



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.

Contents

[Immigration and Asylum](#)

[Community Relations](#)

[Equality](#)

[Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination](#)

[Other Scottish Parliament and Government](#)

[Other UK Parliament and Government](#)

[Health Information: Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

[Other Publications](#)

[Other News](#)

[Bills in Progress](#)

[Consultations](#)

[Job Opportunities](#)

[Funding Opportunities](#)

[Events, Conferences, and Training](#)

[Useful Links](#)

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

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

The Scottish Parliament is in recess until 20 April 2020, and the UK Parliament is in recess until 21 April 2020.

Immigration and Asylum

Press Release

Coronavirus (COVID-19): advice for Tier 2, 4 and 5 sponsors

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-for-tier-2-4-and-5-sponsors>

New Publications

Updated Guidance: Coronavirus (COVID-19): advice for UK visa applicants and temporary UK residents

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-for-uk-visa-applicants-and-temporary-uk-residents>

EU Settlement Scheme statistics, March 2020

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879569/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics-march-2020.pdf

Not Settled Yet? Understanding the EU Settlement Scheme using the Available Data

<https://migrationobservatory.ox.ac.uk/resources/reports/not-settled-yet-understanding-the-eu-settlement-scheme-using-the-available-data/>

News

Scheme for EU citizens to stay in UK draws 3.4m applications

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2020/apr/16/apply-to-stay-in-uk-under-eu-settled-status-scheme>

Government figures reveal far more EU migrants in UK than previously thought

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2020/04/17/government-figures-reveal-far-eu-migrants-uk-previously-thought/>

Home Office will not know how many EU nationals are left undocumented after UK leaves EU, report warns

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/eu-nationals-undocumented-brexit-home-office-eu-settlement-scheme-data-migration-observatory-a9466471.html>

Priti Patel urged to extend EU settled status scheme deadline in response to coronavirus crisis

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/priti-patel-eu-settled-status-scheme-deadline-brexit-coronavirus-a9469086.html>

The reality of Covid-19 for families in the asylum system stuck at home without food and internet.

<https://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/families-stuck-at-home-without-food-and-internet/>

Covid-19: a safe and accessible asylum system is urgently needed

<https://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/covid-19-a-safe-and-accessible-asylum-system-is-urgently-needed/>

Undocumented migrants dying of coronavirus because they're too afraid to seek help, MPs and charities warn

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/coronavirus-undocumented-migrants-deaths-cases-nhs-matt-hancock-a9470581.html>

Coronavirus: Support 'scaled back' for refugees and asylum seekers

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-52288202>

Homeless migrants still sleeping rough despite PM's pledge, say charities
<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/apr/16/homeless-migrants-still-sleeping-rough-despite-pms-pledge-say-charities>

Hundreds of asylum seekers have to travel to London to submit claims during pandemic or face destitution
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/coronavirus-asylum-seekers-london-home-office-pandemic-a9467326.html>

TOP

Community Relations

News

I see the black and brown faces on the NHS frontline, please don't overlook their sacrifice
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18386081.uzma-mir-see-black-brown-faces-nhs-frontline-please-dont-overlook-sacrifice/>

TOP

Equality

News

Young and Bame people have already paid a heavy price over coronavirus – the government must protect them
<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/editorials/coronavirus-uk-economy-ethnic-minorities-bame-young-people-a9463036.html>

Hampton Court Palace to focus on ethnic characters in bid to make history less 'male, pale and stale'
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/04/13/hampton-court-palace-focus-ethnic-characters-bid-make-history/>

Black and Asian pupils more likely to have grades over-predicted than white peers, exam watchdog finds
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/04/15/black-asian-pupils-likely-have-grades-over-predicted-white-peers/>

TOP

Press Release

Rise in antisemitic hatred during COVID-19 must be countered with tougher measures, says UN expert
<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25800&LangID=E>

News

Far right Tory activist suspended from party over vile racist online posts

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/tory-activist-who-campaigned-scots-21861081>

Conservative councillor suspended after allegedly baking swastika onto hot cross bun

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/hot-cross-bun-swastika-councillor-tory-conservative-portsmouth-a9470451.html>

