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## Immigration and Asylum

### Scottish Parliament Debate

#### World Refugee Day

<https://archive2021.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=13836&i=125444#ScotParIOR>

### Scottish Parliament Written Answers

#### Nationality and Borders Act 2022

**Katy Clark (Labour) [S6W-08884]** To ask the Scottish Government what plans there are for Lord Advocate guidelines relating to the new criminal offence of unlawful arrival inserted via section 40 of the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 into section 24 of the Immigration Act 1971.

**Reply from Dorothy Bain:** Section 40 of the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 amends section 24 of the Immigration Act 1971 to include a new offence of arriving in the United Kingdom without a valid entry clearance. The new offence comes in force on 28 June 2022.

There are no plans to introduce Lord Advocate's guidelines in relation to the new offence.

Where the circumstances of alleged offending are reported to the Procurator Fiscal, prosecutors will decide on appropriate prosecutorial action, if any, on the basis of both the principles in the published Scottish Prosecution Code and, where relevant, the published Lord Advocate's instructions for non-prosecution of victims of human trafficking.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-08884>

### **Nationality and Borders Act 2022**

**Katy Clark (Labour)** [S6W-08885] To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the passing of the Nationality and Borders Act 2022, whether it plans to review its (a) national strategy on (i) New Scots refugee integration, (ii) human trafficking and exploitation, (iii) ending destitution of migrants and people with no recourse to public funds and (iv) mental health and (b) plans for a Human Rights Bill.

**Reply from Shona Robison:** The Nationality and Borders Act 2022 is a complex piece of legislation. The Scottish Government raised significant concerns about the likely impacts during the passage of the Bill, and the Scottish Parliament voted to withhold consent on two clauses. The Act will affect people living in Scotland, but the full extent of this will depend on how it is implemented by the Home Office.

(a) In relation to whether the Scottish Government plans to review strategies in light of the Act:

(i) The New Scots refugee integration strategy has been developed and is led in partnership by the Scottish Government, COSLA and the Scottish Refugee Council. The current strategy was published in 2018. We have committed to refreshing the strategy with our partners in 2023 and to ensuring that it is shaped by refugees and people seeking asylum, as well as those with expertise supporting them. The impact of the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 will be considered in the development of the new strategy.

(ii) The first statutory review of the Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy was published in May 2020 and was clear that the strategy remained fit for purpose in the short term. However, we remain committed to the development of a refreshed strategy which will take into account a range of developments since publication of the review, including the Nationality and Borders Act 2022.

(iii) The Ending Destitution Together strategy was published in March 2021, in partnership with COSLA, and focuses on improving and strengthening support provision and service access for people subject to No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) living in Scotland. This strategy is the first of its kind and is being delivered in partnership with the third sector, public services and local authorities over the next two years. Ending Destitution Together clearly sets out our inclusive approach, while recognising that there are limits on action that can be taken because immigration and nationality, including NRPF policy, are reserved to the UK Parliament. As the strategy is implemented, we will consider all developments since the publication of the strategy, including the Nationality and Borders Act 2022.

(iv) The Mental Health Strategy was published in 2017 and set out 40 actions to improve mental health care. This was followed by a Mental Health

Transition and Recovery Plan in 2020 in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The 2021-22 Programme for Government committed to “review and refresh” the Mental Health Strategy at its halfway point in 2022 and work is already underway to do this. The scope of the refreshed strategy will be wider than before, with an increasing focus on wellbeing and prevention. We will also consider how the strategy can take account of social factors and inequalities that may impact a person’s mental health and wellbeing. We have already undertaken extensive engagement with our stakeholders to help us shape the strategy. We will be launching a public consultation later this month and will take forward further engagement activity over the summer months to inform this important work.

(b) Following on from the work and recommendations of the First Minister’s Advisory Group, and the National Taskforce for Human Rights Leadership, a new Human Rights Bill will be introduced to Parliament during this parliamentary session.

Our commitment to bringing forward a Human Rights Bill this Parliament, as far as we can within devolved competence, remains and we are proceeding on that basis.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-08885>

*The New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/new-scots-refugee-integration-strategy-2018-2022/>*

*The Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/trafficking-exploitation-strategy/>*

*The review of the Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy referred to above can be read at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/trafficking-exploitation-strategy-third-annual-progress-report-strategy-review/>*

*The Ending Destitution Together Strategy, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/ending-destitution-together/>*

*The Mental Health Strategy, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/mental-health-strategy-2017-2027/>*

*The Mental Health Transition and Recovery Plan, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/mental-health-scotlands-transition-recovery/>*

### **Nationality and Borders Act 2022**

**Katy Clark (Labour)** [S6W-08959] To ask the Scottish Government whether it has any plans to make regulations under section 9(8) and (9) of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015, including in light of the changes regarding trafficking matters and processes in the Nationality and Borders Act 2022.

**Reply from Ash Regan:** We are seeking further clarification from the Home Office to fully understand the operational impact of the Nationality and Borders Act.

We have no current plans to make regulations under section 9(8) and (9) of the 2015 Act.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-08959>

### **Asylum Seekers: Hong Kong**

**Sharon Dowe (Conservative)** [S6W-08857] To ask the Scottish Government how it has supported asylum seekers from Hong Kong who have resettled in Scotland.

**Reply from Shona Robison:** Asylum and immigration are matters reserved to the UK Parliament and handled by the Home Office. This includes decisions relating to refugee resettlement programmes, UK visa routes and the operation of the UK asylum system. The Scottish Government has no control over these processes.

There is no provision in UK Immigration Rules for someone abroad to be given permission to travel to the UK to seek asylum. There is therefore no resettlement route for people seeking asylum from Hong Kong. The UK Government has established refugee resettlement routes and visa routes, including the Hong Kong BN(O) visa route. Decisions about eligibility criteria for refugee resettlement and visa routes are made by the UK Government.

Scotland's approach to supporting refugees and people seeking asylum is set out in the New Scots refugee integration strategy. Developed and led in partnership by the Scottish Government, COSLA and the Scottish Refugee Council, New Scots provides a clear framework for all those working to support integration and assists the work of partners across local authorities, public services, the private sector, third sector and community organisations. The key principle of New Scots is that refugees and asylum seekers should be supported to integrate into communities from day one of arrival.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-08857>

*The New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/new-scots-refugee-integration-strategy-2018-2022/>*

*Information about the Hong Kong BN(O) visa route, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/british-national-overseas-bno-visa>*

### **Migration: Hong Kong**

**Sharon Dowey (Conservative)** [S6W-08858] To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S6W-07560 by Shona Robison on 19 April 2022, whether it will provide further details of the steps that it has taken to meet with former Hong Kong residents who have resettled in Scotland who (a) are asylum seekers and (b) hold British National (Overseas) visas, in order to collect feedback on their experiences.

**Reply from Shona Robison:** Scottish Government officials have spoken with people seeking asylum as part of ongoing engagement and our work to deliver the New Scots refugee integration strategy. However, this is not done on the basis of people's nationality but their experience living in Scotland while seeking asylum, wherever they are from. We also regularly engage with partners who provide direct support to people seeking asylum. Officials have ongoing engagement with people relocating to Scotland from Hong Kong, as part of wider stakeholder engagement.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-08858>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-07560>

### **Ukraine: Super Sponsor Scheme**

**Sharon Dowey (Conservative)** [S6W-09040] To ask the Scottish Government how many Ukrainian refugees have been refused a place through its Super Sponsor scheme due to (a) unspent convictions, (b) spent convictions, (c) unspent cautions and (d) sex offender notifications.

**Reply from Neil Gray:** The Scottish Government do not hold this information. Immigration is fully reserved to the UK Government and decisions relating to visa applications are solely for the Home Office, and they do not routinely share information about individual applications with Scottish Government.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-09040>

### **Ukrainian Refugees: Accommodation**

**Monica Lennon (Labour)** [S6W-08901] To ask the Scottish Government what its response is to recent reports of refugees from Ukraine who have relocated to Scotland being removed from accommodation against their will.

**Reply from Neil Gray:** Our absolute priority is ensuring the wellbeing and safety of displaced people from Ukraine. It is not the case that anyone was removed from accommodation against their will. A number of weeks ago, a small group of displaced people from Ukraine volunteered to change hotels to make rooms available for those arriving late at night into Edinburgh airport. The Resettlement Team ensured everyone understood this was a voluntary arrangement and that rooms were available should they decide to stay.

The Scottish Government is working to ensure that there is temporary accommodation available in cities where people may arrive late at night. This, as well as the temporary nature of some of the hotel availability means that in some cases, people will be requested to move into another hotel. The Scottish Government is working to reduce this need and to support people to move on from hotel accommodation into longer-term accommodation.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-08901>

### **Seasonal Work Visas: Ukrainian Nationals**

**Mark Ruskell (Green)** [S6W-09018] To ask the Scottish Government what assessment it has made of the number of Ukrainian nationals on seasonal work visas who are currently resident in Scotland.

**Reply from Neil Gray:** Agricultural workers from Ukraine are critical in the production of soft fruit and vegetables in Scotland. The seasonal worker Labour Providers have a contractual and data sharing agreement with the Home Office. Numbers relating to Seasonal Workers are only shared by labour providers with the Home Office as part of this. Following engagement with officials in the Home Office and DEFRA our best assessment of the information available is that there are approximately 500 Ukrainian Nationals on seasonal work visas currently residing in Scotland.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-09018>

### **Seasonal Work Visas: Ukrainian Nationals**

**Mark Ruskell (Green)** [S6W-09019] To ask the Scottish Government what assessment it has made of the support needs of Ukrainian nationals on seasonal work visas in Scotland following the introduction by the UK Government of the Ukraine Extension Scheme on 3 May 2022.

**Reply from Neil Gray:** Agricultural workers from Ukraine are critical in the production of soft fruit and vegetables in Scotland. As a result of the conflict, there are significant concerns about the needs of these workers and JustRight Scotland's new Worker Support Centre, supported by £41,000 from the Scottish Government will provide independent outreach and legal support for seasonal workers in Scotland. The Centre follows models used around the world to offer temporary migrant workers advice and support in times of crisis. In addition, The Scottish Government also funds the Royal Scottish Agricultural Benevolent Institution (RSABI) which has long-established connections to the wider agricultural community and related support services in Scotland.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-09019>

*Information about the Ukraine Extension Scheme, referred to above, can be read at*

### **Seasonal Work Visas: Ukrainian Nationals**

**Mark Ruskell (Green)** [S6W-09020] To ask the Scottish Government what correspondence it has had with the seasonal worker employment sponsor agencies in relation to supporting Ukrainian nationals on seasonal work visas in Scotland to access the Ukraine Extension Scheme.

**Reply from Neil Gray:** As immigration is reserved to the UK Government, the Home Office is responsible for the operation of visa schemes and application processing. The Home Office has been supporting approved labour providers for the Seasonal Worker Scheme to complete applications to the Ukraine Extension Scheme on behalf of Ukrainian workers, to process the visas as quickly as possible and monitor the process more effectively. The Scottish Government will continue engaging closely with the Home Office and other partners to ensure that workers displaced by the crisis in Ukraine are able to access the support they need while they are here in Scotland.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-09020>

*Information about the Ukraine Extension Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-to-stay-in-the-uk-under-the-ukraine-extension-scheme>*

### **Refugees: Ukraine**

**Mark Ruskell (Green)** [S6W-09021] To ask the Scottish Government whether it has had any correspondence with the UK Government in relation to providing routes to permanent settlement for Ukrainian nationals who have arrived in Scotland with limited leave to remain, through the Ukraine Family Scheme, Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme and the Ukraine Extension Scheme.

