



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 and UK Parliaments return from recess on 21 February 2022.

Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers: Channel Migrants

France: Undocumented Migrants

Andrew Percy (Conservative) [119492] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what recent progress she has made on discussions with her French counterpart on stopping illegal crossings of the English Channel by migrants.

Reply from James Cleverly: The UK and France agree on the need to cooperate closely to stop people traffickers. Working together we stopped over 23,000 illegal migration attempts in 2021. The Foreign Secretary underlined the need for a

practical and pragmatic approach to migration with French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian at the G7 Foreign and Development Ministers' Meeting in December. The Prime Minister has discussed his commitment to work with France on the shared challenge of illegal migration in the Channel with President Macron, most recently on 5 February.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119492>

Undocumented Migrants: English Channel

Kevan Jones (Labour) [120658] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reason her Department has decided to stop the publication of daily figures of migrants crossing the English Channel.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: The Home Office are currently considering advice from the independent UK Statistics Authority to make sure statistics on small boats crossing are published in an orderly way, which provides a clear picture of the small boats issue to the public. The Home Office has recently announced its intention to publish a quarterly statistics release on irregular migration to the UK, including the number of people arriving across the Channel in small boats. The first release will be on 24 February 2022. This will ensure regular statistics are released in an orderly, transparent way that is accessible to everyone, meeting the principles set out in the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#).

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-08/120658>

Undocumented Migrants: English Channel

Andrew Percy (Conservative) [119493] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking in preparation for a potential increase in channel crossings in the Spring.

Reply from Tom Pursglove: We expect to see increased attempts by criminal gangs to facilitate these dangerous and unnecessary Channel crossings as the weather and sea conditions improve. Our focus is on prevention, and our ongoing support to the French Government provides for additional police patrols, improved detection technology and strengthened border security infrastructure on the French side. And at home, we are overhauling our broken asylum system to ensure people smugglers cannot profit from this vile trade.

We are exploring with Ministry of Defence partners how best we can use the full range of HMG's capabilities to intercept and manage those that cross the Channel more effectively, safely and securely.

We have already improved the facilities at the Port of Dover. We have also set up a new, secure site at Manston to hold small boat arrivals for up to five days as security and identity checks are completed.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119493>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers: Afghanistan

Immigration: Afghanistan

Kate Green (Labour) [119543] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department (a) will take to support Afghan nationals after their six months leave to remain in the UK ends and (b) is taking to provide information, advice and support to those people in the meantime.

Reply from Damian Hinds: The Home Office has written to Afghan families advising them of the next steps to progress permanent residence in the UK.

The Home Office has established a dedicated caseworking team, which is working jointly with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and the Ministry

of Defence. This team will contact those here in the UK under the Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy and those moving onto the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme, to assist them to obtain Indefinite Leave to Remain status.

While families are being accommodated in Bridging Hotel accommodation, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) is working with departments including Home Office to support people relocated to the UK through ARAP and ACRS to integrate into UK society. The Home Office are leading on supporting people in bridging accommodation, including getting people into schools, or registering with a GP for example. For the most recent update on what the Government is doing to support Afghans, please see my Dear Colleague of 23/12/21,

We also have Home Office Liaison Officers (HOLO's) allocated to Bridging Hotel Accommodation.

The role of the HOLO is to provide both face to face support and remote support when not physically present. They are reactive to the needs of those accommodated in hotels and can provide signposting to other government departments and Local Authorities and ensure safeguarding concerns are appropriately acted upon.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119543>

Information about the Afghan Relocations Assistance Policy, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/afghan-relocations-and-assistance-policy/afghan-relocations-and-assistance-policy-information-and-guidance>

Information about the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/afghan-citizens-resettlement-scheme>

Immigration: Afghanistan

Ruth Cadbury (Labour) [118543] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her policy is on the validity of indefinite leave to remain applications for individuals from Afghanistan who travelled to Afghanistan before August 2021; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Rachel Maclean: There are no application routes to apply for indefinite leave to remain from overseas. For those who were not called forward as part of Op Pitting, or who are not offered resettlement under the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme, they will need to apply to come to the UK under the existing economic or family migration rules. They will be expected to meet the eligibility requirements of their chosen route, which includes paying relevant fees and charges, and providing biometrics. However, there is currently no option to give biometrics in Afghanistan.

Individuals who are in third countries have the option of applying for a visa to the UK. Further information can be found on the GOV.UK website:

<https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration>

For Afghan refugees in the UK, their close family members are free to apply for Family Reunion, but we recognise those in Afghanistan will face the same challenges in providing biometrics and so we do not recommend making applications at this time. Those in third countries are open to submit an application. Further information can be found on the GOV.UK website:

<https://www.gov.uk/settlement-refugee-or-humanitarian-protection/family-reunion>

The UK is working with international partners to secure safe routes out of Afghanistan as soon as they become available, but while the security situation remains extremely volatile, we recommend people in Afghanistan do not make applications and pay application fees at this time as they will not be considered until biometrics are provided.

The Home Office holds no data on the number of Afghan's with indefinite leave to remain who remain in Afghanistan. Those who have indefinite leave to remain in the UK who are currently in Afghanistan should make themselves known to the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-04/118543>

Information about the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/afghan-citizens-resettlement-scheme>

Refugees: Afghanistan

Kate Green (Labour) [119544] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many places remain to be allocated under the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme; and how many of those given protection under the scheme to date are British nationals or people living in the UK.

