policy maintains this position. However, although many asylum seekers who claim to be children do not have any definitive documentary evidence to support their claimed age, the Home Office does not treat an individual as an adult when there is doubt about whether they are an adult or a child. In cases where new information comes to light or concerns are raised, which indicate that a person who has been detained as an adult may be a child, we would seek to release them in to the care of local authority children's services at the earliest safe opportunity for an age assessment and they will be treated as a child whilst the outcome is awaited.

The Home Office publishes information on the number of children in detention on the last day of each quarter. The data is available in the detention tables (dt_13_q) in the latest release of 'Immigration Statistics, year ending March 2019', available from the Home Office website at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/803188/detention-mar-2019-tables.ods.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-24/268350/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-24/268351/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Alison Thewliss (SNP) [269746] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much the Government has paid in compensation and settlement to persons wrongfully held in immigration detention in each of the past five years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Compensation costs for wrongful detention are published and can be found via the following links

FY 2018-19 - page 105

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/807126/6.5571_HO_Annual_Report_201920_WEB.PDF

FY 2017-18 – page 9

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

For FY 2016 and earlier financial periods

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-03-06/131262/>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-26/269746/>

Detention Centres: Operating Costs

Alison Thewliss (SNP) [269747] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the operating cost of the immigration detention estate has been in each of the last five years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Detention costs are published in the Home Office's Annual Report and Accounts and they can be found via the following links

FY 2018-19 – page 135:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/807126/6.5571_HO_Annual_Report_201920_WEB.PDF

FY 2017-18 – page 124:

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

FY2016/17 - page 115:

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

FY2015/16 - page 132:

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

FY2014/15 – page 124

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/441282/HO-AR15_web.pdf

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-26/269747/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

The following three questions all received the same answer

Visas: Overseas Visitors

Lord Collins of Highbury (Labour) [HL16455] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many individuals were refused visas to travel to the UK for the DfID Safeguarding Summit in October 2018.

Lord Collins of Highbury (Labour) [HL16456] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many individuals were refused visas to travel to the UK for Wilton Park events in 2018.

Lord Collins of Highbury (Labour) [HL16457] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many individuals were refused visas to travel to the UK for the Global Disability Summit in July 2018.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: This information requested is not published. Attending meetings, conferences and seminars are all allowed under the Visitor Rules. UKVI has in place engagement teams who can work with event organisers ahead of events to support them through visa processes. Event organisers can approach UKVI directly, we also identify organisers through engagement with other government department and external Stakeholders.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-18/HL16455/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-18/HL16456/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-18/HL16457/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Immigration: Children

Lord Russell of Liverpool (Crossbench) [HL16565] To ask Her Majesty's Government, following the report by the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration An inspection of the policies and practices of the Home Office's Borders, Immigration and Citizenship Systems relating to charging and fees, published on 4 April, what progress they have made in reviewing the level of fees for children's nationality and immigration applications and the fee waiver process; and when they expect to announce any decision on that matter.

Lord Russell of Liverpool (Crossbench) [HL16566] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to ensure that they make timely decisions following their review of the effects of charging of fees for children's nationality and immigration applications, regardless of any potential delay in the Comprehensive Spending Review.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Home Office keeps its fees for immigration and nationality under regular review, including those for children's nationality and immigration applications, and changes to individual charges need to be made with a view to maintaining the overall purpose of the fees and charging legislation.

The Home Office included its response to the Chief Inspector's recommendations around fee waivers, in its formal response which can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/response-to-an-inspection-of-home-office-bics-policies-and-practices-relating-to-charging-and-fees>

These recommendations have been partially accepted and the Home Office has recently reviewed and updated its fee waiver policy. In addition, the Home Office has invested in recruitment and continued process improvement and also engaged with Local Authorities on how better to identify and, where required, prioritise fee waiver applications from those who are most vulnerable. Current fee levels and policies remain under consideration at this point in time.

[Response - Inspection of HO Bics Policies](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-20/HL16565/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-20/HL16566/>

Oppression

The Lord Bishop of Coventry [HL16494] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of what constitutes persecution of groups of people.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government defines persecution as an act that is sufficient serious in nature and repetition as to constitute a severe violation of basic human rights. Such acts could be perpetrated against individuals or groups of people.

The definition is contained in the Refugee or Person in Need of International Protection (Qualification) Regulations 2006, which reflect the Refugee Convention and EU law.

We support those who have suffered persecution by providing a place of safety for refugees through our resettlement schemes and the in-country asylum process.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-19/HL16494/>

UK Parliament Early Day Motions

Patrick Grady (SNP) (2567) Scottish Asylum Seekers Residents Association 10th Anniversary – That this House recognises that 2019 marks the 10th anniversary of the Scottish Asylum Seekers Residents Association (SASRA) in Glasgow; notes that SASRA was set up in 2009 with the aim of representing and supporting asylum seekers and acting as a link between its members and support agencies in order to strengthen integration; appreciates the relationship developed between its members, as it is run by asylum seekers for asylum seekers, which reinforces the exchange; understands that they act for asylum seekers with partners such as the Asylum Seekers Housing Project and Community InfoSource to expand groups' services and support communities as well as foster individual's skills; commends the association for spreading awareness and building fellowship by hosting information sharing community events with the Scottish Refugee Council; and wishes SASRA and all the staff and volunteers every success for the future.
<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/53108/scottish-asylum-seekers-residents-association-10th-anniversary>

Patricia Gibson (SNP) (2578) Lizanne Zietsman – That this House is concerned to learn that Lizanne Zietsman, who lives on the Isle of Arran, has been given notice by the Home Office to leave the UK by 12 July 2019; is aware that Lizanne has made her life on Arran, has a husband and has worked hard to build up a successful business; notes that she is held in deep affection by her fellow islanders who value the contribution she has made to the island and its wider community; is deeply concerned and upset at the prospect of her imminent departure; understands that Ms Zietsman can provide evidence that she meets the minimum income threshold; and urges the Home Office to urgently review this decision so that Ms Zietsman can continue to live her life on Arran with her husband and the community which holds her in such high esteem.
<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/53121/lizanne-zietsman>

