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

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Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Oral Answers

Ukrainian Children Leaving MS Victoria (Education)

Jeremy Balfour (Conservative) [S6O-02384] To ask the Scottish Government what plans it has to provide continuity in education for children leaving the MS Victoria in the coming weeks.

Reply from the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice (Shirley-Anne Somerville): The Scottish Government works with local authorities and other partners to ensure that all displaced Ukrainians have the support that they need, including access to education. That includes working intensively with the City of Edinburgh Council and the education officers who are on board the MS Victoria, Monday to Friday, to support transitions to schools or other education settings locally or in other local authority areas. Local authorities are best placed to identify

and support the educational needs of children who arrive in their area. That includes involving parents in the planning process, seeking their views and providing appropriate support during the transition process.

Jeremy Balfour: The families who are living on the MS Victoria have been through unimaginable turmoil and disruption. Can the cabinet secretary confirm that any child who is already enrolled in a City of Edinburgh Council school will be provided with accommodation within the city in order to enable a safe and secure transition to their next academic year and avoid yet more disruption?

Reply from Shirley-Anne Somerville: It is an important time for those who are on MS Victoria. There is an obligation on the Scottish Government and on all local authorities to ensure that we do everything that we can to respond to the requests of people who are on board MS Victoria. However, the member will be well aware of the housing pressures in Edinburgh. Therefore, it is exceptionally difficult to ensure that anyone who wants to stay in Edinburgh, particularly in a certain school catchment area, can do so. That is why it is important to ensure that we have not just an Edinburgh solution but a Scotland-wide solution, which is why a number of local authorities will be working with the City of Edinburgh Council to support families who might need to move outside the Edinburgh area.

Pam Duncan-Glancy (Labour): Recently, I wrote to the leader of Glasgow City Council about the education of children from MS Ambition when they relocated. In response, I was told that they would likely be required to relocate to other local authority areas. Can the Scottish Government outline what support is in place for those children to maintain friendships and connections as they move to other schools? What support will there be to ensure that local authorities work together to minimise disruption?

Reply from Shirley-Anne Somerville: It is very important to ensure that we do everything that we can to provide support when people need to leave either the Ambition or the Victoria. Although the use of ships is a temporary solution, there are communities on board those ships that are important to people. That is why the matching teams on the Ambition and the Victoria are doing everything that they can to respond to personal requests. We are also doing what we can when families move to another local authority area to support them in that process and to ensure that they are aware of what is happening in their new council area and in the school catchment area. We are supporting people through that process to ensure that, where possible, attachments with other families can be kept and, if not, that support is provided to ensure that people who leave the ships can form a successful and vibrant community.

Bill Kidd (SNP): What support is the Scottish Government providing for displaced Ukrainian students who have settled in Scotland to ensure that they are given as much financial stability as possible during an incredibly traumatic time?

Reply from Shirley-Anne Somerville: Following Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine, the Scottish Government introduced a change to our student support regulations that extended access to financial support for Ukrainian students. Ukrainian students who wish to embark on a further or higher education course in Scotland are now eligible for tuition and living cost support on the same terms as any other Scotland-domiciled student, provided that they are undertaking an eligible course and have submitted an application to the homes for Ukraine scheme, the Ukraine family scheme or the Ukraine extension scheme.

<https://archive2021.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=15371&i=131111#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Written Answers

Illegal Migration Bill

Pauline McNeill (Labour) [S6W-18468] To ask the Scottish Government what guidance or advice it has issued to Scottish public authorities and charities that it funds, that have contact with asylum seekers or presumed human trafficking survivors, regarding the UK Government's Illegal Migration Bill and, in particular, any retrospective effect since its introduction into the UK Parliament on 7 March 2023.

Reply from Siobhian Brown: The UK Government's Illegal Migration Bill does not currently have legal effect. The Scottish Government has made clear our position that this cruel and inhumane Illegal Migration Bill should be scrapped immediately and will cause significant harm to victims of human trafficking. It will facilitate even greater control by perpetrators as a consequence of its provisions which restrict access to vital support and assistance and will likely deter victims from reporting their situation for fear of removal.

The Scottish Parliament rejected the UK Bill during a debate on 25 April. We set out our intent to lodge a legislative consent memorandum on two clauses within the Bill which alter the executive competence of the Scottish Ministers. We will recommend that Parliament withhold legislative consent to these provisions. We continue to monitor the Bill closely as it is considered by the House of Lords.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-18468>

The debate referred to above can be read at

<https://archive2021.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=15260&i=130156#ScotParlOR>

Human Trafficking and Asylum

Pauline McNeill (Labour) [S6W-18467] To ask the Scottish Government, regarding any health and housing multi-agency meetings to manage support for trafficking survivors under sections 9 and 10 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015, what assessment template or guidance document is used in such meetings; which organisations are members of the group holding these meetings, and, for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023, how many (a) cases were assessed, (b) cases involved the transfer of accommodation support from Scottish Government-funded trafficking accommodation to Home Office asylum accommodation and (c) such transfers were to asylum accommodation in Scotland.

Reply from Siobhian Brown: Since 1 April 2018, support for victims of offences under the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015 has been placed on a statutory footing. Statutory support is delivered through grant awards from the Victim Centred Approach Fund to the Trafficking Awareness Raising Alliance (TARA) and Migrant Help. Support may be provided for up to 90 days, or longer in some circumstances, and can include accommodation, assistance with day to day living, medical advice and treatment including psychological help, language translation and interpretation, counselling, legal advice, help accessing other services and, if the victim wishes, repatriation.

Case assessment is part of the ongoing support function carried out by TARA and Migrant Help and as such the Scottish Government does not hold this information. In the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023, 221 individuals moved from Scottish Government-funded accommodation to Home Office asylum accommodation.

The Scottish Government does not hold sufficient data to provide the remaining information requested. This information may be held by operational partners.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-18467>

UK Parliament Debate

Migration

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2023-06-15/debates/1CEEC72E-A1DF-4F9F-A82D-AA4868C0520D/Migration>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers: Afghanistan

Refugees: Afghanistan

Jessica Morden (Labour) [187925] To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many Afghans were resettled in the UK through the Ex-Gratia Scheme by November 2022.

Reply from James Heapey: By November 2022 there were 526 principals resettled in the UK with their family members under the Ex-Gratia Scheme.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-06/187925>

The following three questions all received the same answer

Refugees: Afghanistan

Jessica Morden (Labour) [187113] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many (a) principals and (b) dependants have been relocated from Afghanistan to the UK through the Afghan Citizen Resettlement Scheme under (i) Pathway 2 and (ii) Pathway 3 since June 2022.

Jessica Morden (Labour) [187114] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have been referred by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to Pathway 2 of the Afghan Citizen Resettlement Scheme.