**Reply from Neil Gray:** The UK Government's response to the Ukraine crisis is predicated upon complex, bureaucratic, short-term visas, not humanitarian need. Inordinate time and effort has been required to patch this broken system. Scotland's super-sponsor scheme seeks to do just this. But there remain serious gaps in the UK's schemes even in the short term – in particular routes for vulnerable unaccompanied children and others left out of the existing schemes. In my regular correspondence, I have pressed the UK government to put people before process. I have been clear that, while many displaced people will want to return to Ukraine when it is safe to do so, the UK should offer sanctuary for as long as is required, and permanently if necessary.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-09021>

*Information about the Ukrainian Family Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-a-ukraine-family-scheme-visa>*

*Information about the Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://homesforukraine.campaign.gov.uk/>*

*Information about the Ukraine Extension Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-to-stay-in-the-uk-under-the-ukraine-extension-scheme>*

## **Scottish Parliament Motions**

**Neil Gray (SNP)** [S6M-05098] **World Refugee Day – Welcoming and Supporting Refugees in Scotland's Communities** – That the Parliament uses the opportunity of World Refugee Day to welcome people who have sought refuge in Scotland from war and

persecution, including refugees, people seeking asylum, people relocated from Afghanistan and displaced people from Ukraine; recognises the contribution that refugees, people seeking asylum, people who have arrived under refugee resettlement and relocation schemes, people granted discretionary leave or humanitarian protection and displaced people arriving under specific visa routes have made to Scotland over many years; thanks local authorities, communities, individuals, the third sector and faith organisations that have supported, and are supporting, refugees, people seeking asylum and displaced people to settle in the country; commends the key principle of the New Scots refugee integration strategy that integration begins from day one of arrival, and celebrates the opportunity to connect and share stories through Refugee Festival Scotland.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/votes-and-motions/S6M-05098>

**Ruth Maguire (SNP) [S6M-04964] World Refugee Day** – That the Parliament recognises 20 June 2022 as World Refugee Day; understands that the 2022 focus was on inclusion; further understands that, every minute, 20 people leave everything behind to escape war, persecution or terror; recognises that refugees are among the most vulnerable people in the world and are protected by the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol; understands that the 1951 Convention contains a number of rights and also highlights the obligations of refugees towards their host country, with the cornerstone of the 1951 Convention being the principle of non-refoulement; further understands that, according to this principle, a refugee should not be returned to a country where he or she faces serious threats to his or her life or freedom; remembers all those displaced by conflict and crisis around the globe, and reaffirms what it sees as the obligation to international law and to the right of refugees to seek asylum and not be returned to a country where one would face persecution.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/votes-and-motions/S6M-04964>

## UK Parliament Debate

### **Homes for Ukraine: Child Refugees**

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-06-22/debates/B17B9D82-5416-4CBF-80D5-7B722885C349/HomesForUkraineChildRefugees>

## UK Parliament, Ministerial Statement

### **Homes for Ukraine Update**

**The Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Minister for Intergovernmental Relations (Michael Gove) [HCWS123]** The Homes for Ukraine scheme will allow eligible children and minors under the age of 18 who have already applied through the Homes for Ukraine Scheme to come to the UK without a parent or guardian, the Government announced today, 22 June 2022.

This policy will initially apply to the 1,000 children who have already applied to the Home Office but are unable to travel as they are not travelling or reuniting with a parent or guardian.

After working closely with the Ukrainian Government, the changes will enable a child to apply for a visa if they have proof of parental consent. This must be certified by an authority approved by the Ukrainian Government such as notary authorities or Ukrainian consul abroad.

Extensive sponsor checks will also be carried out by local authorities ahead of any visa being granted, with councils able to veto any sponsor arrangements they deem unsuitable. The sponsor should also, except in exceptional circumstances, be someone who is

personally known to the parents.

The Government are working with the Ukrainian Government, devolved Administrations, local authorities and charities and voluntary groups.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-06-22/debates/22062235000010/HomesForUkraineUpdate>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

### Points-based Immigration System: Labour Shortages

**Wendy Chamberlain (Liberal Democrat):** What assessment [has the Minister] made of the potential impact of the points-based immigration system on labour shortages. (900579)

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department (Kevin Foster):** Our immigration system works in the interests of our whole United Kingdom by covering a broad range of occupations across many sectors for firms looking to attract the talent that they need, while ensuring that the domestic labour market is supported—yet recruitment issues are not unique to the UK, and immigration must not be seen as an alternative to improved pay, conditions and training for key workers.

**Wendy Chamberlain:** There is a severe shortage of care workers around the UK. In St Andrews in my constituency, a social care business had to shut down recently because of staffing issues. My inbox is increasingly full of messages from people who are waiting for care-at-home packages. One way of helping would be to allow asylum seekers to work while their claims are being processed: it would allow them to support themselves and would mitigate the worst of the shortages. Will the Secretary of State and the Minister consider that?

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** That is an interesting one. Those whose asylum claim has been outstanding for more than a year can take jobs on the shortage occupations list, which has included care workers since February. One of the slight issues, of course, is that until very recently, 31 out of the 32 local authority areas in Scotland, including the hon. Lady's, refused to be part of the dispersal accommodation system. Now that we have made the change to full dispersal, some of those people will actually be living in those areas. ...

**Dan Carden (Labour):** The reality out in the country is that we have labour shortages across multiple sectors, 1.3 million job vacancies, the most persistent post-pandemic drop in employment in the G7, operations not being carried out in our hospitals, restaurants and the hospitality industry being unable to recruit staff, and a shortage of drivers to drive produce around the country. Why will the Minister not act pragmatically and immediately, introduce more work visas where there are shortages, lift the ban on asylum seekers working and have an independent review of the impact of ending freedom of movement?

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** ... shortages in many areas, such as hospitality, are not unique to the United Kingdom. ...

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-06-20/debates/BDDDB219B-29FB-4ED7-9047-FC146EBE6930/Points-BasedImmigrationSystemLabourShortages>

### Relocations to Rwanda

**Suzanne Webb (Conservative):** What progress [has the Minister's Department] made in relocating individuals to Rwanda under the migration and economic development partnership. (900584)

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department (Tom Pursglove):** As the House will be aware, despite the detailed deliberations and judgments received in various domestic courts that heard the case, the European Court of Human Rights' out-of-hours judge granted last-minute



interim measures. The Government are seeking greater transparency from the ECHR on the reasons for its judgment. A full judicial review is expected to be heard in July. I want to be clear that this partnership is fully compliant with our international obligations.

**Suzanne Webb:** Unbelievably, £5 million a day is being spent on housing asylum seekers in hotels. That is money that my constituents would rather see invested in the west midlands—for example, supporting the 1,500 additional police officers that the Department has helped to recruit across the region. Can my hon. Friend confirm that he will press ahead with our Rwanda partnership, to end our dependency on this expensive accommodation and crack down on the people smuggling gangs once and for all?

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** My hon. Friend absolutely hits the nail on the head in explaining why our new plan for immigration is so important, and we are determined to deliver on it. It is a comprehensive package of reform, including the Rwanda proposals, and we are going to get on and deliver on it. The Prime Minister has said that we will work through these issues, and that is precisely what we are now doing. ...

**Stuart C McDonald (SNP):** On World Refugee Day, we pay tribute to all the fantastic refugees who have made utterly amazing contributions to our society and who were, thank goodness, able to have their claims heard here and rebuild their lives here instead of being dumped and offloaded thousands of miles away. The full hearing on whether the Home Secretary's policy in Rwanda is lawful will take place in July, as the Minister said. Surely, if the Home Secretary has an iota of respect for the UNHCR and the importance of the refugee convention, she will confirm that she will wait for the outcome of that hearing instead of gambling on another reckless, degrading and expensive attempt at these removals.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** The hon. Gentleman will recognise that we do not comment on ongoing legal proceedings. We have had this debate many times, but what I would say is that every day that this new partnership is not in operation is a day that people continue to risk their lives in the channel. That is not acceptable or sustainable, which is why we are taking the steps we are.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-06-20/debates/03714F66-711D-436A-8A7B-4B8B1F3CB908/RelocationsToRwanda>

### **Support for People Fleeing War in Ukraine**

**Robert Largan (Conservative):** What steps [is the Minister's] Department taking to support people fleeing war in Ukraine. (900575)

**Richard Holden (Conservative):** What steps [is the Minister's] Department taking to support people fleeing war in Ukraine. (900580)

**John Lamont (Conservative):** What steps [is the Minister's] Department taking to support people fleeing war in Ukraine. (900588)

**Dehenna Davison (Conservative):** What steps [is the Minister's] Department taking to support people fleeing war in Ukraine. (900596)

**Reply from the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Priti Patel):** This week, we mark Refugee Week. The UK has a long, proud history of welcoming refugees and the Government have introduced two new, safe routes for Ukrainian nationals—the Ukraine family scheme and the Homes for Ukraine scheme—as part of our commitment to the people of Ukraine during the awful conflict with Russia. Arrivals under those schemes will be able to live and work in the UK for up to three years and, of course, they will have full and unrestricted access to benefits, healthcare, employment and other support. We have also introduced the Ukraine extension scheme, permitting Ukrainians already in the UK to extend their stays.

**Robert Largan:** I am proud that a large number of my constituents have welcomed Ukrainian families into their homes as part of the Homes for Ukraine scheme ... However,

some of those children have had their applications for local schools rejected. May I urge the Home Secretary to have urgent conversations with the Department for Education on solving this issue so that children who are here having fled a war zone can continue their education?

**Reply from Priti Patel:** My hon. Friend raises an important point. If I may, on behalf of all of us in Government, I will thank and commend all members of the British public who have been supporting our schemes. It is important that we do everything we can across Government to support the education of children in our schools. In April, the Secretary of State for Education got in touch with every single local authority chief executive officer as well as directors of children's services to outline clearly the requirements on schools and the funding coming from Government. I will of course pick up any points that my hon. Friend has from his constituency and raise them directly.

**Richard Holden:** Does my right hon. Friend agree that our compassionate approach to refugees from Ukraine, Syria and Afghanistan can be maintained with public confidence only if we are also robust in dealing with illegal channel crossings, and the human traffickers who peddle in human misery?

**Reply from Priti Patel:** My hon. Friend is absolutely correct: this is about deterring those dangerous crossings, deterring people smugglers, and carrying on with the long-standing and assiduous work that is taking place through our intelligence and security services and the National Crime Agency, and also upstream. This is about public confidence in the system. We are a generous country, but to maintain that means that we take action, so that we can be fair to those who come to our country, and firm on those who, quite frankly, are exploiting our country.

**John Lamont:** More than 70 Ukrainians have now found a place to call home in the safety of the Scottish Borders through the UK Government's Homes for Ukraine scheme. What support is being offered to local authorities in Scotland to assist their new residents?

**Reply from Priti Patel:** My hon. Friend raises an important point about local authority support. This is a whole Government effort, as well as a UK-wide effort to support families and the Homes for Ukraine scheme. With that, the Government have been clear, as has the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, about funding through that Department of more than £10,500 per person arriving under the scheme. We must ensure that we are supporting local authorities, and that the scheme is fair and equitable. In addition, we are ensuring that local authorities undertake all the necessary checks and safeguarding provisions that are required.

**Dehenna Davison:** Last Wednesday I was honoured to welcome my constituents Mark Rumble and Lucy Needham to Parliament, alongside Alina, the Ukrainian refugee who they are hosting. Mark and Lucy praised the ease and speed of the visa application process, but raised some concerns that they were given very little information about how to support Alina in settling in with things such as registering with a GP, completing her biometric checks, and getting a national insurance number. Will the Home Secretary consider Mark's suggestion of producing a clear and comprehensive welcome pack for every Ukrainian refugee, so that they and their host families can ensure that the refugee settles in as quickly as possible?

**Reply from Priti Patel:** My hon. Friend raises an important question, as well as some practical points that are constantly being addressed through the scheme. Welcome packs have been provided, and the Departments for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, for Education, and of Health and Social Care have, through local authorities, received support and guidance from central Government. I thank my hon. Friend's constituent for what he is doing, and for his suggestions. Much of that information is on gov.uk, but if there is more we can do—it sounds as if there is—we will join this up, and I will pick up that representation directly. ...

**Jamie Stone (Liberal Democrat):** The small village of Golspie in Sutherland will shortly be hosting seven families from Ukraine. There is no lack of people in the Highlands volunteering to put up those good people, who are getting as far as the UK but seem to be getting blocked in hotels and not getting to the families in the Highlands. Will the Home Secretary talk to the Scottish Government with a view to sorting out that logjam?

**Reply from Priti Patel:** Absolutely. If the hon. Gentleman would like to share any details with me regarding where the barriers are, we will definitely pick that up. The whole point about Homes for Ukraine, and the work across the whole Government, is that where there are bottlenecks we must unblock them and ensure a safe passage. We must ensure that people are welcomed in the right way, so that they can be settled and their needs met as soon as they come to our country. ...

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

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-06-20/debates/9DE01B43-5A93-4D68-B2C1-CA02EEA6D691/SupportForPeopleFleeingWarInUkraine>

*The Welcome Pack referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/welcome-a-guide-for-ukrainians-arriving-in-the-uk>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers: Rwanda Refugee Policy

### Asylum: Rwanda

**Daniel Kawczynski (Conservative) [19598]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the implications for her policies of the interim measure granted by the European Court of Human Rights on 14 June 2022 preventing flights to Rwanda by people whose asylum applications will be processed in that country.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** The European Court of Human Rights granted last-minute interim measures which prohibited the removal of three individuals set to be relocated to Rwanda on 14 June 2022. The Government is seeking greater transparency from the European Court of Human Rights on the reasons for their judgment.

The European Court of Human Rights did not rule that the policy or removals were unlawful. We strongly believe that this project meets our obligations under both national and international law.

We have been clear from the start that we expect people to make legal challenges or barriers to removal. However, we will do what it takes to deliver this new partnership. A full judicial review is expected to be heard in July.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-16/19598>

### Asylum: Rwanda

**Daniel Kawczynski (Conservative) [20242]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether the UK was given an opportunity to make representations to the European Court of Human Rights before an interim measure was granted by that Court preventing the removal of asylum seekers to Rwanda for consideration there of their asylum claims.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** The European Court of Human Rights granted last-minute interim measures which prohibited the removal of three individuals set to be relocated to Rwanda on 14 June 2022. The UK was not given an opportunity to make representations to the European Court of Human Rights before the measure was granted. However, the Government is seeking greater transparency on the reasons for their judgment.