Alison Thewliss (SNP) (2583) Refugee Festival Scotland 2019 football tournament – That this House congratulates Glasgow Afghan United on their recent hosting of the Refugee Festival Scotland 2019 Football Tournament; commends in particular Abdul Bostani of Glasgow Afghan United for his efforts in organising the annual football tournament; understands that Glasgow Afghan United is a community led organisation seeking to improve the lives of Afghans and a wide range of ethnic minority communities living in Glasgow by promoting sport, health & well-being, social integration and active citizenship; notes that the football tournament hosted 24 football teams in Toryglen Regional Football Centre with participants of over 50 nationalities, including a local politicians team; appreciates that the tournament engages people in sport and encourages integration between communities; thanks Glasgow Life Sport, the Scottish Unity Football League, NG Homes, Refugee Festival Scotland, Glasgow City Council, The National Lottery Community Fund, and Police Scotland for their support of the tournament; acknowledges the kind donation of the Lowland Reserve Brigade Trophy to the tournament by the Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for the Lowlands of Scotland, congratulates Red Road FC on winning this year's tournament, particularly as it is the first they have played in; and wishes all involved every success in future endeavours.
<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/53129/refugee-festival-scotland-2019-football-tournament>

UK Parliament Petition: Government Response

Nnamani family, Glasgow

The petition of residents of Glasgow South West Declares that Mary Nnamani and her family who fled from Nigeria in danger of their lives have become a full and valued part of our community in Glasgow through our schools and Church Community; further that the Nnamani family have claimed asylum here and we would dearly love them to stay.

The petitions, therefore, request that the House of Commons urges the Home Office to grant Mary Nnamani and her family the right to remain in this country, where they have claimed asylum. [P002459] ...

Observations from The Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes): The Government have noted the concerns raised by the residents of Glasgow South West, Glasgow Central, Glasgow North, Glasgow North East and Glasgow East and their request that Mary Nnamani and her family are allowed to continue to live in the UK where she has claimed asylum.

The Government cannot comment on individual cases, because doing so would breach their obligations to treat such personal matters in confidence.

The Government have a proud record of providing protection for those who genuinely need it, in accordance with our international obligations under the Refugee Convention and the European Convention on Human Rights. Every asylum claim is carefully considered on its individual merits, by assessing all the evidence provided by the claimant against policy, relevant caselaw and available country information from a wide range of recognised and publicly disclosable sources. These include the UN and its agencies, governments, the media and human rights organisations, such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

The Government will grant protection where someone demonstrates that they face persecution or serious harm in their country and they are unable to seek protection from the national authorities or move to another part of their country to live safely. The Government are very clear that we do not return anyone who faces persecution or serious harm to their country or where there will be a breach of its obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights.

There is also provision in the Home Office policy on Discretionary Leave to allow people to stay in the UK on a discretionary basis, where they do not qualify for protection, but where there are other exceptional circumstances such that expecting them to return to their country would not be appropriate.

Where a decision has been made that a person does not require international protection, and there are no remaining rights of appeal or obstacles to their return, the Home Office expects failed asylum seekers to return voluntarily to their home country. Return and reintegration assistance is available through the Home Office's Voluntary Returns Service. If they do not leave voluntarily, the Government will seek to enforce their removal.

Where an asylum claim has been refused, but an individual subsequently obtains new information in support of their claim to be at risk of persecution, or that would support a claim to be allowed to remain in the UK on the basis of their private or family life here, the Home Office will ensure that the new information is carefully considered. Enforcement action will not proceed until a decision has been made on any fresh evidence submitted.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-07-02/debates/19070256000037/NnamaniFamilyGlasgow>

Press Releases

Immigration minister calls for global collaboration on resettlement

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/immigration-minister-calls-for-global-collaboration-on-resettlement>

1.4 million refugees set to need urgent resettlement in 2020: UNHCR

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/07/1041632>

New Publications

Letter from Sir Philip Rutnam, the Permanent Secretary of the Home Office to the Home Secretary, Sajid Javid on the Windrush compensation scheme

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/814569/PR_to_HS_on_Compensation_Scheme_.pdf

Letter from Home Secretary Sajid Javid to Sir Philip Rutnam, the Permanent Secretary of the Home Office, on the Windrush compensation scheme

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/814632/Home_Secretary_-_Windrush_Compensation_Scheme_-_04072019.pdf

Updated Guidance: EU Settlement Scheme: Assisted Digital service

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-assisted-digital-service/eu-settlement-scheme-assisted-digital-service>

Guidance: Receiving healthcare when you leave an immigration removal centre

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/healthcare-when-leaving-an-immigration-removal-centre-guidance-for-detainees/receiving-healthcare-when-you-leave-an-immigration-removal-centre>

Guidance: Healthcare entitlements for non-UK detainees being released into the community

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/healthcare-for-people-leaving-an-immigration-removal-centre-guidance-for-nhs-providers/healthcare-entitlements-for-non-uk-detainees-being-released-into-the-community>

Immigration detention of survivors of trafficking and modern slavery

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CDP-2019-0185/CDP-2019-0185.pdf>

News

Johnson pledges to make all immigrants learn English

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/jul/05/johnson-pledges-to-make-all-immigrants-learn-english>

Tory leadership race: Immigrants must learn English, says Johnson

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-07-06/news/tory-leadership-race-immigrants-must-learn-english-says-johnson-lf8sq7z3k>

Scottish churches struggle for clergy cover after visa rate hike

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/scottish-churches-struggle-for-clergy-cover-after-visa-rate-hike-1-4958934>

Eviction by lock-change prevented for five destitute asylum seekers in Glasgow

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3455_eviction_by_lock-change_prevented_for_five_destitute_asylum_seekers_in_glasgow

Asylum seekers win 11th-hour legal bid to stave off eviction in Glasgow

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-07-04/scotland/asylum-seekers-win-11th-hour-legal-bid-to-stave-off-eviction-in-glasgow-mtkmpgp3x>