Reply from Damian Hinds: The Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) commenced on 6th January. The ACRS will provide up to 20,000 women, children and others at risk with a safe and legal route to resettle in the UK.

We are unable to give statistics of those in the scheme due to the continuing flow of people being welcomed. We will include this data within published resettlement statistics later in 2022.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119544>

Information about the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/afghan-citizens-resettlement-scheme>

Refugees: Afghanistan

Dehenna Davison (Conservative) [120926] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if the Government will take steps to ensure that Afghans brought to the UK through the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy are found permanent accommodation as soon as possible.

Reply from Damian Hinds: We currently have over 12,000 people in bridging hotel accommodation.

We do not want to keep people in temporary accommodation any longer than they need to be, we are eager for them to be moved into more permanent settled accommodation so that they can begin to rebuild their lives here in the UK.

Due to an unprecedented cross-government effort, and in partnership with local authorities and the private rented sector, we have already matched or are matching approximately 4,000 evacuees to homes.

We strive to allocate the right families into the right accommodation to ensure that their integration into their new communities in the UK is as smooth as possible. We are exploring all options to ensure families who move out of bridging hotels into self-arranged accommodation receive the appropriate support

To achieve this, we triage and prioritise families to ensure the settled accommodation provides the best possible match.

We would like to encourage Local Authorities who have not yet pledged support to consider offering to do so. People are encouraged to submit housing offers via the DLUHC Housing portal where offers can be signposted to the appropriate LA to consider if they could support a family under the scheme using that property

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/afghanistan-housing-portal-offers-of-support>

In addition to the work we are doing with local authorities, the Government has extended the Community Sponsorship Scheme so that local community groups will be able to directly support an Afghan family resettled through the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme which will commence soon.

Afghans recognised as having a legal right to reside in the UK are immediately entitled to access essential services including education, NHS healthcare, employment opportunities and universal credit.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-08/120926>

Information about the Afghan Relocations Assistance Policy, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/afghan-relocations-and-assistance-policy/afghan-relocations-and-assistance-policy-information-and-guidance>

Refugees: Afghanistan

Johnny Mercer (Conservative) [119703] To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what plans she has to allow Afghan refugees given Indefinite Leave to Remain under the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy, to join the armed forces in the UK.

Reply from James Heapey: Individuals with Indefinite Leave to Remain in the UK have no immigration restrictions on their employment however, as per s.340 of the Armed Forces Act 2006 the right to enlist in the UK Armed Forces is restricted to British or Commonwealth citizens, or either sole or dual nationals of the Republic of Ireland. The only exception to this legislation is the special and unique arrangement permitting Nepalese citizens to enlist in the Brigade of Gurkhas. Afghans relocated under the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy, and any other migrants to the UK would be eligible to enlist in the UK Armed Forces once they had applied for and obtained British nationality.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119703>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers: Other Immigration and Asylum

British Nationality: Children

Catherine West (Labour) [119726] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will make it her policy to remove British Citizenship fees for children under the age of 18.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The Home Office acknowledged the Court of Appeal's ruling of 18 February 2021 and is reviewing the child registration fee in line with its duties under Section 55.

A Supreme Court hearing on a separate ground in this case took place on 23rd and 24th June 2021, with the judgement handed down on 2 February 2022. It has been important to give the Supreme Court the opportunity to give its view on the questions raised by this case before finalising the Section 55 assessment. We are now able to do so and hope to conclude the assessment shortly. We will share the results in due course.

In the meantime, the fees set out in the Immigration and Nationality (Fees) Regulations 2018 continue to be charged.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119726>

The Court of Appeal ruling referred to above can be read at

<https://www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/R-PRCBC-v-SSHD-Judgment.pdf>

The Supreme Court judgement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.supremecourt.uk/cases/docs/uksc-2021-0062-judgment.pdf>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Matt Western (Labour) [119767] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for settled status from EU students are pending decision.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The Home Office publishes data on the EU Settlement

Scheme (EUSS) in the '[EU Settlement Scheme statistics](#)'.

The latest published information on EUSS applications received and applications concluded by nationality to 30 September 2021, can be found in tables EUSS_01 and EUSS_03 available at: [EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics, September 2021](#).

Information on EUSS applications which relate specifically to EU nationals studying in the UK is not recorded on our case management system and is therefore not available.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119767>

Information about the EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Asylum: Interviews

Holly Lynch (Labour) [119694] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the current average waiting time is from when a person contacts the National Asylum Intake Unit to register an asylum claim to when they have their screening interview.

Asylum

Holly Lynch (Labour) [119695] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to tackle delays in registering an asylum claim.

Reply from Kevin Foster: 1) We are increasing the size of the National Asylum Intake Unit in response to the exceptional challenges of large-scale clandestine arrivals. This additional resource will enable us to reduce the time asylum seekers wait between registering their asylum claim and conducting the screening interview. 2) Since 1 January 2020, the mean average number of days between asylum application raised date and asylum screening is 36.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119694>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119695>

Asylum

Holly Lynch (Labour) [119696] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how can a person who requires asylum support and who is unable to register their asylum claim due to delays in the asylum system can access asylum support.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The Home Office ensures asylum seekers who would otherwise be destitute are not left unsupported.