*The following four questions all received the same answer*

**Asylum: Rwanda**

**Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi (Labour)** [17085] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the deportation flight scheduled for Rwanda at 22:30 on 14 June 2022 from Stansted Airport, what the cost of that flight to the public purse is; and whether the Government has taken steps to ensure that there will be no cost to the public purse in the event that no deportee is a passenger on that flight.

**Charlotte Nichols (Labour)** [17147] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the cost is of the charter flight to take asylum seekers to Rwanda on 14 June 2022; and whether that cost will be paid in full in the event that there are no asylum seekers on that flight.

**David Simmonds (Conservative)** [17164] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the total cost to the public purse is of the flight to Rwanda scheduled to take off on 14 June 2022.

**David Simmonds (Conservative)** [17165] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether the cost of the flight to Rwanda that is scheduled to depart on 14 June 2022 would need to be paid for in full in the event that no asylum seekers are on the flight.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** Our priority will always be to keep our communities safe, and we make no apology for seeking to remove those with no right to remain in the UK.

Charter flight operations are an important means to remove individuals with no right to remain in the UK where there are limited scheduled routes. We manage the charter programme flexibly, balancing it with use of scheduled flights to best respond to operational needs. Costs for individual flights will vary based on a number of different factors and are regularly reviewed to ensure that best value for money is balanced against the need to remove those individuals with no right to remain in the UK.

The endless merry go round of late legal claims – which are often unfounded or without merit – can result in people being removed from flights at the last minute. However, our New Plan for Immigration will stop the abuse of the system and expedite the removal of those who have no right to be here.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-13/17085>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-13/17147>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-13/17164>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-13/17165>

*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>

**Asylum: Rwanda**

**Steve McCabe (Labour)** [18768] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what was the cost to the public purse of the legal challenges faced by her Department relating to the flight which was scheduled to take place on 14 June 2022 to remove people to Rwanda.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** The costs of our broken asylum system are at a 20 year record high, currently costing the UK taxpayer over £1.5bn a year, with £4.7 million a day being spent on hotels alone. This cannot continue – and the

partnership with Rwanda is a key part of our plans to reform the system and put an end to unsustainable costs which impact the taxpayer.

The Government's efforts to facilitate entirely legitimate and legal returns of people who have entered the UK illegally are too often frustrated by late challenges submitted hours before the flight. These claims are very often baseless and entirely without merit but are given full legal consideration which can lead to removal being rescheduled.

Costs for individual flights and legal services will vary based on a number of different factors and are regularly reviewed to ensure that best value for money is balanced against the need to remove those individuals with no right to remain in the UK.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-15/18768>

### **Asylum: Rwanda**

**Rachael Maskell (Labour Co-op)** [18950] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much her Department has spent on (a) legal services and (b) flights associated with the relocation of people to Rwanda under the Migration and Economic Development Partnership.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** Charter flight operations are an important means to remove individuals with no right to remain in the UK where there are limited scheduled routes. We manage the charter programme flexibly, balancing it with use of scheduled flights to best respond to operational needs.

Everyone considered for relocation to Rwanda will be screened and have access to legal advice. Decisions will be taken on a case-by-case basis, and nobody will be removed if it is unsafe or inappropriate for them.

The Government's efforts to facilitate entirely legitimate and legal returns of people who have entered the UK illegally are too often frustrated by late challenges submitted hours before the flight. These claims are very often baseless and entirely without merit but are given full legal consideration which can lead to removal being rescheduled.

Costs for individual flights and legal services will vary based on a number of different factors and are regularly reviewed to ensure that best value for money is balanced against the need to remove those individuals with no right to remain in the UK.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-15/18950>

### **Undocumented Migrants: Detainees**

**Yvette Cooper (Labour)** [18798] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many individuals notified of removal to Rwanda but not relocated on 14 June 2022 were placed in immigration detention since their arrival in the UK.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** All individuals who were not relocated on 14 June 2022 had undertaken dangerous journeys across the Channel and had been detained since their arrival in the UK.

The Home Office publishes statistics on immigration detention in the '[Immigration Statistics Quarterly Release](#)'. This includes data on people:

- Entering detention by initial place of detention in table Det\_02a of the '[Detention summary tables \(opens in a new tab\)](#)'.
- Leaving detention by last place of detention published in the table Det\_04c of the '[Detention summary tables](#)' and by reason for leaving detention in table.
- Det\_D03 of the '[detention detailed datasets](#)'.
- In detention by current place of detention in table Det\_03a of the '[Detention summary tables](#)'.

Information on the average cost per night to hold an individual in immigration detention can be found at [Migration Transparency data](#). As at Quarter 1 2022,

the average cost per night to hold an individual in immigration detention was £107.23. The average cost per night is not impacted by the immigration circumstances of those in detention and no new accommodation has been opened to hold those who were not relocated on 14 June.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-15/18798>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

#### **Asylum: Rwanda**

**Diana Johnson (Labour) [17895]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to ensure access to legal advice and representation for the asylum seekers held in detention ahead of potential deportation flights to Rwanda.

**Diana Johnson (Labour) [17896]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will publish the nationalities of all the asylum seekers identified for deportation to Rwanda.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove: 17895:**

In line with the published IRC Operating Standards, all individuals who arrive at an immigration removal centre (IRC) must be advised of their right to legal representation and of how they can obtain such representation, within 24 hours of their arrival at an IRC and again during the Home Office Detention Engagement Team induction within 48 hours of arrival.

The Legal Aid Agency (LAA) operates free legal advice surgeries in IRCs in England under the Detained Duty Advice (DDA) Scheme. Individuals who are detained are entitled to receive up to 30 minutes of advice regardless of financial eligibility or the merits of their case. There is no restriction on the number of surgeries an individual may attend. If an individual who is detained requires substantive advice on a matter which is in scope of legal aid, full legal advice can be provided if the statutory legal aid means and merits criteria are met.

Staff in immigration removal centres work closely with the LAA to manage demand for the DDA Scheme.

Detained individuals can also utilise private legal representation outside of the legal aid DDA scheme. All people detained in IRCs are provided with a mobile phone and have access to landline telephones on request, fax machines, email and video calling facilities, which can be used to contact legal representatives.

17896:

The latest published Immigration Statistics detail the number of individuals being managed under inadmissibility rules and can be found online at:

[How many people do we grant asylum or protection to?](#)

A breakdown of these figures specifically for those considered for relocation under the Migration and Economic Development Partnership with Rwanda is not currently available - however, we are working to bring that data in line with current reporting and hope to publish that information in the near future.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-14/17895>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-14/17896>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

#### **Asylum: Rwanda**

**Rachael Maskell (Labour Co-op) [17983]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department will provide transport to the UK for asylum seekers who receive a positive decision on their asylum application while they are located in Rwanda.

**Rachael Maskell (Labour Co-op) [17984]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department has made a mental health impact assessment of the

effect on asylum seekers of deportation to Rwanda.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** The Migration and Economic Development Partnership will see those travelling to the UK through illegal, dangerous and unnecessary methods, considered for relocation to Rwanda. Their asylum claims will be processed by Rwanda who will resettle them if their asylum claim is accepted. Those whose claims for protection are rejected will either be offered the chance to stay in Rwanda or return to their home country. They will not return to the UK once their claims have been decided by Rwanda.

Rwanda is a fundamentally safe and secure country with respect for the rule of law. However, everyone considered for relocation will be screened and have access to legal advice. Decisions will be taken on a case-by-case basis, and nobody will be relocated if it is unsafe or inappropriate for them.

Under this agreement, Rwanda will process claims in accordance with the UN Refugee Convention, national and international laws, and will ensure individuals have protection from inhuman and degrading treatment. Under the Migration and Economic Development Partnership, Rwanda has also undertaken to provide support to ensure the health, security and wellbeing of each relocated person.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-14/17983>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-14/17984>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers: Channel Migrants

### Asylum: Rwanda

**Steve McCabe (Labour)** [18769] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the potential impact of the UK-Rwanda Migration and Economic Development Partnership on the number of small boat crossings in the Channel.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** This partnership is part of a suite of measures in the New Plan for Immigration that we are implementing to tackle unnecessary, dangerous, and illegal journeys. There is no one single solution to this issue.

While people are dying making perilous journeys, it is only right that this Government reduces the draw of travel through multiple safe countries to claim asylum in the UK.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-15/18769>

### Undocumented Migrants: English Channel

**Caroline Lucas (Green)** [18869] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to her policy on deporting asylum seekers to Rwanda, whether she has set a target number for the reduction of people crossing the English Channel in small boats.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** The Migration and Economic Development Partnership is part of a suite of measures in the New Plan for Immigration that we are implementing to tackle unnecessary, dangerous, and illegal journeys. There is no one single solution to this issue.

While people are dying making perilous journeys, it is only right that this Government reduces the draw of travel through multiple safe countries to claim asylum in the UK.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-15/18869>

*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>

## Undocumented Migrants: English Channel

**David Davis (Conservative)** [16848] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will publish the nationalities of individuals attempting to illegally cross the English Channel in each month since January 2022 to date.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** The Home Office publishes data on small boat arrivals in the '[Irregular migration to the UK](#)' release. Data on the top nationalities arriving by small boats is published in table Irr\_02b of the '[Irregular migration summary tables](#)'. Information on how to use the dataset can be found in the 'Notes' page of the workbook. The latest data cover up to March 2022.

Data for April to June 2022 will be published on 25 August 2022. Information on future Home Office statistical release dates can be found in the '[Research and statistics calendar](#)'.

Official statistics published by the Home Office are kept under review in line with the code of practice for statistics, taking into account a number of factors including user needs, as well as quality and availability of data.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-13/16848>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers: Afghanistan

### Refugees: Afghanistan

**Nusrat Ghani (Conservative)** [19630] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will publish the number of Afghan Citizen Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) cases that were formerly ARAP cases; when the oldest ACRS application still in process was submitted; the number of staff appointed to deal with the ACRS cases; the number of ACRS applications that have been closed due to the applicant either being killed or dying; and the number of ACRS applicants on the Taliban Kill list.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Over 15,000 people were supported to come to the UK directly following the evacuation of Afghanistan, and more than 4,000 have since arrived.

Work is underway to ensure information relating to all the individuals relocated under all schemes are recorded on case working systems. Once this work concludes, statistics on ACRS and ARAP will be included in future editions of the Immigration Statistics. We will publish resettlement figures in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, allowing transparent progress-monitoring.

The ACRS is not application-based. Instead, eligible people will be prioritised for resettlement through three referral pathways.

Some of those brought to safety in the UK during and after the evacuation are eligible for the ACRS under Pathway 1. They include women's rights activists, journalists, and prosecutors, as well as the Afghan families of British Nationals. We have now granted many of these ILR under the ACRS.

Under the newly-opened second pathway, we are now able to begin receiving referrals from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) of vulnerable refugees who have fled Afghanistan for resettlement to the UK.

The FCDO have also launched the third referral pathway, which will see eligible British Council and GardaWorld contractors and Chevening alumni considered for resettlement to the UK.

We are committed to ensuring our operational teams have the resources they need to run an efficient and effective system, and we actively monitor workflows to ensure sufficient resources are in place to meet demand, including from pressures relating to the situations in Afghanistan and Ukraine.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-16/19630>

*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>

Information about the third Pathway, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/afghan-citizens-resettlement-scheme-pathway-3-eligibility-for-british-council-and-gardaworld-contractors-and-chevening-alumni>

### **Refugees: Afghanistan**

**John Healey (Labour)** [19556] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Afghan nationals have been relocated to the UK from Afghanistan via the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme in each month since January 2022.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Over 15,000 people were supported to come to the UK directly during Operation Pitting, and more than 4000 have since arrived.

Work is underway to ensure information relating to all the individuals relocated under all schemes are recorded on case working systems. Once this work concludes, statistics on ACRS and ARAP will be included in future editions of the Immigration Statistics.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-16/19556>

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

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**

**Tim Farron (Liberal Democrat)** [20243] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 8 June 2022 to Question 13085 on Refugees: Afghanistan, how many of the 12,000 individuals accommodated in hotels from the Operation Pitting evacuation have been moved to permanent accommodation as of 17 June 2022.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** We have moved, or in the process of moving 6,700 people into new homes since the first ARAP flights in June 2021.

We are working across government and with over three hundred Local Authority partners to move Afghan evacuees into permanent homes as soon as possible so they can settle and rebuild their lives. Alongside our engagement with local authorities, we are reaching out to landlords, developers and the wider private rented sector to encourage further offers of properties, either directly to Local Authorities or through our Housing portal.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-17/20243>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-06/13085>

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>

## **UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers: Ukraine**

### **Refugees: Ukraine**

**Liz Saville Roberts (Plaid Cymru)** [19651] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home

Department, what recent assessment has she made of the adequacy of financial support available to participants in the Ukraine Family Scheme compared to those participating in the Homes for Ukraine Scheme.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Ukrainian nationals coming to the UK under the Ukraine Family Scheme are given the same access to work, benefits and public services as those coming here under the Homes for Ukraine Scheme, as laid down in Appendix Ukraine to the Immigration Rules, details of which can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules/immigration-rules-appendix-ukraine-scheme?msclkid=e6adf1dbcf7b11ec86b0be860d4b164a>

Those sponsoring under the Ukraine Family Scheme are not required to provide accommodation. Therefore, the Government has not extended the £350 per month 'thank you' payment offered to those providing a home to refugees arriving in the UK under the Homes for Ukraine and Super Sponsor Schemes.