Jessica Morden (Labour) [187115] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what data her Department holds on the number individuals who have accessed English language courses for Afghan settlers and their dependents under Operation Warm Welcome.

Reply from Robert Jenrick: The UK has made one of the largest commitments of any country to support those impacted by events in Afghanistan.

Whilst public data on separating principals and dependants is not available, the latest [Immigration system statistics, year ending March 2023](#) (published on 25 May 2023), show that since their first arrivals in 2021, the Afghan schemes – the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) and the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP) - have resettled a total of 21,004 people.

A breakdown in these statistics by ACRS pathway, shows that we have now resettled: 9,059 individuals under ACRS Pathway 1, 40 individuals under ACRS Pathway 2 and 14 individuals under ACRS Pathway 3.

There are currently no published statistics on UNHCR referrals, and we do not hold public data on the volume of referrals from UNHCR.

The Home Office does not hold centralised data on the number of individuals who have accessed English language courses for Afghan settlers and their dependents under Operation Warm Welcome.

Councils with bridging hotels in their area have been commissioned by the Home Office to deliver hotel wraparound support to people on the Afghan resettlement schemes. As part of this wraparound support, Local Authorities should provide English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) support for residents to support integration and enable guests to move on to permanent accommodation and settle into new communities, access jobs and services.

A dedicated cross-government casework team, made up of Home Office Liaison Officers and DWP staff, are based in hotels and work alongside local authority officials to provide advice to Afghans, including information on how to rent in the

private sector, support people to find jobs and access English language training.
<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-02/187113>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-02/187114>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-02/187115>

Information about the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme Pathway 1, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/afghan-citizens-resettlement-scheme>

Information about Pathways 2 and 3, referred to above, can be read at

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2022-06-](https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2022-06-13/debates/2206135000016/AfghanCitizensResettlementSchemeLaunchPathways2And3)

[13/debates/2206135000016/AfghanCitizensResettlementSchemeLaunchPathways2And3](https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2022-06-13/debates/2206135000016/AfghanCitizensResettlementSchemeLaunchPathways2And3)

Afghanistan: Refugees

Jessica Morden (Labour) [187112] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, how many (a) principals and (b) dependents with confirmed eligibility for relocation to the UK from the (i) Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy and (ii) Afghan Citizen Resettlement Scheme are housed in hotel accommodation in (A) Pakistan and (B) other third countries.

Reply from Leo Docherty: As of 6 June, there are approximately 257 principals and 1,206 dependents being supported in Pakistan and 10 principals and 30 dependents being supported in other third countries eligible under the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy. There are approximately 109 principals and 381 dependents being supported in Pakistan and 16 principals and 55 dependents being supported in other third countries eligible under the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme Pathway 3.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-02/187112>

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 Pathway 3, referred to above, can be read at

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2022-06-](https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2022-06-13/debates/2206135000016/AfghanCitizensResettlementSchemeLaunchPathways2And3)

[13/debates/2206135000016/AfghanCitizensResettlementSchemeLaunchPathways2And3](https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2022-06-13/debates/2206135000016/AfghanCitizensResettlementSchemeLaunchPathways2And3)

Afghanistan: Refugees

Jessica Morden (Labour) [187109] To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, pursuant to the Answer of 18 April to Question 176544 on Afghanistan: Refugees, whether the number of principal applicants with confirmed eligibility for relocation to the UK under the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy with whom the Department has lost contact since April 2021 is now greater than 54.

Reply from James Heapey: The number of eligible principles under the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy with whom we have lost contact is currently 74. Of these 41 are, to the best of our knowledge, in Afghanistan. Applicants may fall out of contact with us for a variety of reasons: they may have changed their contact details and not informed us or have decided to relocate elsewhere. We continue to use a range of means to re-establish contact with these applicants in order to continue their relocation to the UK, should they wish to proceed.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-02/187109>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-03-29/176544>

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

Jessica Morden (Labour) [187926] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Afghans have been provided with rapid mental health support through Operation Warm Welcome as of 6 June 2023; and what the average waiting period was for that support.

Reply from Robert Jenrick: Through Operation Warm Welcome, Afghans who come to the UK under the ARAP and ACRS schemes are supported in accessing vital healthcare. The latest [Immigration system statistics, year ending March 2023](#) (published on 25 May 2023), show that since their first arrivals in 2021, the Afghan schemes – the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) and the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP) - have resettled a total of 21,004 people.

Upon arrival, individuals are registered with a GP or are being helped to do so. A full range of support services are offered including mental health support.

The Home Office does not hold information on number of Afghans provided with mental health support.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-06/187926>

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>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers: Ukraine

Visas: Ukraine

Stephen Morgan (Labour) [188361] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she plans to permit Ukrainian nationals to stay in the UK beyond the three-year limit of existing visas.

Reply from Robert Jenrick: We firmly believe that Ukraine will be safe again and we will continue to support the Ukrainian Government for as long as is necessary in their efforts against Putin.

Therefore, our approach has been to provide Ukrainians with access to a three-year visa for temporary sanctuary in the UK. This has given them the certainty and stability they need whilst they are here to settle into jobs, and find schooling and accommodation.

Of course, we keep any future need for an extension of leave in the UK under review, in line with developments of the situation in Ukraine.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-07/188361>

Visas: Ukraine

Duncan Baker (Conservative) [188390] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether it remains her policy not to charge visa fees for Ukrainians visiting family members in the UK.

Reply from Robert Jenrick: In response to Putin's brutal invasion of Ukraine, the

UK Government created three bespoke Ukraine Schemes offering 36 months' temporary sanctuary in the UK. These schemes are free to apply for and have no restriction to rights, access to benefits or services and have a health surcharge waiver. The Standard Visitor route is for anyone wanting to visit the UK for a temporary period, usually up to 6 months, for purposes such as tourism and visiting family and friends, with a fee charged.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-07/188390>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Refugees: Ukraine

Stuart C McDonald (SNP) [188562] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many of the children who arrived in the UK in 2022 under the Ukraine Schemes were neither travelling with nor joining a parent or guardian in the UK.

Visas: Ukraine

Stuart C McDonald (SNP) [188563] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied children from Ukraine (a) submitted an application, (b) were granted a visa and (c) were refused a visa to come to the UK in the first quarter of 2023; and how many (i) withdrew an application to come to the UK before it was decided and (ii) arrived in the UK in the same time period.

Reply from Robert Jenrick: Information on the number of applications received and number of arrivals in the UK can be found here [Ukraine Visa Schemes: visa data](#)

Details of the age of those who have arrived is available here [Statistics on Ukrainians in the UK](#)

All unaccompanied children's applications are considered in line with the Immigration Rules and Guidance. However, data on the number of children who were considered to be unaccompanied is not published in the public domain.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-08/188562>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-08/188563>

The following four questions all received the same answer

Refugees: Ukraine

Olivia Blake (Labour) [187430] To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, if he will provide a breakdown of how the £150 million of UK-wide funding in the 2023/24 financial year for local authorities and devolved governments to help Ukrainians move into their own homes has been spent and allocated as of 2 June 2023.