Kindness saved us from the Nazis. Now we must help child refugees

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/jul/06/child-refugees-britain-help-stephanie-shirley-kindertransport>

Refugee Festival Scotland 2019

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3453_refugee_festival_scotland_2019

Almost 6,000 sign petition as Home Office tells Arran's Lizanne Zietsman to leave UK

<https://www.heraldsotland.com/news/17749154.almost-6-000-sign-petition-home-office-tells-arrans-lizanne-zietsman-leave-uk/>

Arran residents plead with Home Office not to deport 'young' woman as community is too old

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/07/04/arran-residents-plead-home-office-not-deport-young-woman-community/>

Islander deported 'for not earning enough'

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-07-05/scotland/islander-deported-for-not-earning-enough-9l558m60n>

Empowering New Young Scots to be Fearless – Part 1

<https://actiononprejudice.info/2019/07/empowering-new-young-scots-fearless-part-1/>

TOP

Equality

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-18037 Sandra White (SNP): Monifa Phillips, First Black Woman Physics PhD Graduate of University of Glasgow – That the Parliament congratulates Monifa Phillips, the University of Glasgow's (UoG) first black woman to graduate with a PhD in Physics; understands that Monifa, who is originally from London, studied physics at the University of Sheffield before embarking on a PhD within the Materials and Condensed Matter Physics group at the UoG; acknowledges that the UoG is committed to improving equality and diversity within STEM education and STEM careers with several ongoing projects at the university aimed at improving equality, diversity and inclusion within engineering and the physical sciences; notes that students at the UoG established the Women in Science,

Technology, Engineering and Maths (WiSTEM) group in 2015 to promote, support and celebrate Women in STEM, and commends the ongoing support offered by UoG to women pursuing a career in STEM.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-18037>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Domestic Abuse: Ethnic Groups

Jim Cunningham (Labour) [269630] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps the Government is taking to ensure that BAME women receive the specialist help they need after suffering domestic abuse.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The Government's Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy, published on 8 March 2016, sets out the importance of meeting the needs of LGBT and BAME victims and survivors of VAWG, who may experience additional barriers to accessing support.

To ensure all victims get the right support at the right time, we set out a clear blueprint for local action through a National Statement of Expectations (NSE). The NSE sets out what local areas need to do to prevent offending and support victims and encourages organisations to work with local commissioners to disseminate the NSE and support implementation of best practice. In our VAWG Strategy Refresh, published in March 2019, we committed to conducting a review of the NSE to ensure it remains up to date, robust, and effective.

We are also taking action to improve the capacity within specialist sectors, as we did by investing nearly £400,000 (£100,000 from the Home Office; nearly £300,000 from Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government) to Imkaan to build capacity in the specialist BAME sector. We have provided Southall Black Sisters with £1,090,000 from the Tampon Tax Fund to provide support for women with no recourse to public funds through their 'Recourse to Safety' project. It will make essential support and protection available to abused women by providing safe accommodation, subsistence and help including counselling, therapy, immigration advice and community awareness-raising.

We also know that BAME women are more vulnerable to culturally specific types of abuse. We have significantly strengthened the law on forced marriage. We have introduced a forced marriage offence, criminalised breach of Forced Marriage Protection Orders and introduced anonymity for victims of forced marriage.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-26/269630/>

The strategy referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/522166/VAWG_Strategy_FINAL_PUBLICATION_MASTER_vRB.PDF

Treatment of, and Outcomes for, Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Individuals in the Criminal Justice System Independent Review

Richard Burgon (Labour) [269804] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what the status is of the Government's response to each recommendation in the Lammy Review.

Reply from Edward Argar: The Government is taking forward every recommendation of the Lammy Review in some way – where a recommendation could not be implemented in full or exactly as set out, alternative approaches have been sought to achieve the same aim.

The Government published its response to the Lammy Review in December 2017:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/lammy-review-government-response>

We provided a public update on progress against each of the 35 recommendations of the Lammy Review in November 2018 in the “Tackling racial disparity in the Criminal Justice System” update:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tackling-racial-disparity-in-the-criminal-justice-system-2018>

We are committed to publishing a further full public update against each recommendation of the Lammy Review, along with work above and beyond this to tackle racial disparity in the criminal justice system, before the end of 2019.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-26/269804/>

The Lammy Review, referred to above, can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/643001/lammy-review-final-report.pdf

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Loneliness: Ethnic Groups

Lord Boateng (Labour) [HL16527] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they intend to take to reflect the experiences of people from BAME backgrounds when (1) raising awareness of the public health implications, and (2) addressing the stigma, of loneliness.

Reply from Lord Ashton of Hyde: Government's loneliness strategy recognises that loneliness can affect people of all ages and all backgrounds.

The Government is aware of the recent research findings contained in “Barriers to belonging: An exploration of loneliness among people from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds”, recently published by the British Red Cross, which will be considered in future work.

On the public health implications, Public Health England (PHE) has supported the development of standard measures of loneliness and has recently consulted on updates to its Public Health Outcomes Framework, which includes consideration of the addition of the standard measure of loneliness, to inform and focus future work. One aim of Government's recently launched Let's talk Loneliness campaign is to reduce the stigma of loneliness so that people experiencing it feel they can reach out or take action. This is based on the Mental Health Foundation's research which found that 30% of Britons surveyed said they would be embarrassed to say they felt lonely. The campaign will encourage people across different communities to talk about loneliness.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-20/HL16527/>

The report referred to above can be read at

<https://www.redcross.org.uk/-/media/documents/about-us/research-publications/health-social-care-and-support/barrier-to-belonging.pdf?la=en&hash=4A7DC417EF17B134F0861DF2E7B53A02378BA13F>

Loneliness

Lord Boateng (Labour) [HL16528] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the appropriateness of the language used for different cultural and linguistic groups in measuring loneliness in their loneliness strategy.

Reply from Lord Ashton of Hyde: A national loneliness measure was announced in October 2018 as part of the loneliness strategy.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) undertook a programme of scoping work to recommend a way of measuring loneliness which would work for people of different ages and backgrounds, including how different loneliness measures compare for use with diverse ethnic groups, including those with limited English.