Where there are delays in the asylum system, individuals continue to be supported under section 98 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119696>

Asylum

Lisa Cameron (SNP) [117803] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what data her Department collects on the protected characteristics of asylum seekers arriving in the UK.

Reply from Kevin Foster: When an asylum seeker registers their asylum claim they will undergo an asylum screening interview. This interview includes questions about their personal details and their health and wellbeing. These include questions that relate to their age, their gender (sex), whether they are pregnant, if they have any disabilities, their race/ethnicity, their religion and if they have a partner.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-03/117803>

Asylum: Napier Barracks

Justin Madders (Labour) [119639] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home

Department, to which local authority areas the asylum seekers placed in Napier Barracks are being dispersed to.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The responsibility for locating properties the asylum seekers will move on to, is discharged through a partnership approach with local authorities (LA), involving extensive consultation about local impacts.

Accommodation is offered on a no-choice basis across the United Kingdom and there are established mechanisms in place, via Migrant Help and Support Casework, if individuals have a specific, acute need to be accommodated in a particular area.

We are in continuous dialogue with local authorities to encourage greater participation in the dispersal accommodation system to increase the number of areas which take part in this work.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119639>

The following four questions all received the same answer

Asylum: Mental Health Services

Ruth Jones (Labour) [119814] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the implications for her policies of the finding in the report entitled *We want to be strong*, by the British Red Cross and the VOICES Network, that for many women the asylum system is not sensitive to gender or trauma-related needs.

Asylum: Interviews

Ruth Jones (Labour) [119815] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will take steps in response to findings from the VOICES Network and the British Red Cross report entitled *We want to be strong*, that her Department is not consistently offering women the option to be interviewed by a woman for their asylum interviews.

Asylum: Females

Ruth Jones (Labour) [119816] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions she has had with women who have first-hand experience of seeking asylum about (a) their experiences of the asylum system in the UK and (b) potential changes to the asylum system that would benefit women and girls.

Asylum

Ruth Jones (Labour) [119817] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reason there is no mention of creating an asylum system that is sensitive to gender or trauma-related needs in her Department's New Plan for Immigration.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The UK has a proud history of providing protection to the most vulnerable people in genuine need, including women, and this will not change. This government remains committed to delivering a gender-sensitive asylum system ensuring that all those who seek asylum are treated with dignity and respect.

The Nationality and Borders Bill will deliver the Government's New Plan for Immigration – the most comprehensive reform in decades, to fix the broken asylum system. The reformed asylum system will continue to strive to provide a system which is sensitive to gender and trauma-related needs, for example continuing to provide the opportunity for all those claiming asylum to be interviewed by an individual of the same gender and a trauma informed approach to actively avoid the re-traumatisation whilst an individual is in the asylum system.

We are taking into account the recently received report '*We want to be strong*', commissioned research, experiences of those seeking asylum and welcome engagement through our stakeholder networks. Engagement, including on the New Plan for Immigration, is already underway, as we build a system that is fair, but firm; which safeguards those who may be vulnerable; and protects against any unintended consequences.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119814>
and
<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119815>
and
<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119816>
and
<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119817>

The report referred to above can be read at

<https://www.redcross.org.uk/-/media/documents/about-us/research-publications/refugee-support/we-want-to-be-strong-womens-experiences-of-seeking-asylum-in-the-uk.pdf>

The New Plan for Immigration, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/new-plan-for-immigration/new-plan-for-immigration-policy-statement-accessible>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Asylum: Children

Kate Green (Labour) [119545] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many days on average it took to process claims from unaccompanied children seeking asylum in the UK in (a) 2018, (b) 2019, (c) 2020 and (d) 2021; and how many days it is taking currently; and if she will make a statement.

Kate Green (Labour) [119547] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what urgent steps she is taking to tackle the backlog in processing asylum claims from children.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The Home Office is unable to state what the average number of days taken to process claims unaccompanied children seeking asylum in the UK and how many days it took to reach a decision on claims by children seeking asylum in 2021, 2020 and 2019 as this information is not held in a reportable format and therefore cannot be published.

The Home Office have established two dedicated case working Hubs for deciding children's asylum claims which are now fully operational. The hubs have established improved focus on and greater control of children's cases to build expertise, identify efficiencies and provide a consistency of decision making (and quicker outcomes) for our customers.

We continue to work collaboratively with Local Authorities nationally on the remote interview process for Accompanied and Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children and young people utilising digital interviewing video capabilities to complement in person interviews.

Since May 2021 we have increased Local Authority opt in for digital interviewing to 108 Local Authorities. This has helped to speed up processes, reduce delays, and by doing so the numbers of children and young people who have an outstanding claim.

We are continuing to recruit additional decision-makers who will be trained to process children's asylum claims.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119545>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119547>

Asylum: Employment

Kate Green (Labour) [119548] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she plans to allow people seeking asylum the right to work in the UK.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The Home Office already allows asylum seekers the right to work in the UK if their claim has been outstanding for 12 months or more,

through no fault of their own.