Olivia Blake (Labour) [187431] To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, what steps Department has taken to support local authorities to implement rent deposit and rent guarantor schemes to help displaced Ukrainians to access accommodation in the private rented sector.

Olivia Blake (Labour) [187435] To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, what steps he is taking to ensure greater consistency in the support provided to Ukrainian refugees and their hosts across the two Visa Schemes; if he will extend the initial £200 interim payment to everyone arriving on the Ukraine Family Scheme in all UK nations; and if he will protect hosts on the Ukraine Family Scheme from increases in council tax bills as a result of hosting additional people.

Homes for Ukraine Scheme: Payments

Olivia Blake (Labour) [187432] To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, what discussions he has had with Cabinet colleagues on bringing forward the increase of the monthly payment for hosts on the Homes for Ukraine scheme before people have been in the UK for 12 months, and whether such payments will be

extended to hosts on the Family Visa Scheme.

Reply from Felicity Buchan: As announced in December 2022, all Homes for Ukraine sponsors will receive an increased 'thank you' payment of £500 a month once guests have been in the country for over a year. Where sponsorships can no longer continue for the financial year 2023/24, all councils will receive help to house Ukrainians through a one-off pot of government funding worth £150 million. The guidance and breakdown of the £150 million funding by local authority can be accessed [here](#).

This money can be used flexibly to support Ukrainians into the private rented sector, amongst other things. For instance it can be used to provide deposits or rent advances, or to offer guarantees.

Ukrainians arriving under both the Homes for Ukraine Scheme and the Ukraine Family Scheme have the same entitlement to work, pensions, health provision, education, and access to benefits. These are effective from as soon as a Ukrainian guest has a valid visa and arrives in the UK. Both schemes provide a right to remain for three years.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-02/187430>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-02/187431>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-02/187435>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-02/187432>

Information about the Ukrainian Family Scheme, Homes for Ukraine Scheme, and Ukraine Extension Scheme, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-information-for-ukrainians-in-the-uk-british-nationals-and-their-family-members/immigration-information-for-ukrainians-in-the-uk-british-nationals-and-their-family-members>

The announcement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-over-650m-support-package-for-ukrainians-sees-increased-thank-you-payments-for-longer-term-hosts>

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

British Nationality: Ceremonies

Lloyd Russell-Moyle (Labour Co-op) [187782] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average time is between an invitation to a successful applicant citizenship ceremony and the ceremony.

Reply from Robert Jenrick: Applicants normally have a three-month window during which to take the ceremony, but we cannot separate out data on the time taken to complete the process within that window.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-05/187782>

Visas: Foreign Investment in UK

Christopher Pincher (Independent) [188255] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the potential merits of reintroducing the tier one investor visa scheme for entry to the UK.

Reply from Robert Jenrick: The Tier 1 (Investor) route was closed in February 2022 because the programme offered a route of entry to people whose wealth had been obtained through illicit means, was vulnerable to fraud and delivered poor

economic outcomes.

We have seen no evidence to suggest there was any error in this original assessment and the direction of travel has been for other comparator countries to announce the closure of their equivalent programmes citing similar findings.

There are no plans to reintroduce the route.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-07/188255>

Visas

Lee Anderson (Conservative) [187479] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to stop foreign nationals overstaying their right to reside in the UK on each visa route.

Reply from Robert Jenrick: We take robust action against those who abuse the conditions of their visa.

Any individuals abusing their visa are liable to be removed from the UK under section 10(1) of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

A person who knowingly overstays their permission to enter or stay is, under section 24(C1) of the Immigration Act 1971, guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction with an unlimited fine, or with imprisonment for not more than four years, or with both.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-02/187479>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Daisy Cooper (Liberal Democrat) [188634] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will make it her policy to extend the availability of share codes to parents with EU settled status whose children have a British Passport.

Reply from Robert Jenrick: All EU, EEA and Swiss citizens granted pre-settled or settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme are now able to prove their rights in the UK digitally, by using the View and Prove service on GOV.UK to generate a share code, instead of using physical documents. Non-EU, EEA or Swiss citizen family members who have a UKVI account can also use the View and Prove service.

British citizens will continue to evidence their rights by providing their passport or other acceptable documents, such as a UK birth or adoption certificate, or a certificate of registration or naturalisation as a British citizen.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-08/188634>

The View and Prove service, referred to above, can be accessed at

<https://www.gov.uk/view-prove-immigration-status>

Sudan: Refugees

Paula Barker (Labour) [187849] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what steps he is taking with his international counterparts to help expedite safe passage to the UK for Sudanese dependents of British nationals.

Reply from Andrew Mitchell: Between the 15 April and 3 May, the UK supported the departure of 2,450 people, including British nationals, dependants and other eligible nationals. The British Embassy in Khartoum is temporarily closed and the UK Government is only able to provide limited consular assistance to British Nationals still in Sudan, communicating through our telephone consular helpline and Travel Advice updates. We do not have verified data on those British nationals (including children) remaining in Sudan. Those who have left by alternative means to neighbouring countries are receiving consular support on a case-by-case basis. British nationals who require assistance can call us 24/7. Sudanese nationals who have travelled to a third country and wish to join family members in the UK will need

to apply for a visa, if they do not already have the right to enter the UK. Further information can be found online at GOV.UK.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-05/187849>

The information referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa>

and

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/sudan>

and

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sudan-country-policy-and-information-notes/country-policy-and-information-note-security-situation-sudan-june-2023-accessible>

and

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-nationals-arriving-from-sudan-to-have-access-to-benefits>

Sudan: Refugees

Kirsten Oswald (SNP) [186656] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what steps her Department is taking to support forcibly displaced Sudanese citizens who have immediate family members who are British citizens.

Reply from Andrew Mitchell: Since 25 April, the UK has supported the departure of 2,450 people, including British nationals and dependants and other eligible nationals out of Sudan. The British Embassy in Khartoum is temporarily closed and the UK Government is only able to provide limited consular assistance to British nationals still in Sudan, communicating through our telephone consular helpline and Travel Advice updates. British nationals who have left by alternative means to neighbouring countries are receiving full consular support if needed. Sudanese nationals who have travelled to a third country and wish to join family members in the UK will need to apply for a visa, if they do not already have the right to enter the UK. Further information can be found online at GOV.UK.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-05-24/186656>

The information referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa>

and

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/sudan>

and

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sudan-country-policy-and-information-notes/country-policy-and-information-note-security-situation-sudan-june-2023-accessible>

and

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-nationals-arriving-from-sudan-to-have-access-to-benefits>

Refugees: Consumer Goods

John McNally (SNP) [188319] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department provides basic toiletries as standard to refugees in her Department's care.