ONS's final recommendation of using both direct and indirect measures of loneliness where possible is an approach currently taken by the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing and the Understanding Society study. The recommended measures are well-tested across different surveys and demographics.

ONS worked with the Loneliness Technical Advisory Group to identify a range of criteria regarding the design, sample and geographical coverage of the surveys in which the measure will be included, to build opportunities to improve understanding of differences between ethnic groups.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-20/HL16528/>

The announcement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-launches-governments-first-loneliness-strategy>

and the strategy at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/750909/6.4882_DCMS_Loneliness_Strategy_web_Update.pdf

Loneliness

Lord Boateng (Labour) [HL16529] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the implications of the report by the Red Cross Barriers to belonging, published in June, for their loneliness strategy.

Reply from Lord Ashton of Hyde: "Barriers to belonging: An exploration of loneliness among people from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds" highlights that many people from BAME backgrounds face multiple challenges to feeling like they belong and accessing support services. These include increased likelihood of discrimination, not feeling welcome and fear of stigma. The report also points to greater barriers to accessing help for loneliness and joining in community activities, including a lack of money, language barriers and not having enough free time.

The cross government tackling loneliness team will consider the research findings and recommendations made to Government, in its work taking forward the loneliness strategy.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-20/HL16529/>

The report referred to above can be read at

<https://www.redcross.org.uk/-/media/documents/about-us/research-publications/health-social-care-and-support/barrier-to-belonging.pdf?la=en&hash=4A7DC417EF17B134F0861DF2E7B53A02378BA13F>

News

Freedom of speech in education: the foundation of an effective society

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/news/freedom-speech-education-foundation-effective-society>

TOP

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

NHS: Ethnic Groups

Vince Cable (Liberal Democrat) [27023] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, with reference to the report entitled, Fair to Refer, published by the General Medical Council in June 2019, what steps his Department is taking to BAME discrimination in the NHS.

Reply from Stephen Hammond: It is the responsibility of each National Health Service organisation as individual employers, to ensure all workforce policies and procedures comply with the Equality Act 2010. This includes policies and procedures to prevent all forms of unlawful discrimination, including bullying, harassment and victimisation from other staff, patients or other members of the public.

Policies and procedures should be easily accessible to staff and managers and should be regularly monitored and reviewed by organisation boards in partnership with staff-side representatives. Employers provide a range of support services for their employees, including counselling, Freedom to Speak Up guardians, other staff trained to support affected colleagues, bullying hotlines and mediation.

The Department is committed to supporting NHS organisations in this via the Social Partnership Forum's 'Creating positive workplace cultures and tackling bullying in the NHS - a collective call to action', the Alliance of Healthcare Organisations committed to civility and respect throughout the NHS and the new offer for staff being developed as part of the People Plan.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-27/270239/>

The report referred to above can be read at

https://www.gmc-uk.org/-/media/documents/fair-to-refer-report_pdf-79011677.pdf

Hate Crime

Chris Ruane (Labour) [264339] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, which 30 local authorities have recorded the highest incidence of hate crime in each of the last five years.

Reply from Nick Hurd: The Home Office collects and publishes statistics on the number of hate crimes recorded by the police in England and Wales at the Police Force Area level only. Data for Police Force Areas can be found in the Home Office Open Data tables for hate crime, available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-recorded-crime-open-data-tables>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-13/264339/>

Universities: Antisemitism

Thangam Debbonaire (Labour) [269079] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what monitoring is taking place on university campuses to ensure compliance with the International Holocaust Remembrance Association definition of anti-semitism.

Reply from Chris Skidmore: There is no place in our society, including within higher education, for hatred or any form of discrimination or racism, such as antisemitism. This is why I have called on higher education providers to accept the International Holocaust Remembrance Association (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism.

Higher education providers are autonomous organisations, responsible for the

management of their own internal affairs. They should discharge their responsibilities fully and have robust policies and procedures in place to comply with the law, and to investigate and swiftly address all hate crime, including any antisemitic incidents that are reported.

On 16 May 2019, I wrote to all higher education providers to urge them to consider adopting the IHRA definition and set out my view that this is a useful tool which will help front-line services better understand and recognise instances of antisemitism. The government believes that adopting the IHRA definition of antisemitism sends a clear message that antisemitic behaviour will not be tolerated, and that any instances of antisemitism will be taken very seriously.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-25/269079/>

UK Parliament, Home Affairs Committee

Evidence session: Inquiry into the Macpherson Report: twenty years on

<http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/home-affairs-committee/the-macpherson-report-twenty-years-on/oral/103515.html>

Evidence session: Inquiry into Modern slavery

<http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/home-affairs-committee/modern-slavery/oral/103525.html>

Welsh Assembly Oral Answers

Racism: Universities

Bethan Sayed (Plaid Cymru): I'm sure you'll be aware of the serious allegations of racism levelled at Cardiff University from a number of BME students in the last few days. I and, I'm sure, many others in this Chamber have received a report of testimony about racism, and it's shocking actually to read it. And also a *Western Mail* report outlines concerning reports experienced by an outgoing vice-president. My office has met with a group of BME students from the university who all used the term, and I quote, 'institutional racism' in the description of the university. I'm sure that many people may have read the report, but after the 'Anaphylaxis' show, BME students complained and were met with abuse, and some BME staff also faced abuse at a medical school party. Students chanted 'anaphylaxis' to the BME students.

Now, I understand the role of universities entirely, but could you give assurances to students who have concerns and have had to deal with racism, and outline what actions you'll be taking with Cardiff University and with the students who have raised these particular concerns?

Reply from Kirsty Williams: ... There is no place for racism anywhere in the Welsh education system, whether that be in our schools, our colleges and our universities. We have had discussions as a Government with the university and with the students union involved, and I understand that there is ongoing dialogue between them both. All universities have to have strategic equality plans setting out how they will ensure equality of opportunity for students with protected characteristics, and these plans indicate the processes and the procedures that should be in place for institutions to tackle individual incidents of racial harassment or bullying or abuse, and clearly we will be keeping a very close eye on the development of those talks that are ongoing through the university and the union.