Sponsoring family members able to provide appropriate accommodation can choose to sponsor their family members under the Homes for Ukraine Scheme or Super Sponsor Schemes in order to become eligible for the 'thank you' payment.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-16/19651>

*Information about the Ukrainian Family Scheme, referred to above, can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-a-ukraine-family-scheme-visa>

*Information about the Homes for Ukraine Scheme, referred to above, can be read at*

<https://homesforukraine.campaign.gov.uk/>

*The following four questions all received the same answer*

#### **Homes for Ukraine Scheme: Children**

**Wendy Chamberlain (Liberal Democrat) [17131]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications from unaccompanied minors to the Homes for Ukraine scheme her Department has fully processed.

**Wendy Chamberlain (Liberal Democrat) [17132]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department processes applications to the Homes for Ukraine scheme from unaccompanied minors on a case-by-case basis.

**Wendy Chamberlain (Liberal Democrat) [17133]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many and what proportion applications from unaccompanied minors to the Homes for Ukraine scheme are awaiting (a) processing or (b) a decision.

**Wendy Chamberlain (Liberal Democrat) [17134]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to communicate with unaccompanied minors on the progress of their applications to the Homes for Ukraine scheme.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Unaccompanied minors are only eligible under the Homes for Ukraine scheme if they are reuniting with a parent or legal guardian in the UK, this policy is being kept under review.

The current data on unaccompanied minors is contained in the following link:

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/ukraine-family-scheme-application-data](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ukraine-family-scheme-application-data)

Information requested which is not contained within this published data is not routinely captured. To capture numbers would require a manual trawl of data and to do so would incur disproportionate cost.

Such applications received in accordance with the immigration rules for unaccompanied minors will normally be processed in date order from when documents are uploaded or after an appointment at a Visa Application Centre (VAC). Some cases will take longer as these are complex cases where safeguarding issues must be a priority before any decision is made.

Applications made under the Homes for Ukraine Scheme are being prioritised by UKVI, and case workers are processing applications as quickly as possible.

Applicants are contacted by email once their application has been received and processed. Where further information is needed on an application, UKVI contact applicants as a priority. Decisions are emailed to the email address provided in the application form.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-13/17131>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-13/17132>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-13/17133>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-13/17134>

*Information about the Homes for Ukraine Scheme, referred to above, can be read at*

<https://homesforukraine.campaign.gov.uk/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

#### **Private Education: Refugees**

**Mark Menzies (Conservative)** [17917] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, if he will issue guidance to local authorities on how they can partly or wholly fund independent school places for student refugees who have arrived under the Homes for Ukraine scheme using the same per capita funding that would be spent if they were to be educated in the state sector.

**Mark Menzies (Conservative)** [17918] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, whether his Department has issued guidance to local authorities on placements at independent schools for refugees who have arrived under the Homes for Ukraine scheme.

**Reply from Robin Walker:** The department is currently working at pace to develop the methodology and mechanism for the allocation of funding for the 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme. This education funding for children and young people will be distributed to local authorities. If the funding is used for a school place, it will be for state-funded schools only.

In general, there's nothing that would stop a local authority from providing funding to an independent school, but this would be a decision for the individual local authority to make.

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities issued guidance in March this year advising families how to apply for a school place in England. The Department for Education shared this via The Education Hub blog in April.

The Boarding Schools Association and the Independent Schools Council speak regularly to the Department for Education and the Home Office on matters relating to Ukraine and Russia.

We are grateful to those independent schools that have come forward to offer places and encourage independent schools to contact local authorities that are seeking to place children.

As school places are co-ordinated locally, schools should inform their local authorities that they are willing to offer places to Ukrainian students. It is for independent schools to determine their own criteria for creating scholarship schemes and putting local arrangements for administration in place.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-14/17917>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-14/17918>

*Information about the Homes for Ukraine Scheme, referred to above, can be read at*

<https://homesforukraine.campaign.gov.uk/>

### **Pupils: Refugees**

**Peter Gibson (Conservative)** [18060] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what language assistance he is providing to (a) schools and (b) colleges to assist them in serving the needs of (i) Afghan and (ii) Ukrainian children.

**Reply from Robin Walker:** Schools are responsible for ensuring that all of their pupils, including those who are classed as having a first language other than English, can access the full curriculum and have opportunity to achieve their potential.

Through the English as an additional language (EAL) factor in the national funding formula (NFF), schools are allocated funding for pupils who are classed as having EAL and who have started in the state-funded education system in England within the last three years. This equates to an additional £565 per primary school pupil and £1,530 per secondary school pupil in the 2022/23 financial year. The NFF will distribute a total of £410 million through the EAL factor in the current financial year. Schools have flexibility over how they use their overall funding budget to support their EAL pupils, as they are best placed to understand and respond to the particular needs of their pupils.

Ukrainians aged 16 to 19 living in the UK under the Ukraine Family Scheme, and the Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme (Homes for Ukraine) are eligible to enrol as a student in 16 to 19 education providers, although providers may ask to see evidence of their eligibility.

Afghans aged 16 to 19 recognised as having a legal right to reside in UK are immediately entitled to 16 to 19 funding and are therefore able to enrol at 16 to 19 education providers.

16 to 19 education providers include further education colleges, sixth form colleges and school sixth forms. 16 to 19 study programmes can include English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) courses or other English tuition, depending on the needs of the student.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-14/18060>

*Information about the Ukrainian Family Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-a-ukraine-family-scheme-visa>*

*Information about the Homes for Ukraine Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://homesforukraine.campaign.gov.uk/>*

### **Refugees: Ukraine**

**Alex Sobel (Labour Co-op)** [11849] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what assessment his Department has made of the (a) immediate and (b) long-term psychological impact of the war in Ukraine on refugees from that country.

**Reply from Gillian Keegan:** Whilst no specific assessment has been made, the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities has estimated that 13% of arrivals from Ukraine will require mental health support. We are working with the third sector and NHS England and NHS Improvement to develop proposals for providing integrated mental health care for Ukrainian arrivals.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-01/11849>

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

### **Asylum: Electronic Tagging**

**Anne McLaughlin (SNP)** [21222] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the estimated annual cost to the public purse is of the proposal to electronically tag

and monitor asylum seekers arriving in the UK.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** The government is undertaking a pilot which will operate for a period of 12 months with the purpose of establishing whether electronic monitoring is an effective way to improve and maintain regular contact management with asylum claimants who arrive in the UK via unnecessary and dangerous routes, in order to progress their immigration case.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-20/21222>

### **Asylum: Pakistan**

**Neil Coyle (Independent)** [17946] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people in each of the last five years who successfully claimed asylum in the UK were from Pakistan.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove:** The Home Office publishes data on asylum in the '[Immigration Statistics Quarterly Release](#)'. Data on asylum outcomes at initial decision by nationality are published in tables Asy\_D02 of the '[asylum and resettlement detailed datasets](#)'. Please note the breakdown published is the nationality of the applicant rather than the country the applicant came from. Information on how to use the datasets can be found in the 'Notes' page of the workbook. The latest data relates to the end of March 2022.

Information on future Home Office statistical release dates can be found in the '[Research and statistics calendar](#)'.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-14/17946>

### **Asylum: Applications**

**Rachael Maskell (Labour Co-op)** [17980] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the cost to the public purse is of supporting an asylum seeker in the UK for six months while waiting for an asylum application to be processed.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The United Kingdom has a statutory obligation to provide destitute asylum seekers with accommodation and other support whilst their application for asylum is being considered. The cost of supporting an asylum seeker is dependent on the level of support they receive.

Section 95 allows for accommodation and a cash allowance to a person who would be destitute whilst they have an ongoing asylum claim or appeal. The standard package of support consists of accommodation and a cash allowance of £40.85 per week for each asylum seeker and any dependants in their household when dispersed and £8.24 per person whilst they are accommodated in full board IA. The latest published Immigration Statistics detail the number of asylum seekers on Asylum Support. These statistics can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/asylum-and-resettlement-datasets#asylum-support>

Accommodation costs are subject to change depending on numbers being accommodated within the asylum system. Accommodation costs are considered to be commercially confidential, therefore the Home Office does not publish this information. However, total expenditure on asylum is published in the Home Office Annual Report and Accounts, available at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/ho-annual-reports-and-accounts>

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-14/17980>

### **Asylum: Children**

**Emma Lewell-Buck (Labour)** [11682] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied asylum-seeking children were accommodated by her Department without a local authority assuming responsibility for them between 22 February 2022 and 1 June 2022; and how many of those children were (a) accommodated

in hotels upon or after arriving in the UK and (b) were aged (i) 10 and under and (ii) between 11 and 18 on arrival.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The number of unaccompanied asylum seeking children accommodated by the Home Office without a local authority assuming responsibility for them from 22 February 2022 to 1 June 2022 was 355, and they were all aged between 11 and 18 on arrival.

The National Transfer Scheme (NTS) enables a more equitable distribution of responsibility for Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) between local authorities across the UK. However, the high number of UASC arrivals, particularly as a result of small boat crossings, continues to place unprecedented pressure on the NTS.

In November 2021, we took the decision to move to a directed NTS, in addition to the package of NTS improvements implemented in July 2021. Since 15 February all local authorities with children's services in the UK have been directed to participate in the NTS. However, intake remains very high, and the situation remains challenging.

Out of necessity with the children's best interests in mind, we have therefore been required to accommodate UASC on an emergency and temporary basis in hotels whilst placements with local authorities have been vigorously pursued. We have put measures in place to ensure the immediate safeguarding and welfare needs of young people can be met whilst we find them more appropriate long-term care placements.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-01/11682>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

#### **Asylum: Employment**

**Rachael Maskell (Labour Co-op) [17981]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessments she has made of the potential merits of permitting asylum seekers to work while they await the outcome of an asylum application.

#### **Asylum: Work Permits**

**Rachael Maskell (Labour Co-op) [17982]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will make it her policy to issue asylum seekers with temporary work permits while their application is being assessed.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Asylum seekers are allowed 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 (SOL).

A review of the policy has concluded and there will be no changes to the policy at this time.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-14/17981>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-14/17982>

#### **Asylum: Housing**

**John McNally (SNP) [16996]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her target date is for the completion of her full dispersal accommodation plan for asylum seekers.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** On 13 April the Minister for Safe and Legal Migration announced the Home Office would move, with immediate effect, to a policy of full dispersal for the procurement asylum accommodation. We are working in partnership with local authorities to develop full dispersal plans down to a region/nation level. Whilst these plans are being developed procurement under this policy has commenced and any properties procured during the interim period will

be accounted for in region/nations plans. This process is being informed by the informal consultation which was launched on 9 May and closes on 1 July.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-13/16996>

The announcement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.whitehosedc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2022/04/Minister-Announcement-letter-to-Local-Authorities.pdf>

The following four questions all received the same answer

#### **Undocumented Migrants: English Channel**

**Steve McCabe (Labour)** [18772] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people smugglers who aid migrants to illegally cross the English Channel have been (a) identified and (b) prosecuted by the Government in each month since January 2021.

**Steve McCabe (Labour)** [18774] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many staff does her Department employ specifically to identify people smugglers aiding migrants cross the Channel.

#### **Human Trafficking: Criminal Proceedings**

**Steve McCabe (Labour)** [18773] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many cases there are before the courts involving people smuggling.

#### **Human Trafficking: Prosecutions**

**Steve McCabe (Labour)** [18775] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people the Government has successfully prosecuted for people smuggling since 12 December 2019.

**Reply from Tom Pursglove: 18772:**

2021	Arrests	Convictions
Jan	10	17
Feb	14	5
Mar	15	9
Apr	19	4
May	28	7
Jun	35	13
Jul	17	1
Aug	6	7
Sep	20	11
Oct	15	6
Nov	16	8
Dec	4	12
Grand Total	199	100

2022	Arrests	Convictions
Jan	3	5
Feb	4	3
Mar	18	5
Apr	13	1
May	10	2
Grand Total	48	16

18773: Criminal & Financial Investigation teams currently have 74 live people smuggling cases that are considered 'Post Charge'. These are cases where charging of suspect(s) has been agreed by the CPS. These will be at various stages

of the court process, ranging from being warned for court, to a trial being underway and to trial concluded, but awaiting sentencing.

18774: Immigration Enforcement have 550 funded FTE for Criminal & Financial Investigation teams to tackle immigration crime.