Reply from Robert Jenrick: Basic toiletries are considered an essential need for asylum seekers in receipt of asylum support. These are either provided directly by our accommodation providers under the AASC contract, or individuals can purchase the items with their weekly subsistence rate, which is currently £45 for those in self-catered or dispersal accommodation. Part of this allowance is intended for toiletries.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-07/188319>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Asylum: Children

Alison Thewliss (SNP) [188320] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied asylum-seeking children are accommodated in hotels.

Alison Thewliss (SNP) [188321] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many unaccompanied asylum seeking children who have gone missing from hotel accommodation remain unaccounted for as of 7 June 2023.

Reply from Robert Jenrick: We take the safety of those in our care seriously. We have robust safeguarding procedures in place to ensure all young people in hotels are safe and supported as we seek urgent placements with a local authority.

Young people are supported by team leaders and support workers who are on site 24 hours a day. Further care is provided in hotels by teams of social workers and nurses. All contingency sites have security staff on site 24/7 and providers liaise closely with local police to ensure the welfare and safety of vulnerable residents.

There are currently no unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) in hotels and there are 154 UASC still missing.

If any child goes missing the MARS (Missing After Reasonable Steps) protocol is followed. A multi-agency, missing persons meeting is chaired by the local authority to establish the young person's whereabouts and to ensure that they are safe. Similar protocols within police forces have safely reduced the number of missing episodes from placements by 36%.

The Home Office continue to work with the police and local authorities to ensure the children in our care are safe and the Police are responsible for locating any missing children.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-07/188320>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-07/188321>

Asylum: MOD Wethersfield

Priti Patel (Conservative) [187947] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, on what date she expects the Wethersfield asylum site to (a) start receiving asylum seekers and (b) cease to be used as asylum accommodation.

Reply from Robert Jenrick: The current accommodation system is unsustainable and hugely unfair to taxpayers. We recently set out to the House our plans for a fairer asylum accommodation system. It is not appropriate during a cost of living crisis, that the Home Office should be spending around £6m a day housing asylum seekers in hotels.

For these sites, we will use a phased approach, increasing the number of asylum seekers accommodated at the site over time. We will continue to work closely with key local stakeholders to address their concerns and minimise any potential impacts on the local area. We are nearing go-live date and will continue to provide more details.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-06/187947>

Prisoners on Remand: Immigration

Stuart C McDonald (SNP) [188726] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many prisoners were (a) in remand in prison under s24, s25 and s25A of the Immigration Act 1971 and (b) in remand under the Act and subject to an age dispute in each of the last 12 months.

Reply from Damian Hinds: The number of prisoners on remand under s24, s25 and s25A of the Immigration Act 1971, for each of the last 12 months, is included in the attached table.

Data regarding the number of prisoners on remand under the Immigration Act 197

and subject to an age dispute is not held centrally and could only be obtained at a disproportionate cost.

[Table](#)

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-09/188726>

Prisoners: Undocumented Migrants

Jonathan Gullis (Conservative) [188141] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to help reduce the number of illegal migrants in prisons.

Reply from Robert Jenrick: Foreign national offenders (FNOs) should be in no doubt of our determination to deport them and more than 13,000 have been removed between January 2019 and December 2022.

We are doing all we can to ensure that FNOs cannot frustrate their removal process through new provisions introduced by the Nationality and Borders Act and the Illegal Migration Bill. The Act makes it easier and quicker to remove FNOs and those with no right to be in the UK. It extends the period an FNO can be removed from prison under the early removal scheme (ERS) from a maximum of 9 months to 12 months, providing the minimum requisite period has been served.

The UK and Albania signed a Prisoner Transfer Agreement with Albania in July 2021 which commits that Albanian nationals in prisons in England and Wales serving sentences of 4 years or more will be sent back to serve the remainder of their sentence in Albanian prisons.

In May 2023, the UK and Albanian governments agreed a ground-breaking arrangement which builds on this agreement that will see hundreds of Albanian prisoners returned to their home country in exchange for UK support to help modernise the Albanian prison system.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-06/188141>

Information about the Transfer Agreement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-albania-agree-groundbreaking-new-arrangement-on-prisoner-transfers>

UK Parliament Home Affairs Committee

Evidence session: Human trafficking

<https://committees.parliament.uk/oralevidence/13266/html/>

Press Releases

Children seeking asylum: Launch of new guardianship service.

<https://www.gov.scot/news/children-seeking-asylum/>

Home Secretary meets French counterpart on tackling illegal migration

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-meets-french-counterpart-on-tackling-illegal-migration>

No case for routinely offering asylum to claimants from 'safe' Albania – Home Affairs Committee

<https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/83/home-affairs-committee/news/195596/no-case-for-routinely-offering-asylum-to-claimants-from-safe-albania-home-affairs-committee/>

Over 100 arrested in record breaking illegal working crackdown

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/over-100-arrested-in-record-breaking-illegal-working-crackdown>

Calling for Greater Support in World Day Message, Secretary-General Says More Than 100 Million Refugees ‘Not Numbers on a Page’, but Represent Best of Human Spirit

<https://press.un.org/en/2023/sgsm21831.doc.htm>

New Publications

A re-inspection of Border Force’s management of Project KRAKEN at small seaports January – February 2023

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1163016/A_re-inspection_of_Border_Force_s_management_of_Project_KRAKEN_at_small_seaports_January_to_February_2023.pdf

Home Office response to the ICIBI report: A re-inspection of Border Force’s management of Project Kraken at small seaports

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/response-to-the-re-inspection-of-project-kraken-at-small-seaports/home-office-response-to-the-icibi-report-a-re-inspection-of-border-forces-management-of-project-kraken-at-small-seaports>

A re-inspection of the initial processing of migrants arriving via small boats, including at Western Jet Foil and Manston: January – February 2023

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1163013/A_re-inspection_of_the_initial_processing_of_migrants_arriving_via_small_boats_including_at_Western_Jet_Foil_and_Manston_January_to_February_2023.pdf

The Home Office response to the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration’s report: A re-inspection of initial processing of migrants arriving via small boats, including at Western Jet Foil and Manston

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/response-to-the-re-inspection-of-processing-of-migrants-arriving-on-small-boats/the-home-office-response-to-the-independent-chief-inspector-of-borders-and-immigrations-report-a-re-inspection-of-initial-processing-of-migrants>

Home Affairs committee Report: Asylum and migration: Albania

<https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/40291/documents/196655/default/>

Guidance: Large sites for asylum accommodation: support for police forces

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/large-sites-for-asylum-accommodation-support-for-police-forces/large-sites-for-asylum-accommodation-support-for-police-forces>