Bethan Sayed: Thank you very much for that response. I'm glad you'll be keeping a keen

eye on what's happening with the university. I know that Cardiff has insisted it is taking action and has accepted the recommendations of the report looking into this particular matter, and today, for the record, the vice-chancellor has written to me outlining some of those responses, which I am grateful for. But the trouble is that some students do not believe that, institutionally, Cardiff has been willing to contend seriously enough with racism or respond with enough gravity to reports and recommended actions. They also believe there is a wider cultural problem, particularly in certain schools of the university. So, I don't want to take away from many of the positive experiences that students from all backgrounds and cultures will have at this university, and I note that the satisfaction levels are overall high, but when there are minority groups who clearly feel that those experiences have not been dealt with appropriately, do you agree that this is a huge area of concern, and what more can you potentially do to stop these types of incidents happening again in the future?

Reply from Kirsty Williams: Well, you're absolutely correct in saying that these are serious allegations that have been made, and my expectation is that the university will deal with them promptly, coherently and completely, and address any issues of individual behaviour or, more importantly perhaps, to address the entire culture of an individual department or school or the university as a whole. As I said, we take this very seriously. We are in touch with the university to understand what actions they are taking, and I would urge anybody that feels they have been subject to inappropriate behaviour of any kind to ensure that they come forward to give of that testimony so that we can have a full picture of what is going on. We also understand that incidents of this kind may potentially put people off from studying at university, and therefore all universities have fee and access plans that set out how they will support equality of opportunity for groups that are under-represented in HE—and BAME communities are often very much under-represented—to ensure that they have a very positive experience in higher education, and we have also made over £2 million available via HEFCW this year to support universities to develop their responses to supporting students with mental health issues, which potentially could arise out of any incidents of bullying of this kind.

<http://record.assembly.wales/Plenary/5671#C209938>

Press Releases

Young Jews face harassment in Europe, but nevertheless express their Jewish identity

<https://fra.europa.eu/en/press-release/2019/young-jews-age-old-hatred>

Synagogue arsonist sectioned under Mental Health Act

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/cps/news/synagogue-arsonist-sectioned-under-mental-health-act>

Government-led Forum Needed to Protect Travellers Rights

<http://www.nihrc.org/news/detail/government-led-forum-needed-to-protect-travellers-rights>

New Publications

Young Jewish Europeans: perceptions and experiences of antisemitism

https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2019-young-jewish-europeans_en.pdf

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights antisemitism survey dataset

<https://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2019/fras-antisemitism-survey-dataset-now-available>

Briefing: People of Faith: Persecution in the 21st Century

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/LLN-2019-0087/LLN-2019-0087.pdf>

Perceived discrimination and psychosis: a systematic review of the literature

<https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007%2Fs00127-019-01729-3.pdf>

Implementation of Travellers' Accommodation Recommendations (Northern Ireland)

http://www.nihrc.org/uploads/publications/12_Month_Progress_Report-FINAL_%28007%29.pdf

News

Why there is no need for a Scottish inquiry into Islamophobia

<https://www.heraldsotland.com/news/17742406.stuart-waiton-why-there-is-no-need-for-a-scottish-inquiry-into-islamophobia/>

Tories suspend members over new Islamophobia claims

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/07/06/tories-suspend-members-new-islamophobia-claims/>

Boris Johnson faces questions over 'arguably racist' comments

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/jul/06/tory-member-questions-boris-johnsons-ability-to-represent-minorities>

SNP Westminster leader calls for Islamophobic councillor to lose 'position of authority'

<https://www.heraldsotland.com/news/17739113.snp-westminster-leader-calls-for-islamophobic-councillor-to-lose-position-of-authority/>

Gordon Brown: Automatically expel anti-Semites in Labour

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-48887671>

Gordon Brown says Labour must 'eliminate' anti-Semitism from the party's ranks

<https://www.heraldsotland.com/news/17753319.gordon-brown-says-labour-must-eliminate-anti-semitism-party-s-ranks/>

Gordon Brown to call for Labour to immediately expel members guilty of antisemitism

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/labour-antisemitism-gordon-brown-expel-members-chris-williamson-jeremy-corbyn-a8990641.html>

Chris Williamson: 'no place' in Labour for MP embroiled in antisemitism row

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/jul/01/chris-williamson-labour-mp-antisemitism-row>

Labour 'needs new system' for antisemitism complaints

<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2019/jul/06/labour-needs-independent-antisemitism-complaints-system>

Labour split over NDA warnings about antisemitism claims

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/jul/07/labour-in-fresh-antisemitism-row-over-use-of-ndas-against-staff-whistleblowers>

Labour antisemitism: Party plunged into chaos as top lawyer quits role
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/labour-antisemitism-lawyer-resigns-investigation-gordon-nardell-a8990766.html>

Magid Magid incident highlights EU's race problem, say activists
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/jul/04/magid-magid-incident-highlights-eus-race-problem-say-activists>

Being asked to leave the EU parliament wasn't fun – but it's the racism of mainstream politicians that really bothers me
<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/magid-mep-greens-eu-parliament-racism-brexit-party-nigel Farage-a8987886.html>

Former paratroopers sue army over 'years of racism from soldiers'
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/jul/02/former-paratroopers-sue-army-over-years-of-racism-from-soldiers>

British soldiers 'with Nazi flags and Hitler pictures racially abused black colleagues'
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/nazi-flags-hitler-british-army-soldiers-hani-gue-racism-tribunal-a8985046.html>

Black paratroopers suing Army claim soldiers put up Nazi flags and pictures of Hitler in their barracks
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/07/02/former-paras-sue-army-racist-abuse-including-decorating-block/>

Racist convicted over abuse of betting shop staff
<https://www.cps.gov.uk/london-south/news/racist-convicted-over-abuse-betting-shop-staff>

Tristan Morgan: far right antisemitic terrorist
<https://cst.org.uk/news/blog/2019/07/05/tristan-morgan-far-right-antisemitic-terrorist>