18775:

Year	Convictions
12th Dec 2019 Onwards	3
2020	147
2021	100
2022 YTD	16
Grand Total	266

The 2022 total year to date only takes into account prosecutions until the end of May, which makes the number appear artificially low. There are still cases ongoing and the numbers of convictions is expected to increase.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-15/18772>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-15/18774>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-15/18773>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-15/18775>

### **Offenders: Deportation**

**Gareth Thomas (Labour)** [15168] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, with reference to his Department's press release, Plan to reform Human Rights Act, published 14 December 2021, which states that if he will provide the (a) source, (b) method by which the information was obtained and (c) sample size for the statement in that press release that as many as 70 per cent of successful human rights challenges are brought by foreign national offenders who cite a right to family life in the first instance when appealing deportation orders; and if he will make a statement.

**Reply from James Cartlidge:** This data is from Home Office management information. In the period 1 April 2016 to 8 November 2021, of 1,011 appeals against deportation by FNOs that were allowed on Human Rights grounds at First Tier Tribunal, an estimated success 70% were allowed solely on Article 8 (right to respect for private and family life) grounds.

This data was published by the Home Office on 24 February 2022. The link to this data on the Government's portal, including the explanation of the methodology and of the sample, is

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/foreign-national-offenders-appeals-on-human-rights-grounds-2008-to-2021>

I have asked for the press release you have quoted to be updated to read: 'It is estimated that as many as 70% of appeals against deportation by FNOs that were allowed on Human Rights grounds in the first instance were allowed solely on Article 8 (right to respect for private and family life) grounds'.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-09/15168>

*The press release referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/plan-to-reform-human-rights-act>



## UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

### Spousal Visas: Processing Times

**Baroness Burt of Solihull (Liberal Democrat):** To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to reduce the processing times for spousal visas for the spouses of British citizens from in excess of 24 weeks.

**Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Williams of Trafford):** My Lords, the Home Office is currently prioritising Ukraine visa scheme applications in response to the humanitarian crisis caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Staff from other government departments, including the DWP and HMRC, are being surged into the department to help with Ukraine work and to enable normal visa routes to return to normal service levels in due course.

**Baroness Burt of Solihull:** My Lords, it is very commendable that the Government are pouring additional resources into processing Ukrainian visas, but can I ask that they do not lose sight of the over 18,000 families, split apart and waiting for spousal visas, who have no certainty that the recently increased 24-week timeframe will even be the maximum time that they will have to wait? What measurable steps are the Government taking to reduce this backlog, and when does the Minister expect the fast-track system to be reinstated?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** I concur with the noble Baroness that we will not lose sight of that, but what we will also not lose sight of is that in many instances it is life or death for the Ukrainian people. I totally appreciate that other people are having to wait, and we are going to return to normal processing as soon as we can in due course.

**Lord Coaker (Labour):** My Lords, we agree with the prioritisation with respect to Ukraine, but the fact of the matter is that, whether it is passports, asylum applications or, now, spousal visas, the story at the Home Office is backlog after backlog after backlog. The Government's response is to say that over the next few months they will come forward with plans for reductions of 10% in staff. What does the Home Office say to those people waiting for spousal visas, separated from their partners for six months at a time? What does it say to those people waiting for spousal visas who have given up their jobs on the basis that they expect to get them? It is not good enough. Prioritise Ukraine, but not at the expense of everything else.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The noble Lord has neatly gone on to passports. Across March, April and May, HMPO processed approximately 3 million passport applications, with 98.5% of those processed within the published processing time of up to 10 weeks, and 91% processed within six weeks. It was not a backlog; it was the sheer volume of processing that needed to be done. In terms of workforce reductions, I have made the point before that every organisation should look at becoming leaner and more efficient. That certainly will not be to the detriment of any of the HMPO or processing surges that we see at the moment, where we expect to have the appropriate number of staff for processing. ...

**Lord Paddick (Liberal Democrat):** My Lords, the Minister of State for the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and the Home Office told the House on 7 June that there were 19,000 outstanding applications under the Ukrainian visa scheme. Can the Minister update the House on that number? Can she tell the House what the knock-on effect has been in terms of the number of outstanding applications for other visas?

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** On the Ukrainian visas, I think there have been 188,000 applications, and I know that 130,000 have now been issued. ...

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2022-06-21/debates/0F42C2A5-3601-40F3-A74E-CFEB923578B3/SpousalVisasProcessingTimes>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

### Immigration

**Lord Mann (Non-affiliated)** [HL826] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many new migrants legally settled in the UK in the period January–April.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Home Office publishes data on the number of grants of Settlement in the “How many people continue their stay in the UK or apply to stay permanently?” topic and underlying datasets of the [‘Immigration Statistics Quarterly Release’](#).

The latest data relates to the year ending March 2022 and can be found in table [se D02](#), which is attached.

[Table se D02](#)

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-09/hl826>

### Immigration: Hong Kong

**Lord Mann (Non-affiliated)** [HL827] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many migrants from Hong Kong have settled in the UK since June 2020.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Home Office publishes data on the number of applications and grants of leave of people from Hong Kong on the British National Overseas (BN(O)) route in the “How many people come to the UK each year (including visitors)?” topic and underlying datasets of the [‘Immigration Statistics Quarterly Release’](#).

The latest data for the BN(O) route relates to the year ending March 2022. These statistics include data on main applicants and dependants.

The Home Office publishes data on the number of grants of settlement, broken down by nationality in table [Se\\_D01](#) in the [Settlement datasets](#), which is attached.

The latest data relates to the year 2020.

[Settlement datasets](#)

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-09/hl827>

### Migrants and Refugees

**The Earl of Dundee (Conservative)** [HL611] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the UK's performance in hosting (1) refugees, and (2) migrants, compared to other Council of Europe member states, particularly with reference to (a) education, (b) apprenticeships, (c) employment, and (d) levels of integration.

**Reply from Lord Harrington of Watford:** The UK has a long history of supporting refugees in need of protection. Our resettlement schemes have provided safe and legal routes for tens of thousands of people to start new lives in the UK.

The UK is a global leader in resettlement. Since 2015, we have resettled more than 200,000 people through safe and legal routes direct from regions of conflict and instability.

Additionally, data collected from UNHCR from 2017-2021 shows the UK has resettled the 4th largest number of refugees worldwide. And when compared to the EU, has resettled the second highest number of refugees (c.20,000 people over that period, behind Sweden which resettled c.22,000).

The Home Office publishes data on refugees and other migrants in the ‘Immigration Statistics Quarterly Release’, including international asylum comparisons in the chapter ‘How many people do we grant asylum or protection to?’. The ‘List of tables’ shows all the latest data tables available from the release. The latest data relates to March 2022. Information on future Home Office statistical release dates can be found in the ‘Research and statistics calendar’.

The Home Office published an ‘Indicators of Integration framework’ in 2019, which provides a framework to support local and national practitioners in developing

strategies and in measuring progress in the integration of refugees and other groups.

The Indicators of Integration framework has underpinned our approach to evaluating the VPRS and VCRS refugee resettlement schemes, which involved quantitative and qualitative research, and we are now working with the Office of National Statistics to explore longer-term integration outcomes for refugees via administrative data collected by other government departments.

With the closure of VPRS and VCRS to new arrivals in February 2021, and the subsequent launch of new schemes (UKRS, ACRS and ARAP), we are building on our previous evaluation to develop an approach to evaluating ongoing refugee resettlement, which we expect to publish later this year.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-06/hl611>

*The Immigration Statistics Quarterly Release, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>*

*The Research and Statistics Calendar, referred to above, can be read at [https://www.gov.uk/search/research-and-statistics?keywords=irregular&content\\_store\\_document\\_type=upcoming\\_statistics&organisations%5B%5D=home-office&order=relevance](https://www.gov.uk/search/research-and-statistics?keywords=irregular&content_store_document_type=upcoming_statistics&organisations%5B%5D=home-office&order=relevance)*

*The Indicators of Integration framework, referred to above, can be read at [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1074688/home-office-indicators-of-integration-framework-2019-horr109.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1074688/home-office-indicators-of-integration-framework-2019-horr109.pdf)*

### **Asylum: Rwanda**

**The Earl of Dundee (Conservative)** [HL610] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of whether the transfer of asylum seekers from the UK to Rwanda could undermine efforts to establish bilateral return and readmission agreements with Council of Europe member states.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** We remain fully committed to the Migration and Economic Development Partnership with Rwanda. Any person who has arrived in the UK illegally, or by dangerous or unnecessary methods from safe countries since 1 January 2022, will be considered for relocation to Rwanda.

The Joint Political Declaration between the EU and UK agreed in December 2020 noted the UK's intention to engage in bilateral discussions with the most concerned Member States to discuss suitable practical arrangements, including on asylum and illegal migration. These discussions are continuing and the partnership with Rwanda does not change this.

We are determined to send a clear signal that it is unacceptable for individuals to travel through multiple safe countries to claim asylum in the UK. Those who fear persecution should claim asylum in the first safe country they reach – this is the fastest route to safety.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-06/hl610>

### **Migrants and Refugees**

**The Earl of Dundee (Conservative)** [HL612] To ask Her Majesty's Government what incentives they will provide to (1) local government, and (2) private operators, to improve the quality of provision for refugees and migrants.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Government provides funding to enable local authorities, schools, health partners and Strategic Migration Partnerships to provide vulnerable refugees with a safe environment in which to rebuild their lives and fully integrate into society. The support that we provide includes language training, skills development and work placements to help integration into UK society.

We expect the highest standards from our asylum accommodation providers, our

Asylum Accommodation and Support Services contracts (AASC) have a robust performance management system, against which providers are expected to deliver. <https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-06/hl612>

### **Undocumented Migrants: Repatriation**

**The Earl of Dundee (Conservative) [HL609]** To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they are seeking to co-operate with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on assisted voluntary return and reintegration of irregular migrants; and, if so, what form such co-operation would take.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Home Office works with a wide range of stakeholders on a co-operative basis, ensuring that they are aware of the Voluntary Returns Service (VRS) and its offer, and how to ensure interested members of the community can apply. IOM is one of many such organisations which we engage with on a regular basis.

Separate to the VRS, the Facilitated Return Scheme (FRS) offers all foreign national offenders with a determinate prison sentence the opportunity to volunteer to return to their country of origin. Under separate arrangements set out in policy, the Home Office also provides financial assistance to certain groups of migrants to assist with reintegration in their country of origin after departure from the UK. IOM assist in the capacity of some post-arrival reception services linked to and outside of the FRS scheme.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-06/hl609>

*The following four questions all received the same answer*

### **Derwentside Immigration Removal Centre: Females**

**The Lord Bishop of Durham [HL615]** To ask Her Majesty's Government how many women have been detained at the Derwentside immigration removal centre since it opened on 28 December 2021.

**The Lord Bishop of Durham [HL616]** To ask Her Majesty's Government how many women have been released into the community from the Derwentside immigration removal centre since it opened on 28 December 2021; and what support has been provided to help them access suitable accommodation.

**The Lord Bishop of Durham [HL617]** To ask Her Majesty's Government how many women have been deported from the UK after residing at the Derwentside immigration removal centre.

**The Lord Bishop of Durham [HL618]** To ask Her Majesty's Government how many in-person legal visits have taken place at Derwentside immigration removal centre since women were first detained there.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Home Office publishes statistics on immigration detention in the '[Immigration Statistics Quarterly Release](#)'. This includes data on people:

- Entering detention by initial place of detention in table Det\_02a of the '[Detention summary tables](#)'. (attached)
- Leaving detention by last place of detention published in the table Det\_04c of the '[Detention summary tables](#)' and by reason for leaving detention. (attached)
- Det\_D03 of the '[detention detailed datasets](#)'. (attached)
- In detention by current place of detention in table Det\_03a of the '[Detention summary tables](#)'. (attached)

Data on those entering detention, by place of detention, relate to the place of initial detention. Data on 'in detention' refers to the number of people in detention at the end of the period. An individual who moves from one part of the detention estate to another will not be counted as entering any subsequent place of detention. Last

place of detention does not show where an individual spent their time in detention. In some cases, an individual may have spent a period of time detained elsewhere before being moved to their last place of detention.

Asylum seekers who would otherwise be destitute can make an application for support and accommodation whilst their application for asylum is being considered. All asylum seekers have access to a 24/7 AIRE (Advice, Issue Reporting and Eligibility) service provided for the Home Office by Migrant Help, where they can raise any concerns regarding accommodation or support services, and they can get information about how to obtain further support.

Detained individuals are advised of their right to legal representation, and how they can obtain such representation, within 24 hours of their arrival at an Immigration Removal Centre (IRC).

The Legal Aid Agency (LAA) operates free legal advice surgeries in IRCs in England. Individuals who are detained are entitled to receive up to 30 minutes of advice regardless of financial eligibility or the merits of their case. There is no restriction on the number of surgeries an individual may attend. If an individual who is detained requires substantive advice on a matter which is in scope of legal aid, full legal advice can be provided if the statutory legal aid means and merits criteria are met.