Court of Justice of the European Union: Definitive dismissal of the actions brought by British citizens challenging the loss of their rights as EU citizens as a result of Brexit

<https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/upload/docs/application/pdf/2023-06/cp230101en.pdf>

Updated: Migrants detected crossing the English Channel in small boats – last 7 days

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/migrants-detected-crossing-the-english-channel-in-small-boats/migrants-detected-crossing-the-english-channel-in-small-boats-last-7-days>

News: Channel Migrants

Channel migrants: More than 600 people cross in one day

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-kent-65878554>

Lawmakers say UK's planned law to deport Channel migrants breaches rights obligations

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/ap-joanna-cherry-channel-london-joint-committee-on-human-rights-b2355471.html>

Channel plane to fly non-stop in hunt for small-boat people smugglers

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2023/06/16/non-stop-flight-over-channel-to-catch-small-boat-smugglers/>

Lifeboat crews saved 108 migrants' lives in 2022 - RNLI

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-65893789>

News: Other Immigration and Asylum

Home Office admits asylum plans in doubt

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-65921888>

Sunak's pledge to clear asylum backlog on course to fail as system cost rockets to £3.6bn

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/rishi-sunak-asylum-backlog-clear-pledge-fail-b2358169.html>

Asylum target to fail at current rate - Suella Braverman

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-65904225>

Impossible to clear asylum backlog because 'boats keep coming', says Braverman

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2023/06/14/suella-braverman-impossible-end-asylum-backlog-small-boats/>

Suella Braverman: Home Office must improve to hit asylum target

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/suella-braverman-asylum-seekers-home-office-pncpbmvsv>

Sunak's pledge to clear asylum claim backlog 'unachievable'

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/sunaks-pledge-to-clear-asylum-claim-backlog-unachievable-3lnf02js0>

Migrants' attempts to reach UK illegally set to rise, UN says

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/migrants-attempts-to-reach-uk-illegally-set-to-rise-un-says-pfd86lgk>

Justin Welby: It is not 'morally right' to leave other countries to deal with the refugee crisis

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2023/06/15/justin-welby-small-boats-illegal-migration-bill-archbishop/>

Home Office plans to ditch housing protections for asylum seekers face legal challenge

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/jun/13/home-office-plans-to-ditch-housing-protections-for-asylum-seekers-face-legal-challenge>

Children in England's asylum hotels suffering from malnutrition

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/jun/17/children-in-englands-asylum-hotels-suffering-from-malnutrition>

UK is among countries with the most positive attitude towards refugees, poll finds

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/jun/17/uk-is-among-countries-with-the-most-positive-attitude-towards-refugees-poll-finds>

Shifting sands of the promised land

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/shifting-sands-of-the-promised-land-027w7twqb>

Multi-agency anti-trafficking summit hosted by Police Scotland and Santa Marta Group

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/what-s-happening/news/2023/june/multi-agency-anti-trafficking-summit-hosted-by-police-scotland-and-santa-marta-group/>

Santa Marta anti-trafficking summit – closing statement

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/what-s-happening/news/2023/june/santa-marta-group-anti-trafficking-summit-closing-statement/>

Migrants' rights charity receives apology and damages from TV channel

<https://tfn.scot/news/migrants-rights-charity-receives-apology-and-damages-from-tv-channel>

Why don't immigrants want to live in Scotland?

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/why-dont-immigrants-want-to-live-in-scotland-npcsp8jip>

Royal Mail issues stamps to mark 75th anniversary of Windrush arrival

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2023/jun/15/royal-mail-issues-stamps-to-mark-75th-anniversary-of-windrush-arrival>

Take action this World Refugee Day by sharing a message of hope in solidarity with people seeking safety

<https://scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/world-refugee-day-action/>

Cricket helps us feel at home in Scottish Borders - refugees

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-south-scotland-65856147>

Death of Chinese man at Dungavel could have been prevented had not been detainee

<https://www.paih.org/fatal-accident-inquiry-finds-mans-death-might-realistically-have-been-prevented/>

We took direct action against the UK's racist policies, and a jury acquitted us. Resistance can succeed

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2023/jun/16/direct-action-uk-policies-deportations-to-jamaica>

TOP

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Equal Pay: Ethnic Groups

Chi Onwurah (Labour) [187647] To ask the Secretary of State for Business and Trade, pursuant to the Answer of 24 April 2023 to Question 181548 on Equal Pay: Ethnic Groups, if she will provide instances in which ethnicity pay gap reporting may be inappropriate for tackling disparities in employment.

Reply from Kevin Hollinrake: In April 2023 the Government published guidance to employers on voluntary ethnicity pay reporting.

As the guidance explains, ethnicity pay reporting is a complex measure and can be affected by many factors meaning it is easy for the data to be misinterpreted or misunderstood. One reason for this is that, while gender pay analysis involves a comparison between two groups, ethnicity pay analysis can potentially involve many more ethnic groups. Additionally, employers may also have to decide how to best combine different ethnic groups to ensure both reliable results and protect confidentiality.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-05/187647>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-04-19/181548>

The guidance referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ethnicity-pay-reporting-guidance-for-employers>

Equal Pay: Ethnic Groups

Mark Hendrick (Labour Co-op) [187897] To ask the Secretary of State for Business and Trade, if he will make it his policy to introduce mandatory ethnicity pay gap reporting.

Reply from Kevin Hollinrake: This Government remains committed to tackling all areas of disparities in this country, including in employment.

Ethnicity pay gap reporting is just one type of tool to assist employers in doing this and it may not always be the most appropriate mechanism for some types of organisations. Therefore, as set out in the “Inclusive Britain” report, which was published in March 2022, the Government will not be legislating to make ethnicity pay reporting mandatory at this stage. Government published guidance in April 2023 to support employers who wish to report voluntarily.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-06/187897>

Inclusive Britain, 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>

The guidance referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ethnicity-pay-reporting-guidance-for-employers>

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

Alex Cunningham (Labour) [188259] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, whether all work required to implement recommendation 12 of the Lammy Review has been completed.

Reply from Mike Freer: We welcomed the Lammy Review in 2017 and committed to taking actions against each of the recommendations from the Review, bar the two for the independent judiciary. Where a recommendation could not be

implemented exactly as set out, alternative approaches were sought to tackle the same issue. Now, almost all of the actions we originally committed have been carried out.

Recommendation 12 of the Review states that “the Open Justice initiative should be extended and updated so that it is possible to view sentences for individual offences at individual courts, broken down by demographic characteristics, including gender and ethnicity”.