Labour leaks have cost the party dearly – but its dismissal of anti-black racism means it's about to lose a lot more

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/labour-leaks-report-antisemitism-racism-diane-abbott-butler-a9468521.html>

Scottish Labour leader was ignored over call to suspend councillor in anti-semitism row

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/scottish-labour-leader-ignored-over-21859148>

Ian Murray apologises for Labour's 'appalling' treatment of Jewish community

<https://www.eveningexpress.co.uk/news/scotland/ian-murray-apologises-for-labours-appalling-treatment-of-jewish-community/>

Labour MP Ian Murray apologises for party's treatment of Jewish community

<https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/labour-mp-ian-murray-apologises-for-partys-treatment-of-jewish-community/>

Antisemitism inquiry 'must come before Labour officials hired'

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2020/apr/14/antisemitism-inquiry-must-come-before-labour-officials-hired>

Is racism in our DNA?

https://www.independent.co.uk/news/long_reads/science-and-technology/racism-learned-dna-nature-or-nurture-a9445606.html

TOP

Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Release

First Minister's Vaisakhi message

<https://firstminister.gov.scot/first-ministers-vaisakhi-message/>

TOP

Other UK Parliament and Government

New Publications

Updated Guidance: Forced marriage

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

Updated Guidance: What is a forced marriage?

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-is-a-forced-marriage>

Updated Guidance: Forced marriage: a survivor's handbook

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/survivors-handbook>

News

Coronavirus: House of Commons to move to three-day week

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-52328761>

[TOP](#)

Health Information: Coronavirus (COVID-19)

NHS

NHS Inform (Scotland)

Latest guidance about COVID-19 from NHS Scotland and the Scottish Government, including social distancing and stay at home advice.

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/infections-and-poisoning/coronavirus-covid-19>

NHS Near Me (Scotland)

Near Me is a video consulting service that enables people to have health and social care appointments from home or wherever is convenient. All you need is a device for making video calls like a smartphone and an internet connection. Near Me is a secure form of video consulting approved for use by the Scottish Government and NHS Scotland.

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

NHS (England and Wales)

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Scottish Parliament and Government

Coronavirus (COVID-19): shielding support and contacts

Contact your local authority if you need support with shielding.

Shielding is a measure to protect people who are clinically at high risk from the coronavirus, by supporting them to self-isolate to minimise all interaction with others.

Those identified should:

- not leave their homes
- minimise all non-essential contact with other members of their household

This is to protect those who are at very high risk of severe illness from coronavirus (COVID-19) from coming into contact with the virus.

Shielding is for your personal protection. While it is your choice to decide whether to follow these measures, the Chief Medical Officer strongly urges you to do so.

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/covid-shielding/>

Coronavirus (COVID-19): help for vulnerable people

A helpline – **0800 111 4000** – has been set up to provide essential assistance to those who do not have a network of support, but who are at high risk if they contract coronavirus (COVID-19). It is for anyone who:

- cannot get online
- is over 70
- disabled
- requires the support of mental health services
- is pregnant
- receives a flu jab for health reasons

The service offers help to people in these categories who do not have family or existing community support.

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-help-for-vulnerable-people/>

Health Secretary COVID-19 update – 19 April 2020

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/health-secretary-covid-19-update-19-april-2020/>

Coronavirus (COVID-19): trends in daily data

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/trends-in-number-of-people-in-hospital-with-confirmed-or-suspected-covid-19/>

Supporting families through COVID-19

<https://www.gov.scot/news/supporting-families-through-covid-19/>

Reassurance for students during coronavirus outbreak

<https://www.gov.scot/news/reassurance-for-students-during-coronavirus-outbreak/>

Coronavirus (COVID-19): funeral services guidance

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-funeral-services/>

Scottish Parliament announces new scrutiny plans in response to Covid-19

<https://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/114969.aspx>

UK Government

Number of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases and risk in the UK

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

UK Government confirms an additional £155 million for Scotland

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-confirms-an-additional-155-million-for-scotland>

Scottish Secretary welcomes additional Scotland £600m COVID funding

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/scottish-secretary-welcomes-additional-600m-for-scotland>