Far-right terrorist laughed as he was engulfed by fireball while trying to torch synagogue
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/exeter-synagogue-fire-video-far-right-extremist-court-tristan-morgan-a8990876.html>

Cambridge to assign white academics an ethnic minority mentor to combat racism and assist 'institutional change'
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/07/02/cambridge-university-run-reverse-mentoring-scheme-staff-combat/>

Cambridge University accused of racism for allowing non-black lecturer to read N-word aloud
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/07/01/cambridge-university-accused-racism-allowing-non-black-lecturer/>

Patient banned after demanding 'white doctor' at hospital
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/health/patient-white-doctor-a-e-hospital-racism-a8988096.html>

Senior female Asian officer accuses Metropolitan Police of discrimination
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/parm-sandhu-racial-gender-discrimination-claim-sues-metropolitan-police-a8991101.html>

Top Asian policewoman suing Scotland Yard over racism and sexism

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/07/06/top-asian-policewoman-suing-scotland-yard-racism-sexism/>

Durham boy, 16, 'wanted to start race war'

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tyne-48853163>

'There was a swastika in the library': The truth about anti-Semitism at university

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bbcthree/article/09914b55-a6b8-43a0-a619-71507c7fa71b>

Charity courses 'describe even Catholic schools as sectarian'

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-07-06/scotland/charity-courses-describe-even-catholic-schools-as-sectarian-cxcxhkq36>

How Holyrood and ground closures can rid Scottish football of sectarianism

<https://www.heraldsotland.com/sport/17739765.matthew-lindsay-how-holyrood-and-ground-closures-can-rid-scottish-football-of-sectarianism/>

Adidas under fire for racist tweets after botched Arsenal launch

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2019/jul/02/adidas-under-fire-racist-offensive-tweets-arsenal-new-shirt-launch>

Boxing beard ban is discrimination, says Sikh amateur fighter

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-48790893>

TOP

Other UK Parliament and Government

Debate

Religious Slaughter of Farm Animals

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-07-02/debates/2935A085-3810-472A-BD60-9AD027C31A3D/ReligiousSlaughterOfFarmAnimals>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Female Genital Mutilation

Ross Thomson (Conservative) [267358] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department is taking to increase education and awareness of female genital mutilation in the UK.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a crime and it is child abuse. The Government is clear that we will not tolerate a practice that can cause extreme and lifelong suffering to women and girls.

The Home Office's FGM unit delivers nationwide outreach on FGM. The Unit is providing outreach support to local areas and working to raise awareness of resources available to professionals, including training, best practice examples and information on legislation and policy. Resources include an e-learning package, various communication materials such as leaflets and posters highlighting the legislation and health impacts of FGM, and an online resource pack for local areas.

We ran a communications campaign between October 2018 and February 2019 to

tackle FGM. The campaign sought to prevent FGM by changing attitudes among affected communities through raising awareness of the negative long-term health consequences of FGM. The campaign also raised awareness that FGM is a crime and encouraged communities to report via the NSPCC's FGM helpline. The campaign supported the objectives of the cross-government Violence Against Women and Girls strategy.

Earlier this year, the Home Office trained around 1,300 professionals across the country on FGM and forced marriage protection orders. The events raised awareness of the scope and effectiveness of the orders, along with a practical guide to applying, with the aim of encouraging professionals to always consider them in any safeguarding plans.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-20/267358/>

The following three questions all received the same answer

Forced Marriage

Jim Cunningham (Labour) [262231] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will make an assessment of the potential merits of recognising forced marriage as a form of modern day slavery.

Jim Cunningham (Labour) [262232] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people are living in forced marriages in the UK.

Jim Cunningham (Labour) [262233] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department has taken to help people trapped in forced marriages.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The UK is a world-leader in the fight to stamp out forced marriage, with our dedicated Forced Marriage Unit leading efforts to combat it both at home and abroad.

The Government has significantly strengthened the law on forced marriage. We have introduced a new forced marriage offence, criminalised the breach of Forced Marriage Protection Orders and introduced anonymity for victims

In November 2018, the Home Secretary launched the Forced Marriage Awareness Campaign, which highlights that forced marriage is a crime and directs victims and concerned parties to contact the Forced Marriage Helpline for support.

The joint Home Office and Foreign & Commonwealth Office Forced Marriage Unit (FMU) provides support and advice for victims, those at risk, and professionals, through its public helpline. In 2018, the FMU gave advice or support related to a possible forced marriage in 1,764 cases. Since 2012, the FMU has provided support to between approximately 1,200 and 1,400 cases per year. The Home Office does not hold data on the number of people currently living in forced marriages in the UK. Further information on the FMU's 2018 statistics can be found at the following link:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/804044/Forced_Marriage_Unit_Statistics_2018_FINAL.pdf

We recognise that forced marriage can constitute modern slavery, as we examined in the Home Office Typology report, but not in all cases, so we must assess each on a case by case basis. Potential victims can be deceived about the nature of their relationship with the trafficker, not understanding that they would be exploited in the marriage. The exploitation can take place through domestic servitude which occurs alongside domestic abuse and sexual exploitation.

The Home Office Typology Report can be found here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/652652/typology-modern-slavery-offences-horr93.pdf

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-10/262231/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-10/262232/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-06-10/262233/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

Sharia Law: Marriages

Baroness Cox (Crossbench): To ask Her Majesty's Government what progress they have made in implementing the recommendations of the independent review into the application of sharia law in England and Wales published in February 2018 (Cm 9560), in order to protect Muslim women, and what assessment they have made of Resolution 2253 (2019) by the Council of Europe that all Islamic marriages should also be registered as civil marriages.

Reply from the Advocate-General for Scotland (Lord Keen of Elie): My Lords, further work on the issues raised began in the spring, as announced in the Integrated Communities Action Plan. This work will explore reform possibilities in relation to the issue that some people may marry in a way that does not create a legally recognised marriage. This exploration will be conducted independently of the wider Law Commission review of marriage ceremony law.