Those permitted to work are restricted to jobs on the Shortage Occupation List, which is based on expert advice from the independent Migration Advisory Committee.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119548>

Human Trafficking

Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi (Labour) [119774] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to help prevent girls being groomed in (a) Romania and (b) elsewhere and trafficked to the UK for the purposes of sexual exploitation.

Reply from Damian Hinds: Tackling Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery remains a top priority for this government and we are committed to stamping out this abhorrent crime. Since its introduction, the Modern Slavery Act 2015, has given law enforcement agencies the tools to tackle modern slavery, including maximum life sentences for perpetrators and enhanced protection for victims.

We work with a range of partners, including law enforcement agencies to raise awareness of modern slavery, this includes training interventions for frontline services that might encounter victims of modern slavery and human trafficking, ensuring operational colleagues such as Border Force can recognise the signs of modern slavery and are equipped to step in.

Romania remains a crucial partner in our ambitions to tackle modern slavery globally and to reduce the number of victims, including girls trafficked to the UK for sexual exploitation. We have invested over £200,000 this financial year in a range of projects to strengthen Romanian law enforcement approaches, victim support organisations, and national strategies on trafficking.

Through the Home Office Modern Slavery Fund, we are also working with Nigeria, Albania and Vietnam to prevent people falling into slavery, including girls who are vulnerable to sexual exploitation. Our work in Albania has provided essential reintegration support to 330 victims of trafficking and worked with over 5,000 vulnerable people to prevent exploitation from occurring. A dashboard showcasing the results achieved can be accessed at:

<http://endhumantrafficking.ai/>

and can be disaggregated by gender and age.

The Government recognises there is yet more we can do to tackle this crime and bring offenders to justice. We are currently reviewing the 2014 Modern Slavery Strategy – a revised strategy will allow us to build on the progress we have made to date, adapt our approach to the evolving nature of these crimes, and continue our leadership in tackling modern slavery.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119774>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Overseas Students: Immigration

Lord Johnson of Marylebone (Conservative) [HL5795] To ask Her Majesty's Government (1) how many, and (2) what proportion, of international students have chosen to stay in the UK after their studies in each of the last 10 years; and what was the breakdown of students by nationality for each year.

Reply from Baroness Barran: The department publishes data about international graduates from English higher education (HE) providers and colleges who remain in the UK for employment or study one, three, five and ten years after graduating from a first degree in its annual Graduate Outcomes (LEO)[1] publication. Latest

available data for international first degree graduates refer to outcomes in the 2018-19 financial year and are published in Table 45 here:

<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/graduate-outcomes-leo/2018-19>

Table 1 in the attached spreadsheet summarises the outcomes of international first degree graduates from English HE providers and colleges one year after graduation for the past five tax years. Data is only published for financial year 2014-15 onwards.

The department also publishes employment outcomes and earnings for international postgraduates from English HE institutions in the LEO: Postgraduate outcomes[2] publication. Table 2 in the attached spreadsheet summarises the outcomes of international level 7 (taught and research) and level 8 postgraduates of English HE institutions, one year after graduation for the past five tax years. Data is only published for financial year 2014-15 onwards.

In the attachment, minor methodological adjustments were made to the published LEO percentage outcome calculations so that graduates in sustained employment, further study or both in the UK are given as a proportion of all graduates (published LEO calculations exclude those identified by the Department for Work and Pensions records as overseas from the denominator).

The publications also include breakdowns of graduates by country but focus on the 20 countries with the highest number of graduates in the 2016/17 academic year. These are available in Table 53 and Table 25 of the respective publications.

Another important data source that measures the outcomes of graduates from the UK HE system is the Higher Education Statistics Agency's Graduate Outcomes survey. This includes supplementary information about graduate outcomes, such as details of their employment destinations. Further information about the survey is available here:

<https://www.hesa.ac.uk/data-and-analysis/graduates>

[1] <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/graduate-outcomes-leo/2018-19>

[2] <https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/graduate-outcomes-leo-postgraduate-outcomes>

[HL5795 Table](#)

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-01-31/hl5795>

Refugees: Afghanistan

Lord Moynihan (Conservative) [HL5804] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 26 October 2021 (HL2952), how many unaccompanied Afghan minors with family links to the UK have been resettled in the UK since the Kabul airlift of August 2021; and how many are still in Qatar waiting to be resettled.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Further to the written answer of 26 October 2021, of the group of sixteen children with UK based relatives evacuated to Qatar from Afghanistan, none are now in Qatar. Seven children have been settled with their families in the US and of the remaining children, they are either being settled in the US as they have no family able to safely accommodate them in the UK or are awaiting further assessment from either US or UK local authorities ahead of a final decision on where they will stay permanently.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-01-31/hl5804>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-10-11/hl2952>

Press Releases

Further push to help unaccompanied asylum seeking children as part of New Plan for Immigration

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/further-push-to-help-unaccompanied-asylum-seeking-children-as-part-of-new-plan-for-immigration>

Tier 1 Investor Visa route closes over security concerns

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/tier-1-investor-visa-route-closes-over-security-concerns>

Home Secretary orders wide-ranging review of Border Force

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-orders-wide-ranging-review-of-border-force>

New Publications

Your immigration status: an introduction for EU, EEA and Swiss citizens

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/view-and-prove-your-immigration-status-evisa/your-immigration-status-an-introduction-for-eu-eea-and-swiss-citizens-accessible-version>

Equality impact assessment of the points-based immigration system

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1054815/FBIS_EIA_3.0_FINAL.pdf

Help people who have come to the UK from Afghanistan

<https://www.gov.uk/help-afghanistan/print>

Welsh Government letter to the UK Government about the Nationality and Borders Bill

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/inline-documents/2022-02/letter-to-kevin-foster-mp.pdf>

A Bill at What Price?