Other Organisations

Ethnic Minority National Resilience Network

1) Emergency Sustenance Grants

From Friday 17th April until Friday 29th May 2020 EMNRN will provide emergency

grant relief to those facing acute financial vulnerability due to the ongoing situation. We can support people/families who meet the following self-defined criteria:

- Have run out of or will run out of money between 9th April and 15th May
- Not in receipt of funding from other similar programmes
- Are unable to support their family due to delays in universal credit or self-employment support
- Have household member(s) who are showing virus symptoms making it impossible for to go to shops or shop online
- Are individuals and experiencing Covid-19 hardships with no family support, etc
- Any other reason connected to the public health emergency that has material impact of placing the household in acute hardship

We will accept registrations or referrals from trusted partners, agencies and organisations such as a local authority, community organisation or agency, health and social care organisation, local support and care networks or another public body. For full details see

<https://bemis.org.uk/emergency-sustenance-grant-scheme/>

2) **Counselling and Be-friending service**

With the kind support of professional counselling volunteers who are registered with British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) EMNRN are now able to offer FREE support to those community members who have concerns about self-isolation or other mental health support requirement. For information see

<https://bemis.org.uk/emnrn/counselling/>

3) **Newsletter 17/04/2020**

<https://mailchi.mp/74176a163d68/emnrn-update-17042020>

Scottish Government Parent Club

Parent Club provides guidance on the latest Scottish Government updates and what they mean for children and their parents and carers. It has a dedicated coronavirus hub offering advice and support to parents as they face the many challenges of this pandemic.

<https://www.parentclub.scot/topics/health/coronavirus>

Gypsy/Travellers Scotland: Coronavirus information

<https://www.facebook.com/GypsyTravellers-ScotlandCoronavirus-information-100442048272006>

New Publications

ScotPHO COVID-19 Community Vulnerability

<https://scotland.shinyapps.io/scotpho-covid-vulnerability/>

Tips for Mental Wellbeing during Lockdown (in Polish)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=asqIO4yloiE>

News

Scottish equality and human rights bodies join together in call for inquiry into implications of Covid-19

<http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/news/scottish-equality-and-human-rights-bodies-join-together-in-call-for-inquiry-into-implications-of-covid-19/>

Coronavirus cases to be tracked by ethnicity

<https://www.bbc.com/news/health-52338101>

Coronavirus: 'Disproportionate impact on BAME groups'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-oxfordshire-52292569>

Are ethnic minorities being hit hardest by coronavirus?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-52219070>

Coronavirus: 'You clap for me' film celebrates ethnic minority workers

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-52294950>

Coronavirus: UK's Sikh Vaisakhi festivals cancelled amid pandemic

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-52219170>

TOP

New Publication

Updated Guidance: Matters of Material Significance reportable to UK charity regulators

https://www.oscr.org.uk/media/3570/20190507_-_matters_of_material_significance_guidance_reissued_.pdf

TOP

Other News

Dundee Muslim community prepare for Ramadan during coronavirus lockdown

<https://www.eveningtelegraph.co.uk/fp/dundee-muslim-community-prepare-for-ramadan-during-coronavirus-lockdown/>

British Muslims find new ways to be together for Ramadan under lockdown

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/18/british-muslims-find-new-ways-to-be-together-for-ramadan-under-lockdown>

TOP

Bills in Progress ** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

Children (Scotland) Bill

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/112632.aspx>

Civil Partnership (Scotland) Bill

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/112997.aspx>

Disclosure (Scotland) Bill

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

UK Parliament

Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/asylumseekerspermissiontowork.html>

Asylum Support (Prescribed Period) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/asylumsupportprescribedperiod.html>

Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-21/immigrationandsocialsecuritycoordinationeuwithdrawal.html>

Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/immigrationcontrolgrosshumanrightsabuses.html>

Marriage (Approved Organisations) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/marriageapprovedorganisations.html>

Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/refugeesfamilyreunion.html>

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (Legal Advice and Appeals) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/unaccompaniedasylumseekingchildrenlegaladviceandappeals.html>

Windrush Compensation Scheme (Expenditure) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/windrushcompensationschemeexpenditure.html>

TOP

Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** Your Police 2020-2021** (closing date 31 March 2021)

Police Scotland recognise the importance of understanding the views and priorities of Scotland's diverse communities. This is especially important during the ongoing Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. This survey is an opportunity for you to give your views and opinions during these challenging times, and beyond.