At Derwentside IRC there has been 6 in-person legal visits between 28 December 2021 and 7 June 2022. Legal visits can take place from legal providers attending under the Legal Aid Detained Duty Advice Scheme and other legal providers visiting their clients who are in detention. In line with Government advice on social distancing, during the pandemic, face to face legal visits were facilitated in exceptional circumstances, and only if other means of contact (Skype, telephone, email) were not feasible or appropriate. In light of changes to Government guidance, face to face legal visits can now be facilitated. Safe systems of work are in place to ensure the safety of detained individuals, onsite staff and visitors during these visits.

[Detention Summary Tables](#)

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-06/hl615>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-06/hl616>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-06/hl617>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-06/hl618>

### **Derwentside Immigration Removal Centre**

**The Lord Bishop of Durham [HL773]** To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Ministry of Justice on 29 November 2021 (79500), how many surgeries have been held at Derwentside Immigration Removal Centre since contingency arrangements were put in place to provide access to the Detention Duty Advice Scheme.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Legal Aid Agency (LAA) operates free legal advice surgeries in immigration removal centres (IRCs) in England under the Detained Duty Advice Scheme. Individuals who are detained are entitled to receive up to 30 minutes of advice regardless of financial eligibility or the merits of their case. There is no restriction on the number of surgeries an individual may attend. If an individual who is detained requires substantive advice on a matter which is in scope of legal aid, full legal advice can be provided if the statutory legal aid means and merits criteria are met.

Staff in immigration removal centres work closely with the LAA to manage demand

for the Detained Duty Advice Scheme (DDAS). Following feedback, the weekly rotas for legal providers were instead made into daily rotas, thereby increasing choice for detained individuals, as well as the number of advice slots available allowing for flexibility around the time and days these sessions can be held. The surgeries are operated when detained individuals request to engage with a legal provider under the scheme. On an ad-hoc basis additional advice sessions are also arranged in line with demand. This approach has continued throughout the immigration removal estate and is in operation at Derwentside IRC.

In order to provide access to DDAS services for women held at Derwentside IRC, from 1 January 2022, existing legal providers at Yarl's Wood IRC were invited to provide an additional 6 months of interim provision at Derwentside. There have been 44 Detained Duty Advice Surgeries available from 1 January 2022, to date, at Derwentside. Within these surgeries, 109 appointments have taken place by phone and 63 by video-conferencing platforms.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-08/hl773>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-11-22/79500>

### **Derwentside Immigration Removal Centre**

**The Lord Bishop of Durham** [HL774] To ask Her Majesty's Government how the contract with Care and Custody to deliver the management of all detainees' needs at the Derwentside Immigration Removal Centre is monitored.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Mitie Care and Custody is required to provide a safe and secure environment for detained individuals in their care at Derwentside immigration removal centre (IRC). There is a robust and comprehensive system of contract management and monitoring in place for the delivery of services. The contract is managed in line with Government best practice and the Cabinet Office commercial operating standards. This includes weekly and monthly operationally led meetings to review performance and formal Quarterly Contract Review Meetings to establish whether the services are being performed to the required standards. Mitie's performance is measured against a set of defined key performance indicators.

Onsite Home Office compliance teams are responsible for ensuring that suppliers are fulfilling their contractual requirements. They monitor the services provided, the treatment of detained individuals, the condition of the establishment and ensure that the Home Office is receiving effective service and value for money.

Independent monitoring of our IRCs is vital to ensuring that each centre provides a secure and humane environment for detained individuals. Recommendations are made by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons in their regular reviews, and public reports, of IRCs. Accepted recommendations are incorporated into a publicly available service improvement plan. In addition, each centre has its own Independent Monitoring Board, tasked with ensuring proper standards of care and decency for those in detention. The Boards issue annual reports, and also make recommendations for improvements.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-08/hl774>

## **UK Parliament Early Day Motion**

**Bell Ribeiro-Addy (Labour)** [180] **Windrush Day 2022** – That this House celebrates the 74th anniversary of the arrival of HMT Empire Windrush at Tilbury Dock on the 22nd June 1948; recognises that Windrush has become a key symbolic moment in the history of both the Black British contribution to Britain and the broader post-war Commonwealth migration

that reshaped the modern British society of today; acknowledges that this is not just Black history but it is British history; supports the celebrations taking place across the country that recognise the immense impact that the Windrush generation has had on the UK's society and culture since 1948; is ashamed by the Windrush scandal; condemns the suffering this has caused to members of the Windrush generation and their descendants, some of whom have been wrongfully deported, lost their homes and livelihoods and have been denied access to healthcare and public services; is outraged by the delays in the Windrush Compensation Scheme which led to at least 23 people passing away before receiving compensation; notes the conclusion of a leaked Home Office report that suggests the origins of the Windrush scandal lay in 30 years of racist immigration legislation designed to reduce the UK's non-white population; calls on the Home Office to release this report in full; notes that next year will mark the 75th anniversary of Windrush; and calls on this Government to mark the day with nationwide celebrations befitting of a day with such national importance.

<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/59883>

## Press Releases

### **National Windrush monument unveiled at London Waterloo Station**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-windrush-monument-unveiled-at-london-waterloo-station>

### **Homes for Ukraine scheme to begin processing applications from unaccompanied children**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/homes-for-ukraine-scheme-to-begin-processing-applications-from-unaccompanied-children>

## New Publication

### **Welcome Pack for New Scots**

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2022/06/welcome-pack-new-scots/documents/welcome-pack-new-scots/welcome-pack-new-scots/govscot%3Adocument/welcome-pack-new-scots.pdf>

## News: Rwanda Refugee Policy

### **Plan to reverse European Court Rwanda rulings**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-61887933>

### **Ministers to ask human rights court for rethink on Rwanda**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/ministers-to-ask-human-rights-court-for-rethink-on-rwanda-jqwg2fp9j>

### **UK has made payments to Rwanda over stalled asylum scheme**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/rwanda-downing-street-kigali-political-editor-european-court-of-human-rights-b2107921.html>

### **Rwanda asylum scheme 'will go ahead' says Johnson amid questions over payments**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/rwanda-britain-boris-johnson-european-court-of-human-rights-prime-minister-b2108911.html>

**Rwanda policy could create 'more dangerous' routes to UK, Home Office admits**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/rwanda-asylum-seekers-routes-uk-b2106712.html>

**Rwanda plan could encourage migrants to take more risks to enter UK**  
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2022/06/22/rwanda-plan-could-encourage-channel-migrants-take-dangerous/>

**Ukrainians who come to UK illegally could be sent to Rwanda, Johnson says**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/jun/23/ukrainians-who-come-to-uk-illegally-could-be-sent-to-rwanda-johnson-says>

**Johnson admits Ukrainian refugees could be sent to Rwanda but 'very unlikely'**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/boris-johnson-prime-minister-rwanda-kigali-east-africa-b2108242.html>

**Rwanda making preparations to take children removed from UK under asylum plan**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/rwanda-government-kigali-labour-prime-minister-b2109108.html>

**Rwanda making preparations to take children removed from UK**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/jun/24/childrens-facilities-rwanda-hostel-uk-asylum-seekers>

**'Impossible' to say how many Rwanda flights needed to deter Channel crossings**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/matthew-rycroft-home-office-rwanda-channel-government-b2106913.html>

**Rwanda migrant flights policy 'is working'**  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/rwanda-migrant-flights-policy-working-home-office-latest-zp2cqknd2>

**'Unethical and racist': Parliamentarians from across Europe hit out at Boris Johnson's Rwanda plan**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/council-europe-rwanda-asylum-migrants-b2108042.html>

**Priti Patel's Rwanda plan for asylum seekers wastes millions and lacks public support. So why is she doing it?**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/independentpremium/voices/priti-patel-rwanda-deportation-asylum-seekers-b2107771.html>

**'They're keeping me here like a criminal': Asylum seekers still locked up after failed Rwanda flight**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/asylum-seekers-detention-rwanda-deportation-home-office-uk-b2105869.html>

## News: Afghanistan

**MoD processes only two of 3,000 refugee applications from Afghans since April**  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/mod-processes-only-two-of-3-000-refugee-applications-from-afghans-since-april-cjx6k96zv>



## **Afghans denied reunion with relatives who fled the Taliban**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/afghans-denied-reunion-with-relatives-who-fled-the-taliban-gh8q7qkk8>

## **News: Ukraine**

### **Ukraine refugees: UK set to admit lone teenagers after rule change**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-61887136>

### **Ukrainian children will be allowed to come to Britain unaccompanied**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2022/06/20/ukrainian-children-will-allowed-come-britain-unaccompanied/>

### **Government to change rules on letting Ukrainian children into UK**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/jun/21/government-change-rules-unaccompanied-ukrainian-children-uk>

### **Ukraine-Russia: Ukrainian refugee children struggling to find places in over-subscribed city schools**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/world/ukraine-russia-ukrainian-refugee-children-struggling-to-find-places-in-over-subscribed-city-schools-3745238>

### **Ukraine visa scheme is 'shambolic' says engineer after his family flee to UK**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/ukraine-sheffield-mariupol-government-kharkiv-b2105764.html>

### **Ukrainian refugee in Oxford: 'I can't cook fresh food for my son'**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-oxfordshire-61882425>

## **News: Other Immigration and Asylum**

### **Scotland 'is missing out' on skilled foreign workers**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/scotland-is-missing-out-on-skilled-foreign-workers-xpm69nnkw>

### **Visa delays leave UK families with adopted babies stranded in Pakistan**

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2022/jun/21/visa-delays-leave-uk-families-with-adopted-babies-stranded-in-pakistan-ukraine-refugees>

### **Visa delays leave children and employees stranded overseas**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/visa-delays-leave-children-and-employees-stranded-overseas-bv19l5bzj>

### **Nine in 10 people refused asylum in 2020 free to remain in UK**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/jun/22/nine-in-10-people-refused-asylum-in-2020-free-to-remain-in-uk-home-office>

### **Windrush Day: Queen praises pioneers as Waterloo statue unveiled**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-61884535>

**Windrush generation have been 'profoundly wronged', admits Prince William**  
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/royal-family/2022/06/22/queen-hails-windrush-pioneers-profound-contribution-britain/>

**Windrush generation makes our culture richer, says William as monument unveiled**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/windrush-waterloo-station-michael-gove-government-cambridge-b2106802.html>

**The Windrush statue is offensive – no wonder people are boycotting it**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/windrush-day-waterloo-monument-scandal-b2106445.html>

**Windrush: only one in four applicants have received compensation**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/jun/22/windrush-one-in-four-applicants-received-compensation-home-office>

**More than 300 crossed Channel in small boats to reach UK this weekend**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/priti-patel-english-channel-human-migration-b2104944.html>

**Tagging illegal immigrants is sensible, not cruel**  
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/06/20/tagging-illegal-immigrants-sensible-not-cruel/>

**Dozens of vulnerable asylum seekers have died in Home Office housing since 2020**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/jun/25/asylum-seekers-deaths-home-office-housing-data>

**Scottish Refugee Council response to devastating rise in loss of life in the asylum system**  
<https://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/our-response-to-devastating-rise-in-loss-of-life-in-the-asylum-system/>

**The asylum seekers stuck in hotel rooms for months on end**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/asylum-seeker-real-life-stories-b2089046.html>

**A hostile environment baton passed from Theresa May to Priti Patel – and a decade of cruelty**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2022/jun/23/hostile-environment-theresa-may-priti-patel-rwanda-deportation>

**Refugee Week - congregations encouraged to celebrate diversity and richness**  
<https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/news/2022/articles/refugee-week-congregations-encouraged-to-celebrate-diversity-and-richness>

**As a Syrian refugee in Scotland, I want to explain what it's like to flee your home country and make a new life**  
<https://www.scotsman.com/news/opinion/columnists/as-a-syrian-refugee-in-scotland-i-want-to-explain-what-its-like-to-flee-your-home-country-and-make-a-new-life-anonymous-3740926>

**Integrate, my mum said, so I did. But Eric Morecambe helped me find my Windrush self**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2022/jun/22/integrate-eric-morecambe-windrush-self-comedy-identity>

## Equality

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

#### **Bill of Rights: European Convention on Human Rights**

**Daniel Kawczynski (Conservative)** [20240] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, whether the proposed Bill of Rights will take precedence over the European Convention on Human Rights.

**Reply from James Cartlidge:** The Government introduced the Bill of Rights on 22 June. The Bill of Rights repeals and replaces the Human Rights Act 1998, which incorporated into UK law the rights contained in the European Convention on Human Rights. Under the Bill of Rights, UK citizens will continue to be able to have their Convention rights upheld in UK courts.

However, the Bill of Rights empowers UK courts to apply human rights in a UK context, affirming the primacy of the Supreme Court in the interpretation of rights. It reinforces the primacy of UK case law, clarifying there is no requirement to follow case law from the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR). It makes clear that the UK Supreme Court, not the ECtHR, is the ultimate judicial arbiter in deciding the proper interpretation of rights in the UK.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-17/20240>

#### **Equality: Minority Groups**

**Rachael Maskell (Labour Co-op)** [19633] To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities, what steps she is taking to tackle inequalities for people from minoritized communities due to their protected characteristics.