<https://togetherwithrefugees.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/A-bill-at-what-price-2.pdf>

Guardianship Systems for Unaccompanied Children in the European Union — Developments since 2014

https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2022-guardianship-systems-developments_en.pdf

News

Devolved ministers join forces to challenge 'restrictive' UK immigration policy

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/kevin-foster-uk-government-northern-ireland-scotland-wales-b2015802.html>

UK to scrap visas for rich foreign investors scheme

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-60410844>

Priti Patel announces closure of Golden Visa scheme after corruption fears raised

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/19932679.priti-patel-announces-closure-golden-visa-scheme-corruption-fears-raised/>

UK axes 'golden visa' scheme after fraud and Russia concerns

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/feb/17/uk-ministers-plan-to-scrap-golden-visa-scheme-amid-russia->

UK scraps golden visas over Russian dirty money fears

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/uk-scraps-golden-visas-over-russian-dirty-money-fears-0rnjpnw52>

Priti Patel's plan to process migrants offshore could cost at least four times more than in UK

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2022/02/14/priti-patels-plan-process-migrants-offshore-could-cost-least/>

Refugee group warns of 'astonishing' cost of new Home Office policies

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/feb/14/refugee-group-warns-of-astonishing-cost-of-new-home-office-policies>

Priti Patel's 'cruel' asylum reforms will cost taxpayer £2.7bn a year, report finds

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/asylum-cost-bill-priti-patel-home-office-channel-uk-b2013315.html>

Priti Patel's new asylum law will cost double, claim charities

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/priti-patels-new-asylum-law-will-cost-double-claim-charities-sh0b03vz6>

Afghan refugees worried over UK visas, lawyers warn

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-60425301>

Fears that Afghan refugees in UK face 'hostile environment' rules within days after visa delays

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/afghan-refugees-hostile-environment-visas-b2017504.html>

Thousands of Afghans stuck in UK hotels as resettlement plan stalls

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/feb/15/thousands-of-afghans-stuck-in-uk-hotels-as-resettlement-plan-stalls>

Afghans refugees living in 'nightmare' six months after fall of Kabul as UK fails to find them proper homes

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/afghans-hotels-housing-refugees-kabul-home-office-uk-b2014903.html>

Afghan families still living in hotels six months after evacuation

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/afghan-families-still-living-in-hotels-with-some-reluctant-to-move-rqp2pbnx9>

Lorry migrants surge by 30pc in a year as Border Force told to toughen checks

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/02/16/lorry-migrants-surge-30pc-year-border-force-told-toughen-checks/>

Two-thirds of UK asylum seekers on small boats had hypothermia or injuries

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/feb/14/two-thirds-of-uk-asylum-seekers-on-small-boats-had-hypothermia-or-injuries>

Navy ships can't be used for Priti Patel's plan to arrest Channel refugees, minister admits
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/navy-arrest-refugees-priti-patel-b2017231.html>

Home Office refuses to apologise to 12 innocent asylum seekers wrongly jailed for steering Channel dinghies
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/channel-crossings-wrongful-prosecutions-apology-b2013388.html>

Councils told by Home Office to find accommodation for migrant children
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-office-priti-patel-kevin-foster-government-b2015576.html>

'Doesn't seem possible': Londoner who wants to house Afghan refugees
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/feb/15/does-not-seem-possible-londoner-who-wants-house-afghan-refugee>

Derby Afghan interpreter's search for daughter's doll donor
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-derbyshire-60407444>

TOP

Equality

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Social Services: Ethnic Groups

Dabbie Abrahams (Labour) [114747] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what assessment his Department has made of the experience of inequalities in adult social care need by ethnicity; and what plans his Department has to tackle that matter.

Reply from Gillian Keegan: No assessment has been made. The Care Quality Commission's (CQC's) new strategy contains a core ambition to tackle inequalities in health and care, which includes regulating to advance equality and protect people's human rights. As part of CQC's commitment to drive improvement in quality, CQC expects services and local systems to address inequalities in access, experiences, and outcomes. Local authorities have a duty under the Care Act to prevent needs of the local population deteriorating.

We are committed to publishing a Health Disparities White Paper later this year which will set out a series of impactful measures to address health disparities and their causes, including those linked to geography, deprivation and ethnicity.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-01-31/114747>

The strategy referred to above can be read at

https://www.cqc.org.uk/sites/default/files/Our_strategy_from_2021.pdf

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Regional Planning and Development: Ethnic Groups

Lord Boateng (Labour) [HL5917] To ask Her Majesty's Government, when preparing the White Paper Levelling Up the United Kingdom, published on 2 February, what assessment they made of the impact of ethnicity in determining the scale and nature of geographical disparities across the UK; and what measures, if any, they plan to introduce to reduce (1)

the ethnic pay gap, and (2) the disparities in the levels of unemployment between different ethnicities, across all regions of the UK.