Since 2017, as we committed to, we have been increasing the availability of demographic data on our justice system users. Experts can now access more detailed data, including on ethnicity and other protected characteristics, through our pioneering data-linking programme Data First. This is providing new insights in a way that has not been possible before, by linking data from across the justice system and making it available for independent academic research. The Data First datasets provide detailed information on defendants and their outcomes, enabling new research exploring sentencing and case outcomes, broken down by demographic characteristics, including ethnicity and gender.

Outside of this programme court outcomes for individual offences and protected characteristics are publicly available and can be found in the Criminal Justice Statistics quarterly. This publication produces tools on an annual basis by demographic characteristics, offence information, and by Police Force Area. Currently, data for individual courts can be produced upon request, and we are exploring ways to develop these data further, balancing user needs and accessibility.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-07/188259>

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

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

Prisoners: Travellers

Ian Byrne (Labour) [188800] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what estimate His Majesty’s Prison and Probation Service has made of the total number of prisoners in England and Wales that come from Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller backgrounds in the latest period for which data is available.

Reply from Damian Hinds: The number of prisoners self-designating as Gypsy and Traveller are published as part of a more detailed data set, which are released annually as part of the series ‘Offender Management Statistics Quarterly’. The most recent publication of this data was in July 2022.

The requested information can be found in Table A1.9ii of the ‘Annual Prison Population 2022’ publication:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1094517/Population_30June2022_Annual.ods

This showed that on 30 June 2022 1,459 prisoners self-designated as Irish Traveller or Gypsy.

We do not record separate figures for those declaring as ‘Roma’. They may self-declare in the category ‘White: Irish Traveller or Gypsy’, or as ‘White: Other background’.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-09/188800>

News

Leave white guilt behind, says race report author

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/leave-white-guilt-behind-says-race-report-author-sbzqgkfn>

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Written Answers

'Tinker Experiment': Research

Ash Regan (SNP) [S6W-18553] To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the commissioning of research into the so-called Tinker Experiment.

Reply from Emma Roddick: The Scottish Government has committed to undertaking independent research to understand the impact of 20th century policies on the Gypsy/Traveller community in Scotland. We developed specifications for two research projects to gather further information, with one focussing on archival analysis and the other on community engagement and lived experience. We successfully appointed an appropriate contractor to take forward the archival project, and are working to re-tender the community engagement and lived experience project as no compliant bids were received for this. We expect to receive initial findings from the research next year, at which point we will consider next steps and respond.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-18553>

Information about the 'Tinker Experiment', referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-tayside-central-51545113>

Empire, Colonialism, and Slavery: Role of Scotland

Liam McArthur (Liberal Democrat) [S6W-18960] To ask the Scottish Government what plans there are to establish a dedicated space to address the role of Scotland in empire, colonialism and slavery, as recommended by the Empire, Slavery & Scotland's Museums steering group.

Reply from Christina McKelvie: I am carefully considering the Scottish Government's response to the steering group's recommendations, including the one which focused on establishing a new organisation to create a dedicated space to address the legacy of colonialism in Scotland. This is an important agenda and we will continue to seek ways of raising awareness of the role Scotland played in slavery and empire and how our museums and galleries can play their part in that.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-18960>

Press Release

UN Human Rights Chief: Hate speech has no place in our world

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/06/un-human-rights-chief-hate-speech-has-no-place-our-world>

New Publication

Employment Appeal Tribunal decision

An employment tribunal was wrong when it rejected a direct religion or belief discrimination claim brought by a teacher who was dismissed for posts she made on Facebook about relationships education in primary schools. She was subsequently suspended and, after a disciplinary investigation, dismissed. She complained that this amounted to direct discrimination because of, or to harassment relating to, her protected beliefs. The Employment Tribunal had decided, however, that her suspension and dismissal had been because the school was concerned that someone reading the Facebook posts could reasonably consider she held homophobic and transphobic views (which she denied) and not because of, or related to, her protected beliefs. However, the Appeal Tribunal decided that the teacher's beliefs were protected under S.10 of the Equality Act 2010, and her social media posts were expressions of her beliefs under Article 9 of the European Convention on Human Rights, so the case has been referred back to the Employment Tribunal for a further hearing.

<https://tinyurl.com/bdhrzrh5>

News

Avon and Somerset Police 'institutionally racist', chief constable says

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-bristol-65921150>

Anger as student who called Jews 'apex predators in capitalism' readmitted to Durham University

<https://www.thejc.com/news/news/anger-as-student-who-called-jews-apex-predators-in-capitalism-lands-research-role-at-top-university-uQpb1zxphLxJoYxH6Uncl>

Christian school worker 'wrongly sacked for her transgender beliefs'

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2023/06/16/kristie-higgs-sacked-transgender-views-farmors-school-glos/>

The Light: Inside the UK's conspiracy theory newspaper that shares violence and hate

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-65821747>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Scottish Parliament Motion

Pam Gosal (Conservative) [S6M-09545] Celebrating Eid al-Adha 2023 – That the Parliament wishes all those celebrating the festival of Eid in the UK and around the world a joyous Eid al-Adha; understands that the festival follows after the annual Hajj pilgrimage to Mecca where over two million pilgrims from 57 countries will perform Hajj in 2023; further understands that the festival is marked every year to commemorate Prophet Ibrahim's test of faith, and acknowledges what it sees as the enormous contributions that Muslims make across Scotland and the whole of the UK, which it believes enriches communities across this nation.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/votes-and-motions/S6M-09545>

Press Releases

New Chief Constable

<https://www.gov.scot/news/new-chief-constable/>

The King's Birthday Honours 2023

<https://www.gov.scot/news/the-kings-birthday-honours-2023/>

The King's Birthday Honours 2023 – Police, Fire and Ambulance Service

<https://www.gov.scot/news/the-kings-birthday-honours-2023-police-fire-and-ambulance-service/>

News

Kate Forbes says people of faith are fearful of politics

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-65855240>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Marriage: Women

Baroness Cox (Crossbench) [HL8197] To ask His Majesty's Government when they will respond to the Law Commission's report Celebrating Marriage: A New Weddings Law, published on 18 July 2022 (HC 557); and what plans they have to introduce further legislation to safeguard women who are in unregistered marriages.

Reply from Lord Bellamy: We are carefully considering the Law Commission's recommendations on weddings reform. As part of its review, the Law Commission has considered ways of ensuring that fewer weddings conducted according to religious rites result in a marriage that the law does not recognise. We will respond to the Law Commission's report in due course.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-05/hl8197>

The report referred to above can be read at

<https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/lawcom-prod-storage-11jsxou24uy7q/uploads/2022/07/A-new-weddings-law-LC-report.pdf>

Press Releases

King's Birthday Honours: Scottish Secretary congratulates Scottish honours recipients

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/kings-birthday-honours>

Hajj pilgrims urged to prioritise respiratory hygiene measures

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hajj-pilgrims-urged-to-prioritise-respiratory-hygiene-measures>

New Publications

The King's Birthday Honours List 2023 [full list]

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-kings-birthday-honours-list-2023/birthday-honours-list-2023-pm-list-transparency-data-html>

House of Commons Committee of Privileges Report: Conduct of Rt Hon Boris Johnson

<https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/40412/documents/197199/default/>

Count of Traveller Caravans, January 2023: England

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/traveller-caravan-count-january-2023/count-of-traveller-caravans-january-2023-england>

News

Boris Johnson report: Key findings from the Partygate inquiry

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-65913184>

TOP

Cost of Living

Scottish Government Website

Help during the cost of living crisis

Most households are concerned about the cost of living, with worries about issues such as rent and mortgages, food and utility bills, energy costs, and debt.