**Reply from Kemi Badenoch:** On 17 March 2022 I published 'Inclusive Britain', which sets out a ground-breaking action plan to tackle negative ethnic disparities, promote unity and build a fairer Britain for all.

Work is under way to deliver the 74 actions in Inclusive Britain, which will help to close outcome gaps between ethnic groups in education, employment, health and the criminal justice system.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-16/19633>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/inclusive-britain-action-plan-government-response-to-the-commission-on-race-and-ethnic-disparities/inclusive-britain-government-response-to-the-commission-on-race-and-ethnic-disparities>

#### **Health Services: Ethnic Groups**

**Andrew Gwynne (Labour)** [15709] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, with reference to Dr Ruth Watkinson and Dr Alex Turner's research from the University of Manchester, whether routine monitoring of ethnic disparities in healthcare and potential causing factors have been included as part of performance measurement of local health systems.

**Reply from Maggie Throup:** The Health and Care Act 2022 provides for statutory arrangements for integrated care systems, comprising an integrated care board (ICB) and an integrated care partnership.

ICBs have a range of new duties on health inequalities under the Act and must have due regard to the need to reduce inequalities in access to and outcomes from health services. NHS England is required to conduct an annual performance assessment of how well each ICB has discharged its functions, including a regard to the duties on health inequalities. NHS England's '2022/23 priorities and operational planning guidance' sets the expectation that ICB and trust board performance packs are disaggregated by deprivation and ethnicity and NHS England and NHS Improvement are using this approach in performance reporting to its own boards. In addition, using data and analytics to redesign care pathways and measure outcomes to improve equity of access for underserved communities was a specific priority in the guidance.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-10/15709>

*The research referred to above can be read at*

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpub/article/PIIS2468-2667\(20\)30287-5/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpub/article/PIIS2468-2667(20)30287-5/fulltext)

*The guidance referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/20211223-B1160-2022-23-priorities-and-operational-planning-guidance-v3.2.pdf>

### **Hormone Replacement Therapy: Ethnic Groups**

**Sarah Champion (Labour)** [11679] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, whether his Department has commissioned research into variations in the effectiveness of Hormone Replacement Therapy on women from ethnic minorities.

**Reply from Maria Caulfield:** Through the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR), the Department has not commissioned this specific research. However, the NIHR welcomes funding applications for research into any aspect of human health, including hormone replacement therapy. While it is not usual practice to ring-fence funds for particular topics or conditions, the NIHR's funding is available through open competition and we encourage researchers to submit applications in this area.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-01/11679>

### **Roma: Public Appointments**

**Paul Bristow (Conservative)** [15775] To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, what recent steps he has taken to increase Romani representation in public life.

**Reply from Kemi Badenoch:** It is important that all members of a local community are able to access opportunities to participate in public life. Our Levelling Up White Paper outlined plans to remove barriers to community organisation and neighbourhood governance, supporting community leadership to take root and thrive. This includes launching a review of neighbourhood governance in England, looking at how to make it easier for local people and community groups to come together, set local priorities and shape the future of their neighbourhoods. The review will consider how people of all backgrounds can participate in neighbourhood governance.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-09/15775>

*The White Paper referred to above can be read at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1054769/Levelling\\_Up\\_the\\_United\\_Kingdom\\_accessible\\_version.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1054769/Levelling_Up_the_United_Kingdom_accessible_version.pdf)

### **Pupils: Roma**

**Paul Bristow (Conservative)** [15776] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps his Department is taking to help improve educational attainment by Romani children.

**Reply from Robin Walker:** The department recognises the issues faced by Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children and young people and understands how schools can make a difference. While some Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils perform very well at school, as a group, their attainment and attendance at school is particularly low at every key stage of education.

The department understands that the most significant factor affecting pupil attainment, which cuts across all ethnicities, is economic disadvantage. That is why the department has continued to provide pupil premium funding and has increased the funding to over £2.5 billion in the 2021/22 financial year. The department has also reformed its funding system so that funding is distributed based on schools' and pupils' needs and characteristics. We have focused our education recovery funding on pupils most in need.

Schools serving pupils from Gypsy, Roma and Traveller backgrounds are likely to attract funding through additional needs factors in the schools national funding formula (NFF). This specifically includes the mobility factor, English as an additional language (EAL), and deprivation factors.

The NFF allocates 17%, or £6.7 billion of all funding in the 2022/23 financial year through additional needs factors based on deprivation, low prior attainment, EAL, and mobility. The total amount allocated through the deprivation factors in the NFF is increasing by £225 million, or 6.7%, in 2022/23. In addition, the 2022/23 schools supplementary grant will provide significant additional funding for deprivation.

The department wants to ensure all children and young people are able to reach their potential and experience the transformative effect of a high-quality education. We continue to support schools and leaders to respond to the needs of their schools and communities, including Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-10/15776>

## UK Parliament Early Day Motion

### **Bell Ribeiro-Addy (Labour) [183] Covid-19 Inquiry engagement with ethnic minorities**

– That this House regrets the adverse impact the covid-19 pandemic has had on black, Asian and minority ethnic communities, including the particular impacts on health and social care workers from these communities; echoes, and urges the Prime Minister to accept, the Inquiry Chair's recommendation that the draft terms of reference for the long-anticipated COVID-19 Inquiry be reframed to put possible inequalities at its forefront so that investigation into any unequal impacts of the pandemic runs through the whole Inquiry; recognises the work of the Federation of Ethnic Minority Healthcare Organisations (FEMHO), a group of individuals, organisations and networks in the health and care sectors who have been impacted by covid-19; notes that FEMHO are uniquely placed to provide insight on the impacts of covid-19 on black, Asian and minority ethnic communities and health and care sector workers; and further calls for FEMHO to be given Core Participant status to allow them to engage with and contribute throughout the COVID-19 Inquiry.

<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/59886>

## Press Releases

### **Bill of Rights to strengthen freedom of speech and curb bogus human rights claims**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/bill-of-rights-to-strengthen-freedom-of-speech-and-curb-bogus-human-rights-claims>

## **UK Bill of Rights condemned**

<https://www.gov.scot/news/uk-bill-of-rights-condemned/>

## **News**

### **Police Scotland urged to improve equality and diversity training**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-61895418>

### **Police Scotland urged to train all staff on equality amid 'boys' club culture'**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/police-scotland-police-service-of-northern-ireland-mark-hamilton-conservative-b2106808.html>

### **Police Scotland told to train all officers in equality and diversity**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/police-scotland-told-to-train-all-officers-in-equality-and-diversity-l3623hxmt>

### **Black and South Asian women wait two months longer than white peers to land first job**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/women/black-south-asian-women-job-discrimination-career-b2109372.html>

### **Black and Asian UK workers say they are held back at work by bias, survey finds**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/jun/20/black-and-asian-uk-workers-say-they-are-held-back-at-work-by-bias-survey-finds>

### **UK health services failing south Asian people with dementia, says report**

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2022/jun/26/south-asians-with-dementia-failed-by-uk-services-report-warns>

### **'Unknown' STI far more common among women from BME backgrounds, study finds**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/health/sti-unknown-trichomonas-vaginalis-women-b2105105.html>

### **How controversial is the Bill of Rights?**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/how-controversial-is-the-bill-of-rights-djpd8rf16>

### **Scottish Human Rights Commission strongly opposes UK Government's Bill replacing the Human Rights Act**

<https://www.scottishhumanrights.com/news/commission-strongly-opposes-uk-government-s-bill-replacing-the-human-rights-act/>

### **Can walking in (virtual) shoes change attitudes on diversity?**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/can-walking-in-virtual-shoes-change-attitudes-on-diversity-sk0k6xmvc>

**TOP**

# Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

## Scottish Parliament Oral Answers

### Hate Crime

**Ariane Burgess (Green):** To ask the Scottish Government what its response is to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service's recent report on hate crime in Scotland, particularly the findings that in 2021-22 disability aggravated charges increased by 44 per cent and transgender identity aggravated charges by 87 per cent compared with 2020-21. (S6O-01253)

**Reply from the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans (Keith Brown):** Any form of hate crime or prejudice is completely unacceptable. Although the increase in disability and transgender aggravated hate crime may in part be related to a greater willingness among victims to report incidents, we are not complacent and remain committed to tackling hatred and prejudice wherever it occurs. Later this year or shortly thereafter, we will publish our new hate crime strategy, which will set out our priorities for tackling hate crime. To help to drive that, we have established a strategic partnership group, which is chaired by the Minister for Equalities and Older People and includes representation from the Equality Network and Glasgow Disability Alliance.

**Ariane Burgess:** I welcome the figures that show that total numbers of hate crimes have decreased across the north and north-east, but it is very concerning that Inverness has seen a rise in hate crimes related to sexual orientation and disability, especially since crimes of that nature are consistently underreported. What is the Scottish Government doing to support LGBTQ+ people and disabled people who have been victims of a hate crime to come forward and report it?

**Reply from Keith Brown:** The Scottish Government stands shoulder to shoulder with all victims of hate crime, including LGBTQ+ people and disabled people, and we strongly encourage reporting of incidents directly to the police or by using one of the many third-party reporting centres that exist in every local authority. However, we recognise that for some victims, barriers to reporting hate crime remain. As we work to develop a new hate crime strategy for Scotland, we will consider how to build on the progress that has been made in reducing barriers in order to ensure that victims and witnesses have the confidence to report hate crime, and that they feel supported in doing so.

**Jamie Greene (Conservative):** It is shocking that in Scottish society hate crimes against disabled people and the LGBT community have outnumbered and overtaken religious or sectarian hate crimes for the first time. Intolerance seems to be reducing in one area but increasing worryingly in another. As Ariane Burgess pointed out, such crimes are markedly underreported in those communities. As well as the steps that have been mentioned by the cabinet secretary, what conversations have taken place with Police Scotland and the Crown Office to improve prosecution rates, which would surely act as a true deterrent to those who seek to abuse people from our disabled and LGBT communities?

**Reply from Keith Brown:** I agree with Jamie Greene's point. It is shocking to see the rises in hate crime, particularly crime against people with disabilities. We recognise that not all incidents of hate crime come to the attention of the police. We engage with the police and the Crown Office, not least in relation to "Tackling Prejudice and Building Connected Communities Action Plan: Overview of Implementation", which showed encouraging progress in raising awareness and encouraging reporting of hate crime, including through execution of the annual public awareness campaigns that we undertake with partners.

As we work to develop a new hate crime strategy with the partners that Jamie Greene mentioned, we will consider how to build on the progress that has been

made on tackling barriers to reporting, including third-party reporting, to ensure victim support and further confidence.

<https://archive2021.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=13838&i=125459#ScotParlOR>

The report referred to above can be read at

<https://www.copfs.gov.uk/media/d3jnt5t2/hate-crime-2021-22-publication-final.pdf>

The Action Plan referred to above can be read at

<https://tinyurl.com/29tby4kn>

## UK Parliament Debate

### Antisemitism and Other Racism in Football

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-06-22/debates/38A9C59A-455F-4DDA-B24E-6615E26582BA/AntisemitismAndOtherRacismInFootball>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

### Hate Crime: Prosecutions

**Stuart Anderson (Conservative)** [18052] To ask the Attorney General, what steps she is taking to ensure that the Crown Prosecution Service is adequately resourced to prosecute hate crime against members of religious minority communities.

**Reply from Alex Chalk:** The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) recognises the serious impact hate crimes have on peoples' lives and will always seek to prosecute where there is sufficient evidence to do so, regardless of the offence, or how it is committed. In 2021/22, the proportion of successful outcomes in religiously aggravated hate crime with an announced and recorded sentence uplift was 79.8%. Each CPS Area has a Deputy Chief Crown Prosecutor as a strategic hate crime lead and a network of dedicated Hate Crime Coordinators operates across all 14 CPS Areas, providing their expertise on matters relating to hate crime and acting as a local point of contact for all external partner agencies.

In addition, the CPS has created a hate crime External Consultation Group, which is responsible for providing a community perspective on CPS activity, providing an important check and balance in respect of CPS casework quality, and includes representatives from Tell MAMA and the Community Security Trust (CST).

The CPS also sits on the cross-government working groups on anti-Muslim Hatred and on Antisemitism.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-14/18052>

### NHS: Ethnic Groups

**Marsha De Cordova (Labour)** [15369] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps he is taking with NHS leaders to tackle discrimination and provide support for Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority staff to progress into leadership roles in response to the findings of the independent report, Leadership for a collaborative and inclusive future, published on 8 June 2022.

**Reply from Edward Argar:** The Government has accepted the recommendations in report and an implementation plan will follow. This will include embedding inclusive leadership practice as the responsibility of all leaders, more stringently enforcing existing equal opportunity and fairness measures, such as increasing the representation of ethnic minority staff at senior levels and enhancing the role of the Care Quality Commission to improve outcomes.