Reply from Lord Greenhalgh: The United Kingdom is one of the greatest countries in the world, but not everyone shares in its success. Pockets of inequality and deprivation exist, with differentials both within and between regions. The Government's central task is to level up the UK by spreading opportunity more equally across the country, addressing inequality and deprivation in those areas that have been left behind.

The Levelling Up White Paper drew on the findings of the independent Commission for Race and Ethnic Disparities' report of 31 March 2021. As the Commission emphasised, geography is a key factor affecting equality of opportunity and social mobility, and geographical and ethnicity-related factors are closely interrelated. The Government welcomes the opportunity to consider the Commission's findings on the ethnicity pay gap and reporting, including in light of the work that has already taken place within government, and will respond to the Commission's report in due course.

The ethnic minority employment rate is 68.1 per cent, a record high, but we know there is more we can do. This is why, building on the success of our flagship Kickstart scheme, we have introduced our Way To Work mission, which will support people back into work, including ethnic minority jobseekers, faster than ever before and filling vacancies across all regions more quickly.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-03/hl5917>

The White Paper referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1052046/Executive_Summary.pdf

The report referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/974507/20210331_-_CRED_Report_-_FINAL_-_Web_Accessible.pdf

New Publication

Scottish Government race recruitment and retention action plan: equality impact assessment results

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-government-race-recruitment-retention-action-plan-equality-impact-assessment-results/>

News

Doctors call for action not words from NHS in response to racial inequality report

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2022/feb/15/doctors-call-for-action-not-words-from-nhs-in-response-to-racial-inequality-report>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Cabinet Office: Racial Discrimination

Rachel Hopkins (Labour) [119897] To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office, whether he has made an assessment of the effectiveness of his Department's process for handling allegations of racial discrimination; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Michael Ellis: A 'Respect and Inclusion review' for the Cabinet Office is currently underway. In the recent [Declaration on Government reform](#), Ministers and Permanent Secretaries committed to set a new standard for diversity and inclusion, including guaranteeing fairness at work and zero tolerance for Bullying, Harassment and Discrimination. Our position at the centre of government - delivering against an ambitious agenda - means we have a responsibility to get this right. The review will have a particular focus on race and disability where our data shows scope for improvement.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119897>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Hate Crime

Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth (Conservative) [HL5964] To ask Her Majesty's Government what are the most recent statistics available for hate crime, broken down by category; and what were the statistics for the previous three periods for which figures are available.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Home Office collects and publishes statistics annually on the number of hate crime offences recorded by the police in England and Wales, broken down by monitored strand, in the 'Hate Crime, England and Wales' statistical bulletin. The latest available data, covering the period 2011/12 (when the data collection began) to 2020/21, can be found in 'Table 2' of the data tables, available attached.

[Table 2](#)

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-04/hl5964>

Universities: Housing

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL6058] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to encourage university accommodation providers to introduce race awareness training for students and staff.

Reply from Baroness Barran: The government does not play a role in providing or running student residential accommodation. Universities and private accommodation providers are autonomous and responsible for setting their own rent agreements.

We encourage accommodation providers to review their policies to ensure they are fair, clear and have the interests of students at heart. There should be no tolerance of any form of racism.

If a student thinks their accommodation provider is treating them unfairly, they can raise a complaint under the accommodation codes of practice if the provider is a code member. The codes can be found here:

<https://www.thesac.org.uk/>

<https://www.unipol.org.uk/the-code/how-to-complain>

and

<https://www.nrla.org.uk/about-us/code-of-practice>
<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/hl6058>

New Publication

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine: Improving racial equity in global medicine
<https://www.lstmed.ac.uk/sites/default/files/LSTM%20Race%20Equality%20Review%20-%20Arday%20%28February%202022%29%20FINAL.pdf>

News

Met Police: Some officers are racist, professional standards chief admits
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-60379131>

Some officers are racist, Metropolitan Police boss admits
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/02/15/officers-racist-metropolitan-police-boss-admits/>

Senior Met officer acknowledges racism problem in UK's largest force
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/feb/15/senior-met-officer-acknowledges-racism-problem-force-bas-javid>

'Racism is a problem in Metropolitan Police,' senior officer admits
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/metropolitan-police-racism-officer-admits-b2015451.html>

Met Police has a problem with racism, senior officer Bas Javid admits
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/met-police-has-a-problem-with-racism-senior-officer-bas-javid-admits-h20w77qdw>

Rise of the racist robots prompts artificial intelligence upgrades
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2022/02/16/rise-racist-robots-prompts-upgrades-artificial-intelligence/>

What we are getting wrong in the fight against antisemitism in Britain
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2022/feb/18/antisemitism-britain-anti-jewish-hate-incidents>

Race report delivers damning verdict on Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine
<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2022/feb/17/race-report-delivers-damning-verdict-on-liverpool-school-of-tropical-medicine>

Anti-racism groups condemn 'disturbing' school impartiality guidance
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/mary-boustead-teachers-government-nick-lowles-hope-not-hate-b2018124.html?amp>

Rex Whistler's 'racist' mural to stay in place at Tate Britain
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/02/16/rex-whistlers-racist-mural-remain-tate/>

Catholic worker receives £500k in British Army case
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-60391505>

Black employee asked about her 'inner chimp' loses discrimination case

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/02/14/black-hr-manager-loses-race-discrimination-case-asked-inner/>