In response, the Scottish Government has launched a new website that provides information to help people access support with

- Energy and Bills
- Benefits and Income
- Children and Families
- Debt and Money
- Health and Wellbeing

Your local council might be able to help if you need urgent help with money, food or fuel – contact the council for information.

<https://costofliving.campaign.gov.scot/>

News

Rishi Sunak scraps plan for supermarket price cap after backlash

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2023/06/14/rishi-sunak-scraps-plan-supermarket-price-cap-backlash/>

Cost of living causing almost two million people to regularly skip meals

<https://www.independent.co.uk/business/cost-of-living-causing-almost-two-million-people-to-regularly-skip-meals-study-b2355941.html>

Tesco sees early signs inflation is starting to ease

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-65925217>

UK government urged to outline plans to help with winter energy bills

<https://www.theguardian.com/money/2023/jun/16/uk-government-help-winter-energy-bills-mps>

UK homeowners face huge rise in payments when fixed-rate mortgages expire

<https://www.theguardian.com/money/2023/jun/17/uk-homeowners-face-huge-rise-in-payments-when-fixed-rate-mortgages-expire>

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Other News

Next Chief Constable announced

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/what-s-happening/news/2023/june/next-chief-constable-announced/>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

**** Charities (Regulation and Administration) (Scotland) Bill**

<https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/bills/charities-regulation-and-administration-scotland-bill>

Notice of amendments

<https://www.parliament.scot/-/media/files/legislation/bills/s6-bills/charities-regulation-and-administration-scotland-bill/stage-3/daily-list-13-june-2023.pdf>

and

<https://www.parliament.scot/-/media/files/legislation/bills/s6-bills/charities-regulation-and-administration-scotland-bill/stage-3/daily-list-14-june-2023.pdf>

Gender Recognition Reform (Scotland) Bill

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

Police (Ethics, Conduct and Scrutiny) (Scotland) Bill

<https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/bills/police-ethics-conduct-and-scrutiny-scotland-bill>

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>

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

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3304>

Bill of Rights Bill

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

**** British Nationality (Regularisation of Past Practice) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3465/publications>

House of Lords Library Briefing

<https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/LLN-2023-0036/LLN-2023-0036.pdf>

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>

**** Illegal Migration Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3429>

Committee Stage, House of Lords

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2023-06-12/debates/EA7718F7-3B2C-45C7-BA4B-AB95C449DB13/IllegalMigrationBill>

and

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2023-06-12/debates/2B9950EB-CFE8-451C-BC0B-8C384DA2AE6D/IllegalMigrationBill>

and

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2023-06-14/debates/AA76C95F-F2EC-4C14-9FB1-3568AE204B8F/IllegalMigrationBill>

and

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2023-06-14/debates/261C35C2-D417-4CA4-918F-6797E5A89E00/IllegalMigrationBill>

and

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2023-06-14/debates/D75810E3-867F-4882-97FC-8A9637F97BA7/IllegalMigrationBill>

Notice of amendments

<https://bills.parliament.uk/publications/51547/documents/3558>

and

<https://bills.parliament.uk/publications/51635/documents/3591>

and

<https://bills.parliament.uk/publications/51669/documents/3610>

Bill as amended in House of Lords Committee

<https://bills.parliament.uk/publications/51629/documents/3583>

Immigration and Nationality Fees (Exemption for NHS Clinical Staff)

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3436>

** Online Safety Bill

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

Notice of amendments

<https://bills.parliament.uk/publications/51644/documents/3597>

Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill

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

Scotland (Self-Determination) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3413>

Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Draft Bill

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/terrorism-protection-of-premises-draft-bill-overarching-documents>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Draft Bill (closing date 23 June 2023)

<https://committees.parliament.uk/call-for-evidence/3146/>

**** A Human Rights Bill for Scotland** (closing date 5 October 2023)

<https://consult.gov.scot/equality-and-human-rights/a-human-rights-bill-for-scotland-consultation/>

Let's Be Heard – Sharing Scotland's COVID Experience (closing date not stated)

<https://lbh.covid19inquiry.scot/>

Experiences of Racism in Scotland's Night-Time Economy (closing date not stated)

<https://t.co/IUabNPI1nK>

ITV/Tell MAMA survey on mosque safety in the UK (closing date not stated)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/V7V5B6L>

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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

Creative Communities Glasgow

Closing date for applications 30 June 2023

Glasgow Communities and Place Fund / UK Shared Prosperity Fund grants of up to £80,000 to support and empower communities to develop cultural activities. Projects must be led by their community, and applicants must demonstrate how the project will address priorities in their community, and help overcome the barriers the community faces to creative and cultural engagement. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yc8yf4c8>

People's Postcode Trust

*There will be two further opportunities to apply for funding in 2023 but **each will only be open for 24 hours**. Applications can be submitted from:*

10am on 3 July 2023

10 am on 2 October 2023

*Application forms will go live at the above dates and times and must be **started and submitted** within the submission window. In the meantime, a copy of the application questions can be downloaded in order to help you prepare your submission.*

National Lottery funding of between £500 and £25,000 for projects on a wide range of themes including supporting marginalised groups and tackling inequality. Funding priorities include communities experiencing racial inequity, people with disabilities, and the LGBT+ Community. For information and to apply see

<https://www.postcodetrust.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant/>

and

https://www.postcodetrust.org.uk/media/2724/3_ppt_fundingguide_2023.pdf

Big Give: The Christmas Challenge

Closing date for applications: 7 July 2023

When someone donates to a charity through a Big Give campaign, funders are asked to match that donation, so, for example, £50 from a member of the public becomes £100 for a good cause. Charities must secure a minimum of £1k in pledges to be eligible for Champion funding. For information see <https://biggive.org/christmas-challenge/>

Cost-of-Living Support Scotland

Application deadline not stated

National Lottery funding from £10,001 to £75,000 for projects to help support individuals, families and communities currently experiencing hardship as a result of the cost-of-living increases. The programme aims to fund activity that reduces the impact of, or prevents financial insecurity so that people have more resilience and are more able to identify ways to deal with the impact of increased cost of living in their lives, are able to shape activity in their community to address the increased cost-of-living, and have more access to support and services that will help them to deal with the increased cost of living. For information and to apply see