The National Health Service is overhauling recruitment and promotion practices to increase representation at senior levels and reducing the disproportionate number of minority ethnic people entering disciplinary processes.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-09/15369>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-and-social-care-review-leadership-for-a-collaborative-and-inclusive-future/leadership-for-a-collaborative-and-inclusive-future>

### **Roma: Discrimination**

**Paul Bristow (Conservative)** [15774] To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, what recent steps he has taken to help tackle discrimination against Romani people.

**Reply from Kemi Badenoch:** The Equality Act 2010 provides protection against discrimination for people because of various characteristics, including race, which covers colour, nationality, and ethnic and national origins. The Roma community is considered to be an ethnic group for the purposes of legislation.

The Government sponsors the Equality Advisory & Support Service (EASS), which is a free helpline offering advice and support to anyone in England, Scotland, and Wales who feels that they have suffered discrimination or had their human rights infringed. One of the stakeholder organisations that the EASS regularly deals with is Friends, Families and Travellers which works on behalf of the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-10/15774>

### **Cricket: Racial Discrimination**

**Navendu Mishra (Labour)** [19721] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, what assessment her Department has made of the level of racism in cricket in England.

**Reply from Nigel Huddleston:** The Government is clear that racism has no place in cricket, sport, or wider society. The Independent Commission for Equity in Cricket issued a call for evidence following the Azeem Rafiq incident at Yorkshire County Cricket Club last year. This received over [4000 responses](#) which indicates that the level of racism in cricket is currently far too high.

The Commission also opened a second call for evidence in March 2022 to seek more detailed views on a number of areas and is currently reviewing the evidence to form an independent report with suggested recommendations to tackle racism and discrimination in cricket.

We welcome the steps taken so far by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) but expect to see clear and sustained evidence of cultural change across the sport resulting from these actions. A [recent update](#) indicates tangible progress on a number of commitments; including the county cricket network having achieved significant progress to increase Board diversity in line with the targets of 30% female representation and locally representative ethnicity.

It has been made clear to the ECB, who have responded positively and constructively, that public funding is explicitly linked to the development and implementation of robust diversity and inclusion policies and plans.

The Government and our arm's length bodies will continue to liaise with the cricket authorities on tackling racism and hold them to account on this.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-16/19721>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

### Schools: Racial Discrimination

**Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated)** [HL685] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to require schools to implement anti-racist policies.

**Reply from Baroness Barran:** There is no place for racism in our education system and schools have an important role in preparing pupils for life in modern Britain, by supporting them to understand the society in which they grow up in and teaching about respect for other people and difference.

The department has no plans to place specific requirements on schools, but we expect them to take steps to tackle racist and discriminatory attitudes or incidents and condemn racism within the school and wider society. Challenging intolerant, racist or discriminatory views, where these are shared at school, should be seen as part of schools' wider anti-bullying and safeguarding duties.

Further to this, relationships education is now compulsory in all schools and the relationships, sex and health education curriculum has a strong focus on equality, respect, the harmful impact of stereotyping, as well as the importance of valuing difference.

Under the Equality Act 2010, schools must not discriminate against a pupil in a number of respects because of a characteristic protected by the act. State-funded schools are also subject to the public sector equality duty. The department has published guidance for schools to help them comply with their duties, which is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/equality-act-2010-advice-for-schools>  
<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-06/hl685>

## New Publication

**Antisemitism within higher education: roundtable discussion – Summary of the meeting with stakeholders on 23 February 2022**

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/antisemitism-within-higher-education-roundtable-discussion/>

## News

**Prince William Windrush speech: Black people still face racism**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/duke-and-duchess-of-cambridge-mark-windrush-day-n2gbq27w2>

**Antisemitic abuse is rising on Scottish campuses, say Jewish students**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/631a09fc-f1a6-11ec-b7b8-d1bfbe7f1c7e>

**Ban universities from joining 'woke' curriculum scheme, Nadhim Zahawi told**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2022/06/18/ban-universities-joining-woke-curriculum-scheme-nadhim-zahawi/>

**Raheem Bailey: 'Racism and constant abuse' of boy who lost finger**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-61907069>

**'Skinny, bendy and blonde': women of colour challenge racism in UK yoga**

<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2022/jun/21/women-of-colour-challenge-white-uk-yoga-racism>

**Yorkshire chairman Lord Patel receives 'phenomenally racist' letters amid Azeem Rafiq scandal fallout**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/cricket/2022/06/23/yorkshire-chairman-lord-patel-received-phenomenally-racist-letters/>

**ECB attacked for failing to carry out historic racism probe**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/cricket/2022/06/25/ecb-attacked-failing-carry-historic-racism-probe/>

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## Other Scottish Parliament and Government

### New Publication

**Independence in the modern world. Wealthier, happier, fairer: why not Scotland?**

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/independence-modern-world-wealthier-happier-fairer-not-scotland/>

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## Other News

**Bleak, hidden and uninviting: It's time to improve women's prayer spaces in UK mosques**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/women/womens-prayer-spaces-mosques-uk-b2097613.html>

**'They will butcher our stories': how British TV is failing Muslims**

<https://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/2022/jun/23/british-tv-failing-muslims-ms-marvel>

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## Bills in Progress

\*\* new or updated this week

### Scottish Parliament

**\*\* Gender Recognition Reform (Scotland) Bill**

<https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/bills/gender-recognition-reform-scotland-bill>

Evidence session, Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/official-report/what-was-said-in-parliament/EHRCJ-21-06-2022?meeting=13837&iob=125452>

### UK Parliament

**\*\* Asylum Seekers (Accommodation Eviction Procedures) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3257>

## **\*\* Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3263>

## **\*\* Bill of Rights Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3227>

Bill as introduced

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0117/220117.pdf>

Explanatory Notes

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0117/en/220117en.pdf>

Delegated Powers Memorandum

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0117/BillofRightsDelegatedPowersMemo.pdf>

Human Rights Memorandum

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0117/HRmemo.pdf>

Human Rights Act Reform: A Modern Bill of Rights Consultation Response

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0117/consultationresponse.pdf>

Impact Assessment

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0117/ANNEXC.pdf>

First Reading, House of Commons (col 879)

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-06-22/debates/CD4FEF35-9554-4A03-81E0-5A8917C1FB55/EURetainedLaw>

Ministerial Statement

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-06-22/debates/22062235000019/BillOfRights>

## **\*\* Housing Standards (Refugees and Asylum Seekers) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3264>

## **\*\* Human Trafficking (Child Protection) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3248>

## **\*\* Human Trafficking (Sentencing) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3249>

## **\*\* Illegal Immigration (Offences) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3282>

## **\*\* Online Safety Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3137>

Public Bill Committee

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-06-21/debates/3e5a3d2b-c639-4689-9b15-cf28ee8f69c0/OnlineSafetyBill\(ThirteenthSitting\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-06-21/debates/3e5a3d2b-c639-4689-9b15-cf28ee8f69c0/OnlineSafetyBill(ThirteenthSitting))

and

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-06-21/debates/e993e8c5-9174-4ea2-913c-e1af641318f5/OnlineSafetyBill\(FourteenthSitting\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-06-21/debates/e993e8c5-9174-4ea2-913c-e1af641318f5/OnlineSafetyBill(FourteenthSitting))

and

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-06-23/debates/9fe7e4ca-5b18-4880-b380-66a0fa4fe8f5/OnlineSafetyBill\(FifteenthSitting\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-06-23/debates/9fe7e4ca-5b18-4880-b380-66a0fa4fe8f5/OnlineSafetyBill(FifteenthSitting))

Notice of amendments

[https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0004/amend/online\\_day\\_pbc\\_0621.pdf](https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0004/amend/online_day_pbc_0621.pdf)

and

[https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0004/amend/online\\_day\\_pbc\\_0623.pdf](https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0004/amend/online_day_pbc_0623.pdf)

and

[https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0004/amend/online\\_rm\\_pbc\\_0624.pdf](https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0004/amend/online_rm_pbc_0624.pdf)

## **\*\* Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3164>

House of Lords Library Briefing

<https://lordslibrary.parliament.uk/research-briefings/lln-2022-0022/>

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## **Consultations**

**\*\* new or updated this week**

**\*\* closes this week!**

**Public Participation at the Scottish Parliament** (closing date 30 June 2022)

<https://yourviews.parliament.scot/cppp/participation-2022/>

**\*\* closes this week!**

**The Scottish Governance Code for the Third Sector** (closing date 30 June 2022)

<https://www.oscr.org.uk/news/opinions-invited-on-third-sector-governance-code/>

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## **Job Opportunities**

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

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## **Funding Opportunities**

**\*\* new or updated this week**

**\*\* closes this week!**

**Investing in Communities Fund**

*Closing date for applications: 28 June 2022*

Scottish Government funding of up to £350,000 over a three-year period to support organisations based in the places they serve that tackle poverty and inequality, develop and sustain place-based approaches, are involved in community-led regeneration, and are working to ensure a just transition to net zero. Awards will prioritise disadvantaged, rural, and fragile communities across Scotland. For information and to apply see

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/investing-in-communities-fund-round-two-draft-guidance-note/>

**\*\* National Voluntary Youth Organisations Support Fund**

*Closing date for applications: 22 July 2022*

Scottish Government funding to support workforce development within the voluntary youth work sector. In addition to the main fund, funding is also available for specialist equalities-

focused voluntary youth work organisations. For information and to apply see <https://www.youthlinkscotland.org/funding/national-voluntary-youth-organisations-support-fund/>

### **CashBack for Communities**

*Closing date for applications: 12 August 2022*

Scottish Government funding focusing on young people at risk of entering the criminal justice system and the communities most affected by crime. Funded projects will support young people most at risk of being involved in antisocial behaviour offending or reoffending; provide person-centred support for young people, parents and families impacted by Adverse Childhood Experiences and trauma; support young people to improve their health, mental health and wellbeing; and support people, families and communities most affected by crime. For information and to apply see

<https://cashbackforcommunities.org/phase6/>

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## **Events, Conferences, and Training**

\*\* new or updated this week

**\*\* this week!**

### **Dandelion Festival**

continues until September 2022 (Scotland-wide – various locations)

Dandelion, a creative celebration of growing, music, and community, is holding a wide range of free events across the country throughout the summer. For information see [bemis.org.uk/dandelion-events](https://bemis.org.uk/dandelion-events) and <https://dandelion.scot/whats-on/>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Who is Welcome? Islamophobia, Migration Policy + Discourse**

28 June 2022 (online, 6.00–7.30)

Migrants' Rights Network event to discuss how Islamophobia institutionally manifests itself through our policies and systems, increasingly influencing how we understand and respond to conflicts that affect Muslim migrants and refugees. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/myjhtv99>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Windrush Scheme and Windrush Compensation Scheme**

29 June 2022 (online, 5.30)

Citizens Rights Project webinar to find out more about the Windrush Scheme and Windrush Compensation Scheme for people of any nationality who settled in the UK before 31 December 1988. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/99pbnxbv>

### **Advantage is invisible – understanding unintentional discrimination**

6 July 2022 (online, 1.30–3.30)

Interfaith Scotland course exploring why discrimination is common even when our intentions are to work fairly with all staff and service users. The role of the dominant identity in shaping our working culture and practices will be discussed, and we will consider the persistent pattern that advantage tends to be hidden from those that have it. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2d5zwje9> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

### **Interpreting culture – improving cross-cultural communication**

11 August 2022 (online, 11.00–1.00)

Interfaith Scotland course on cultural diversity. Our cultural background has a profound influence on each of us. It shapes our behaviour, values and beliefs. It even affects our thought processes and how we perceive the world. In this course we explore how culture forms a lens through which we interpret each other's behaviour and learn how to improve our inter-cultural communication. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yckbt9hs> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

### **Refugees: Asylum and Resettlement**

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/id2tey6w>

### **Our lives are ruled by the stories we tell ourselves – how interpretation shapes interaction**

13 September 2022 (online, 10.00–12.00)

Interfaith Scotland course exploring the impact of our inner narratives - our meaning-making - on our interactions and relationships. We will consider ways we can become more aware of our readings as they form, and more cautious about their accuracy. We will also discuss tools for more authentic conversations. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/m63kxvrm> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

### **Working with Interpreters**

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 bilingual 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>

### **Supporting Refugee Integration**

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>

### **Introduction to Working with Religious Diversity**

26 October 2022 (online, 10.30–12.30)

Interfaith Scotland short course where delegates will improve their confidence in discussing and responding to the religion and belief of those they work with. We explore guiding principles behind working with religion and belief diversity. Then we take a closer look at the core beliefs and cultural practices of Islam, Sikhism and Judaism. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2p88vnps> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

### **Working with Unaccompanied Refugee Children**

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>

### **Intention versus impact – exploring challenges around group labels and unintended offence**

6 December 2022 (online, 1.30–3.30)

Interfaith Scotland short course exploring the language used to describe groups of people, particularly in relation to Protected Characteristics like race, disability, religion and belief. We also consider how we can respond to unintended interpretations, confusion or offence by exploring the difference between the speaker's intention and the impact on the listener. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/k9hz52pk> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

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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**  
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/>



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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