Baroness Cox: My Lords, in thanking the Minister for his reply, I ask whether he is aware that my Question is almost identical to the one I asked on 28 February. I have had no response, nor seen any evidence of progress on this crucial issue, which causes such suffering to Muslim women through the application of sharia law. Many come to me desperate, destitute and even suicidal, with no rights following asymmetrical divorce inflicted by their husbands, or trapped in unhappy polygamous marriages. The recommendations of the sharia law review and the message from the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe are totally consistent with the objectives of my Private Member's Bill, which requires all religious marriages to be registered, thereby giving women the rights they so urgently need. Therefore, I ask the Minister for an assurance that the legislation will be introduced with great urgency, as so many women are suffering in ways that would make the suffragettes turn in their graves.

[Lord Keen of Elie](#)

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: My Lords, we understand and recognise that there is a very real issue here, but it is more of a social issue than a legal one. I cannot accept that the proposed way forward set out by the noble Baroness in her Private Member's Bill is appropriate. Her proposals would effectively deregulate marriage ceremony law and undermine the safeguards in it, including those relating to sham and forced marriages.

Baroness Manzoor (Conservative): I disagree with my noble friend the Minister. It is not a social issue, but a legal one. Therefore, I entirely agree with the noble Baroness, Lady Cox, that this needs to be looked at urgently. We can have a register that allows imams to register nikah ceremonies easily. We need to do this as quickly as possible.

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: My noble friend is perfectly entitled to disagree with me, and I in turn disagree with her. Let us be clear on what the position is, because some of this proceeds on a misapprehension. It is perfectly possible to perform a lawful marriage in England and Wales under sharia law provided that the relevant mosque has been identified and registered by the registrars as a place for the

performance of that ceremony, and a person has been identified by the registrars as suitable to be present for that ceremony. The law of England and Wales has then to be adhered to. Sharia law is not the law of England and Wales; it has no standing. Our national marriage law prevails in these matters. I reiterate: we understand and appreciate that there is a social issue here, because many are not aware of the true position of our law in respect of marriage. Indeed, many are not prepared to adhere to that in circumstances where one or other party may be ignorant of their true position and its consequences.

Baroness Burt of Solihull (Liberal Democrat): My Lords, the Council of Europe, referred to in the Question from the noble Baroness, Lady Cox, is very clear that where human rights are concerned there is no room for cultural exceptions. The independent review, commissioned by the Government in 2016, is also clear on its main recommendation that Muslim women undergoing Islamic marriage must be protected by British civil law. Too many vulnerable women are suffering and will suffer until the Government pull their finger out and implement this recommendation.

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: My Lords, with great respect, some of what has been said by the Council of Europe in its Resolution 2253 does not reflect the true position of marriage law in England and Wales. In particular, the reference to civilly registering a marriage is inept. It does not reflect the true position of our law in England and Wales. Civil registration per se is not a route to a lawful marriage.

Lord Desai (Labour): My Lords, in the present circumstances, what is the position of triple talaq? Is it still possible for a Muslim man to divorce his wife just by saying, “Talaq, talaq, talaq”? Is the Minister aware that in India a Bill is before the two Houses of Parliament to reform the triple talaq Act? Will Her Majesty’s Government follow that example?

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: My Lords, divorce in England and Wales is determined by the national law. It is not determined by religious observance or religious laws. Therefore, it will be necessary for a party seeking a divorce from a lawful marriage made in England and Wales to proceed under our national law. We appreciate that there are social difficulties regarding some religious groups in circumstances where a person might believe that they have been divorced under religious provisions, whether of the type the noble Lord just referred to, under sharia law, or indeed sometimes regarding the get in the context of the Jewish religion.

Lord Singh of Wimbledon (Crossbench): Does the Minister agree that culture should never trump human rights and that all citizens of this country should enjoy equal protection under the law?

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: It is essential that all citizens have equal protection under the law. It is also important that they are treated equally under the law.

Lord Garel-Jones (Conservative): Does my noble friend agree that it is perhaps a little misleading to refer to sharia rules as law? All religions have a perfect right to set out the regulations of their faith, but is it not wrong to refer to those regulations as law? With the exception of the Church of England’s ecclesiastical and religious regulations, they are subject to UK law. Consequently, does my noble friend agree that if sharia regulations—for example, on the treatment of women—conflict with UK law, then UK law, being sovereign, overrides these regulations?

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: My noble friend is absolutely right. Clearly, national law must be adhered to. I do not take exception to the reference to religious law, or sharia, in a social context. There are parties who wish to adhere to that because of their religious beliefs, but they must understand that it is subject to the law of the land, and that sharia is not the law of the land and has no standing as such.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2019-07-04/debates/942B3D60-0C64-412A-9710-4967D39CFDB6/ShariaLawMarriages>

The Independent Review referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/678478/6.4152_HO_CPFGR_Report_into_Sharia_Law_in_the_UK_WEB.pdf

The Council of Europe Resolution referred to above can be read at <https://tinyurl.com/y6drgl7v>

The Question referred to above can be read at <https://hansard.parliament.uk/Lords/2019-02-28/debates/9E6C7E1B-4462-47F4-A769-2546C5524403/IslamicCeremonyCivilMarriageRegistration>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Forced Marriage

The Lord Bishop of St Albans [HL16427] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 16 May (HL15521), how many cases were dealt with by the Forced Marriage Unit in 2018.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Statistics on the number of cases dealt with by the Forced Marriage Unit (FMU), including a breakdown by region and age, are published annually and available online at

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/forced-marriage#statistics-on-forced-marriage>

Figures for 2018 were published on 24 May. In 2018, the FMU gave advice or support related to a possible forced marriage in 1,764 cases via its public helpline and email inbox.

[FGM Report-Stats 2018](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-17/HL16427/>

The answer referred to above can be read at <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-05-02/HL15521/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Prisons: Ministers of Religion

Lord Pearson of Rannoch (UKIP) [HL16560] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many (1) Christian, and (2) Muslim, prison chaplains there were in England and Wales in (a) 1989, (b) 1999, (c) 2009, and (d) 2018.