<https://consult.scotland.police.uk/surveys/your-police-2020-2021/>

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>

TOP

Job Opportunities

[Click here](#) to find out about job opportunities.

[Click here](#) to find out about Graduate, Modern, and Foundation Apprenticeship opportunities.

TOP

Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

Grants online: Coronavirus

A number of Community Foundations and other organisations have launched funding programmes to assist local organisations in responding to the challenges of the Coronavirus Pandemic. To read a list of organisations and the types of funding they have made available, see <https://www.grantsonline.org.uk/coronavirus.html>

Third Sector Resilience Fund

Closing date not stated

Scottish Government grants and loans from £5,000 to £100,000 for the Third Sector in response to the Coronavirus pandemic. The Third Sector Resilience Fund is an emergency fund for charities, community groups, social enterprises and voluntary organisations working in Scotland. The fund will support organisations that already deliver services and products but find themselves in financial difficulties directly as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. The primary intention of the fund is to help third sector organisations to stabilise and manage cash flows over this difficult period. For information and to apply see <https://scvo.org/support/coronavirus/your-funding/for-organisations/third-sector-resilience-fund/>

Fife Centre for Equalities Diversity Week Activity Fund 2020

Closing date not stated

Grants of up to £100 for charities, community and voluntary groups, sporting groups, and informal groups to host a one-off activity celebrating the diverse population of Fife during Fife Centre for Equalities Diversity Week 7-13 September 2020. For information and to apply see <https://tinyurl.com/stbmu24>

TOP

Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Interfaith Scotland is looking at ways of putting their training courses onto an online format. If you have signed up for any of their training courses please contact Jamie Spurway at jamie@interfaithscotland.org for further details.

Working with people from diverse religion & belief identities

22 April 2020 in Glasgow (1.00–4.30)

Interfaith Scotland course on improving confidence in discussing and responding to the religion and belief of those we work with. Includes the core beliefs and cultural practices of the main faiths, and individual needs that may arise from a person's faith or belief identity. For information see <https://interfaithscotland.org/get-involved/training> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

Talking Prejudice

These are now likely to be run as online events. Further details will be available in due course.

5 May 2020 in Inverness (9.30–4.00)

2 June 2020 in Stirling (9.30–4.00)

YouthLink event for youth workers and others working in diverse communities to hear from other professionals about the tools and services available to address hate crime and prejudice. For information about the Inverness event see <https://tinyurl.com/t5g6xnv> and for the Stirling event see <https://tinyurl.com/v29nlow>

Organising interfaith events and enabling dialogue

Interfaith Scotland is looking at ways of putting their training courses onto an online format. If you have signed up for any of their training courses please contact Jamie Spurway at jamie@interfaithscotland.org for further details.

7 May 2020 in Glasgow (1.00–4.30)

Interfaith Scotland course on how to arrange events that bring together people of many faiths and philosophies for meaningful and respectful dialogue, including practical considerations for their success, and creating an environment that respects difference while seeking mutual understanding. For information see <https://interfaithscotland.org/get-involved/training> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

3rd International Conference on Migration and Mobilities

8–10 July 2020 in St Andrews

The conference is orientated around the four themes that reflect key contemporary conceptual and policy concerns: internal migration and urban change, forced migration and bordering, visualising mobilities, and European migration in turbulent politic. For information see <http://www.imigmob2020.org/home>

TOP

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>

Refugee Survival Trust <https://www.rst.org.uk/>

Freedom from Torture <https://www.freedomfromtorture.org/>

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

TOP

SCoJeC
Scottish Council of
Jewish Communities

Representing, connecting, and supporting Jewish people in Scotland



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

BEMIS

Empowering Scotland's Ethnic and
Cultural Minority Communities

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/>



gov.scot

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/>

The copyright of each article belongs to the publisher on whose website it appears, and it may only be copied or reproduced in accordance with the relevant terms and conditions. Full details of these, and the publisher's contact information, are available on each website.