Asking black worker about 'inner chimp' was not racist, tribunal rules

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/asking-black-worker-about-inner-chimp-was-not-racist-tribunal-rules-56kg93nmz>

Anti-Semitic letters left Lord Alan Sugar fearing for family

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-essex-60404538>

Lord Sugar left 'extremely scared' from hate mail over Labour anti-Semitism

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/02/16/lord-sugar-left-extremely-scared-hate-mail-labour-anti-semitism/>

'Isolated and alone': boy, 12, racially abused at football match in London

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/feb/15/asian-boy-racially-abused-match-criticise-football-association-middlesex>

ECB charge Essex with bringing game into disrepute for alleged racist comment made at board meeting

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/cricket/2022/02/17/ecb-charge-essex-bringing-game-disrepute-alleged-racist-comment/>

Essex charged over alleged racist comment by former chairman John Faragher

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/essex-charged-over-alleged-racist-comment-by-former-chairman-john-faragher-90jwktcdz>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

New Publication

Recorded Crime in Scotland: January 2022

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/recorded-crime-scotland-january-2022/>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

The following two questions both received the same answer

Religious Freedom

Kirsten Oswald (SNP) [119627] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, whether his planned reforms to sections 3 and 6 of the Human Rights Act 1998 will ensure that references to religion in legislation and guidance will be interpreted as religion or belief.

Religious Freedom: Telecommunications

Kirsten Oswald (SNP) [119634] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, with reference to the judgment in *Blackburn (t/a Cornish Moorland Honey) v Revenue and Customs*

Commissioners [2013] UKFTT 525, what recent assessment he has made of the potential effect of the proposed reforms to sections 3 and 6 of the Human Rights Act on the protection offered to persons with a religious conviction against the use of electronic communication.

Reply from James Cartlidge: In December, the Deputy Prime Minister announced that the Government is consulting on proposals to overhaul and replace the Human Rights Act (HRA) with a Bill of Rights. The consultation process is ongoing and we are carefully considering the impact of proposed policies on the legislative framework and legal systems of each devolved nation within the UK. Engagement with stakeholders, including in the devolved administrations, is underway and roundtable events with religious, humanist and secularist groups are planned. In line with our manifesto commitment, we want to ensure there is a proper balance between the rights of individuals, our national security and effective government.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119627>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-02-07/119634>

The judgement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.bailii.org/uk/cases/UKFTT/TC/2013/TC02913.html>

The sections of the Human Rights Act referred to above can be read at

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/42/section/3>

and

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/42/section/6>

The consultation referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/human-rights-act-reform-a-modern-bill-of-rights>

Press Release

Extra support to safeguard political impartiality in schools in England

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/extra-support-to-safeguard-political-impartiality-in-schools>

New Publications

Guidance: Political impartiality in schools

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/political-impartiality-in-schools/political-impartiality-in-schools#using-external-agencies>

What you need to know about political impartiality in schools

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1050134/6.7731_DfE_Political_Impartiality_Guidance_Pamphlet_WEB_004_.pdf

News

Schools in England given guidance to avoid biased teaching

<https://www.bbc.com/news/education-60405521>

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Health Information: Coronavirus (COVID-19)

NHS

Coronavirus helpline

People living in Scotland who don't have any symptoms but are looking for general information can call the coronavirus helpline. If you're a non-English speaker you can still use this service. Phone 0800 028 2816, tell the call handler that you need an interpreter, give the name of your preferred language and you will be connected to a Language Line interpreter. You will not have to pay for this.

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/coronavirus>

Book a coronavirus booster vaccination

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/vaccinebooking>

Get a record of your coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination status

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/covid-19-vaccine/after-your-vaccine/get-a-record-of-your-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-status>

Protect-Scot contact tracing app

<https://protect.scot/how-it-works>

Healthcare for refugees and asylum seekers

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/care-support-and-rights/health-rights/access/healthcare-for-refugees-and-asylum-seekers>

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 Government Publications

Coronavirus (COVID-19): daily data for Scotland

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-daily-data-for-scotland/>

Coronavirus (COVID-19): trends in daily data

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-trends-in-daily-data/>

UK Government Press Releases

New research reinforces the efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-research-reinforces-the-efficacy-of-covid-19-vaccines>

UK Government Publication

The R value and growth rate

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-r-value-and-growth-rate>

Other Organisations

Glasgow University, Glasgow Centre for Population Health, and CRER
COVID-19 Micro Briefing 3: The disproportionate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Black and minority ethnic groups

https://www.crer.scot/files/ugd/b0353f_d18884b3466b43629418b1d94da6406e.pdf

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Bills in Progress ** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

Scottish Local Government Elections (Candidacy Rights of Foreign Nationals) Bill

<https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/bills/scottish-local-government-elections-candidacy-rights-of-foreign-nationals-bill>

UK Parliament

Asylum Seekers (Accommodation Eviction Procedures) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2995>

Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2918>

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

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3003>

Asylum Seekers (Return to Safe Countries) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2961>

Barnett Formula (Replacement) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2982>

Housing Standards (Refugees and Asylum Seekers) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3002>

Human Trafficking (Child Protection) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2953>

Human Trafficking (Sentencing) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2963>