Prisoners

Lord Pearson of Rannoch (UKIP) [HL16559] To ask Her Majesty's Government what is the current size of the (1) general population, and (2) prison population of England and Wales; and what proportion of each of those populations were Muslim in (a) 1989, (b) 1999, (c) 2009, and (d) 2018.

Lord Keen of Elie: Staffing figures for prison chaplains in public sector prisons from 1989 until 2009 are not available, as figures were not collated centrally during this period.

The table below shows the number of Christian (which includes Anglican, Free Church, Roman Catholic, Orthodox) and Muslim Chaplains (full-time equivalent) employed at public prison establishments by religion of the post from the most recently collated figures.

Date	31-Mar-09	31-Mar-18
Christian	151	157
Muslim	45	61

The Department does not hold data on the general population.

With regard to the proportion of the prison population who identify as Muslim, we

are unable to access data from 1989 and 1999 without incurring disproportionate costs.

The figures for 2009 and 2018 are available and are presented in the table below:

Date	30-Jun-09	30-Jun-18
Total prison population	83,319	82,773
Total prisoners recorded as Muslim	9,932	12,894

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-20/HL16560/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-20/HL16559/>

Press Release

Places of Worship Protective Security Funding Scheme open for applications

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/places-of-worship-protective-security-funding-scheme-open-for-applications>

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Bills in Progress ** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

Disclosure (Scotland) Bill

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/111895.aspx>

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

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

UK Parliament

Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) Bill

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

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

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

Banknote Diversity

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

Border Control Bill

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

EEA Nationals (Indefinite Leave to Remain) Bill

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

Gypsy and Traveller Communities (Housing, Planning and Education)

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

**** Holocaust (Return of Cultural Objects) (Amendment) Bill**

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

Third Reading, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2019-07-02/debates/63A36930-640E-4479-A7EA-DCE8CB6D4812/Holocaust\(ReturnOfCulturalObjects\)\(Amendment\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2019-07-02/debates/63A36930-640E-4479-A7EA-DCE8CB6D4812/Holocaust(ReturnOfCulturalObjects)(Amendment)Bill)

Royal Assent

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2019-07-04/debates/28ED4FB9-9C74-4840-A4EF-50073F9CC14D/RoyalAssent>

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

**** closes this week!**

English language tests for overseas students (closing date 8 July 2019)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/public-accounts-committee/inquiries/parliament-2017/inquiry33/>

Islamophobia in Scotland (closing date 26 August 2019)

<https://forms.ncl.ac.uk/view.php?id=13027>

Female Genital Mutilation (Protection and Guidance) (Scotland) Bill (closing date 30 August 2019)

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/112128.aspx>

**** Scottish Government proposals to create a Scottish Biometrics Commissioner** (closing date 30 August 2019)

https://www.parliament.scot/S4_JusticeCommittee/Inquiries/SBCBillCfEforweb20190701.pdf

Section 38 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015: Duty to notify and provide information about victims (closing date 6 September 2019)

<https://consult.gov.scot/justice/duty-to-notify-and-provide-information/>

**** Women of Colour in Scottish Politics** (closing date not stated)

<https://edinburgh.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/women-of-colour-in-scottish-politics>

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.

Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

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

**** Online Hate Talk – Race and Religion**

22 July 2019 in Edinburgh (10.00-4.30)

Racist, Islamophobic or anti-Semitic talk can be found in online settings but what counts as prejudicial is itself often a topic of debate. This event from Edinburgh University and the British Psychological Society will discuss the nature of online hate talk, and how it can be theorised, researched, and responded to. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y2qlghmr>

Working with People from Diverse Religion & Belief Identities

30 July 2019 in Glasgow (9.30-1.00)

6 September 2019 in Glasgow (1.00-4.30)

21 November 2019 in Glasgow (9.30-1.00)

Interfaith Scotland course to learn about the core beliefs and cultural practices of the main faiths, and the individual needs that may arise from a person's faith or belief identity, and consider where unintentional discrimination may occur and discuss steps to remove it. For information about the July event see <https://tinyurl.com/y63r67cs> the September event see <https://tinyurl.com/yxgh4wb9> and the November event see <https://tinyurl.com/yxrr95j2>

3 Mottos for Guiding our Approach to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

8 August 2019 in Glasgow (9.30-1.00)

17 September 2019 in Glasgow (9.30-1.00)

Interfaith Scotland course to consider why some people ignore or deny the disadvantages that others experience; how to respond to misunderstandings or offence; and the impact of our inner narratives on our interactions. For information about the August event see <https://tinyurl.com/yxq4z6a3> and the September event see <https://tinyurl.com/y69h9tyz>

Interpreting Culture – Improving Cross-Cultural Communication

21 August 2019 in Glasgow (9.30-1.00)

16 October 2019 in Glasgow (1.00-4.30)

Interfaith Scotland course to consider the wide-ranging influence of cultural background on people's behaviour, expectations and beliefs, consider responses to the behaviour of others, and improve communication skills with people from other cultures. For information about the August event see <https://tinyurl.com/y374w8md> and the October event see <https://tinyurl.com/y4r8ed8f>

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>

Meet the Charity Regulator

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/>

Working with refugees and the asylum process

18 September 2019 in Glasgow

31 October 2019 in Glasgow

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

Working with unaccompanied refugee children

26 September 2019 in Glasgow

6 November 2019 in Glasgow

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

Working with refugees and VPRS resettlement

2 October 2019 in Glasgow

21 November 2019 in Glasgow

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

Refugee rights to housing

7 November 2019 in Glasgow

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

Age assessment awareness

13 November 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to give social workers and other relevant staff an

awareness of the components that are used to build a picture of a person's age. It draws on a variety of existing Age Assessment practice guidelines and demonstrates how these apply in Scotland. Reduced fees available. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y8f2z7p4> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Engaging with seldom heard voices

5 December 2019 in Glasgow

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

Refugee community sponsorship

11 December 2019 in Glasgow

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

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Useful Links

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Volunteer Scotland Disclosure Services

<https://www.volunteerscotland.net/for-organisations/disclosure-services/>

BBC News <https://www.bbc.com/news>

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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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