Illegal Immigration (Offences) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2986>

Immigration (Health and Social Care Staff) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3005>

Modern Slavery (Amendment) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2892>

**** Nationality and Borders Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3023>

Notice of amendments

<https://bills.parliament.uk/publications/45283/documents/1434>

Online Safety Bill (Draft)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/draft-online-safety-bill>

Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2883>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Draft Northern Ireland Refugee Integration Strategy (closing date 21 February 2022)

<https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/consultations/draft-refugee-integration-strategy>

**** closes this week!**

Coronavirus (Recovery and Reform) (Scotland) Bill (closing date 25 February 2022)

<https://yourviews.parliament.scot/covid19/recovery-bill/>

Review of the operation of the Public Sector Equality Duty in Scotland

(closing date 7 March 2022)

<https://tinyurl.com/2h pz9wu9>

How to measure the inclusion of migrants in Wales (closing date 25 March 2022)

<https://gov.wales/consultation-how-measure-inclusion-migrants-wales-html>

COVID 19: The Impact on Children & Young People (closing date not stated)

<https://engage.parliament.scot/group/12474>

Fearless Scotland – National Youth Survey (closing date not stated)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/fearless-Scotland>

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Job Opportunities

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

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

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Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

**** Refugee Festival Scotland Small Grants Fund**

Closing date for applications: 1 March 2022

Groups and organisations can apply for up to £500 to help cover the cost of running an event as part of this year's Refugee Festival Scotland.

Refugee Festival Scotland takes place every summer in the lead up to World Refugee Day on 20 June. Events are held across the country to share the art, culture, language and ideas that people bring with them when they settle in Scotland.

This year, the festival takes place from 17-26 June and the theme is storytelling. Our stories reflect the journeys our lives have taken and the places we want to go. They reveal who we are and shape how others see us.

For information and to apply see

<https://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/refugee-festival-funding/>

Workplace Equality Fund

Closing date for applications: 11 April 2022

Scottish Government funding to support employers in identifying, addressing, and diminishing longstanding barriers facing particular priority groups in entering and progressing within the labour market. The central goal of the fund is to incentivise and support collaborative projects that aspire to reduce employment inequalities and cultivate positive, fair, and inclusive workplace practices, with the intention of improving employment opportunities and progression policies within Scottish workplaces; particularly for the identified priority groups, improving knowledge, skills, and practices with respect to addressing employment inequalities; thereby engendering significant improvement for priority groups, and create and maintain an inclusive working environment through employees and employers working in partnership. For information and to apply see

<https://equalityadvice.scot/>

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Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

Rights and Entitlements of EEA Nationals

2 March 2022 (online, 10.00–12.30)

PAiH training on fundamental issues of housing, homelessness and welfare entitlements of EEA nationals, and look at how service users might prepare themselves to avoid the threats of Brexit. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/24ba4stk>

Rights of Refugees and Asylum Seekers

9 March 2022 (online, 10.00–12.30)

PAiH course to explore how the asylum system works from the perspective of a claimant

and the process involved in making a claim for asylum. The course will also explore the barriers faced by both refugees and asylum seekers building a new life in Scotland and their respective entitlement to services. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/24ba4stk>

Working with Interpreters

15 and 16 March 2022 (online, 1.00–4.30 both days)

27 and 28 September 2022 (online, 1.00–4.30 both days)

24 and 25 November 2022 (online, 1.00–4.30 both days)

Scottish Refugee Council 2-day courses to enable participants to understand the legal context and qualifications governing interpreters in the EU, UK and Scotland, know the different types of interpreting, identify the differences between an interpreter and a bi-lingual support worker, and who to use when, and recognise when it is inappropriate to use a family member, a friend or a community member to interpret. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/puykxxnu>

Refugees: Asylum and Resettlement

29 and 30 March 2022 (online, 11.30–3.30 both days)

16 and 17 June 2022 (online, 11.30–3.30 both days)

6 and 7 September 2022 (online, 11.30–3.30 both days)

27 and 28 October 2022 (online, 11.30–3.30 both days)

Scottish Refugee Council 2-day course drawing on the experiences of people seeking asylum and people who have been resettled in the UK, 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 the UK. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/jd2tey6w>

Working with Unaccompanied Refugee Children

21 and 22 April 2022 (online, 11.30–3.30 both days)

10 and 11 November 2022 (online, 11.30–3.30 both days)

Scottish Refugee Council 2-day course to enable participants to recognise the legal difference between children seeking asylum, children who have been trafficked, refugees and migrants, appreciate the journeys that children have made to be in the UK including being trafficked, understand the Age Assessment process, identify the rights and entitlements of separated children, and become familiar with the statutory responsibilities of the Scottish Guardianship Service. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/3fedr5xn>

Supporting Refugee Integration

28 and 29 April 2022 (online, 1.00–4.30 both days)

11 and 12 October 2022 (online, 1.00–4.30 both days)

15 and 16 December 2022 (online, 1.00–4.30 both days)

Scottish Refugee Council 2-day course to enable participants to understand the principles of a refugee-led integration framework, understand how dependency is created and how to build on people's resilience, and feel confident to facilitate refugee-led integration effectively. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/ukvn5rs5>

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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>

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/disclosure-types>

Volunteer Scotland Disclosure Services

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

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

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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 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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