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/cost-of-living-support-fund>

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**** this week!**

Refugee Festival Scotland

to 25 June 2023 (Scotland-wide)

People from refugee backgrounds make a huge contribution to life in Scotland and that's worth celebrating. The Scottish Refugee Council's unique festival brings people together to meet, mix share art, culture and ideas, and get to know each other better. For information and a full programme of events see <https://tinyurl.com/ubajubzi>

**** this week!**

Our Stories, Our Voices

19 June 2023 (Glasgow, 10.30–12.30)

Glasgow Life Adult Learning Services reading of stories, poems, and reflections as part of Refugee Festival Scotland inspired by the theme of hope. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/4jhzpx9t>

**** this week!**

Sharing Stories of Hope and Courage (women-only event)

19 June 2023 (Glasgow, 10.30–1.30)

Interfaith Glasgow Weekend Club event to learn about and celebrate refugee histories in Scotland. Includes a guided tour of Garnethill Synagogue, the Scottish Jewish Archive Centre, and the Scottish Jewish Holocaust Era Study Centre, and in particular the event will hear the story of a woman artist who fled the Nazis in her home in Austria and came to Scotland, and do a craft activity around what gives them hope in challenging times. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yvjmut4t>

**** this week!**

Archives Live: Windrush 75

19 June 2023 (online, 2.00–2.40)

National Archives event for schoolchildren in which presenter Floella Benjamin will explore the uniquely personal document that records her arrival as a ten-year-old in 1960, and explain the history of Caribbean arrival to Britain through important documents. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/3wctjzyd>

**** this week!**

#CompassionIntoAction: Embracing Collective Action to Support Refugees Seeking Sanctuary

20 June 2023 (online, 6.00–7.00)

Glasgow University 'World Changing Glasgow Conversation' focussing on the importance of collaboration and connectivity, and exploring how through collective action we can work together to ensure that we support those who are seeking sanctuary. For information see <https://hopin.com/events/uog-compassionintoaction>

**** this week!**

Countering Online Hate: Tactics and Strategies for Media Activism

21 June 2023 (online and in Keele, 9.30–4.30)

Keele University event to explore the possibilities and limitations of online counternarratives to online hate speech, particularly on Twitter and other public facing platforms, and share findings from the project 'Contesting Islamophobia: Representation and Appropriation in Mediated Activism'. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2apxk3ej>

**** this week!**

Glasgow Black History Walking Tour

21 June 2023 (Glasgow, 1.00)

CRER walking tours taking participants on a historical journey through Glasgow's mercantile past and examine the city's connections with tobacco, slavery and the abolition movement. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/mryxxtky>

**** this week!**

Life after Windrush

21 June 2023 (online, 6.00–7.15)

Black History Year Steering Group in-depth discussion about first hand experiences of the Windrush. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/3z7xzycb>

**** this week!**

Windrush 75: The History & Legacy of the Windrush Generation

21 June 2023 (7.00–9.00)

Black History Studies webinar to uncover the history of the African presence in Britain before 1948, the history and legacy of race relations legislation in the UK, activists and organisations who challenged discriminatory behaviour before and since the arrival of the Windrush Generations in 1948 and the ongoing challenges faced by Black people in the UK. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2nb3yr9s>

**** this week!**

Refugee Week 2023: Online Interactive Learning Event

22 June 2023 (online, 10.00–11.00)

JCORE and HIAS event for students aged 9-16 years old to celebrate what compassion looks like in action, and explore how we can create a shared understanding of compassion and ensure we are extending it widely to all. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/5j4mscrB>

**** this week!**

Holding Hope in the Face of Hate

22 June 2023 (Glasgow, 11.00–1.30)

Interfaith Scotland refugee Week event bringing together members of faith communities and the general public from across Scotland to engage in a dialogue around ways to challenge hatred towards asylum seekers and refugees, especially in light of the growing anti-asylum seeker rhetoric and the cost of living crisis. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2pt4bolx>

**** this week!**

Learn about the Hostile Environment & How to be a Good Ally

22 June 2023 (Glasgow, 6.00–8.30)

24 June 2023 (Glasgow, 3.00–5.30)

Workshop for those who want to learn more about the asylum process in the UK, co-created with people who have direct experience of the UK's Hostile Environment policies. This session will breakdown the reality beyond the headlines and the political rhetoric. We aim to answer questions such as: What does it mean to be a refugee? Is an asylum seeker different? Why are people paying smugglers to get in small boats? For information about the 22 June event see <https://tinyurl.com/bdduprh2>, and for 24 June see <https://tinyurl.com/35sj5yte>

**** this week!**

Working with and against race

22 June 2023 (online and in Manchester, 2.00–5.00)

CODE ECR seminar about how to conceptualise race as a technology of power via Cedric Robinson's idea of the racial regime, in order to help us think about how race is recursively enacted, and to explore the ways in which racial capitalism can be used as a methodology. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yck7zfhj>

**** this week!**

Scholarship Event

24 June 2023 (Glasgow, 3.00–7.00)

Africa Future event focusing on scholarship opportunities. This discussion will help asylum seekers find out about how to access scholarships from different universities in Scotland. Participants will be able to ask questions and have responses at the event. Different MPs, MSPs, councillors and Police Scotland will be at the event as well and available to answer questions. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/msxxdtk3>

A Conversation on Windrush

28 June 2023 (online, 7.00–8.15)

Welsh People's History Society conversation on the lives and legacy of the Windrush generation. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/3734ahek>

**** Scotland's New Human Rights Bill - Have Your Say**

11 July 2023 (Glasgow, 12.30–4.30)

CEMVO consultation event to discuss what human rights look like and feel like to you including the right to healthy environment, access to justice, adequate standard of living, and wellbeing. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/mtwf86sc>

The story of Empire Windrush in ten documents

21 July 2023 (online, 2.00–3.00)

National Archives event to explore what government records can tell us about migration from the Caribbean in the post-war era, and the experiences of people who settled. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/mr22nu2m>

Developing a Volunteer Strategy

19 September 2023 (Stirling, 10.00–4.00)

Volunteer Scotland course to discuss the purpose of developing a strategy for volunteering, the benefits of a volunteering strategy for the wider organisation, and steps to develop a strategy. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/mu3dkx53>

Supporting Volunteers

4 October 2023 (Stirling, 10.00–4.00)

Volunteer Scotland course to discuss building a positive relationship with volunteers, plan and deliver a suitable induction process, identify and apply different support methods, and manage some of the challenges of supporting volunteers. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/2nbpr7se>

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Useful Links

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Disclosure Scotland <https://www.mygov.scot/disclosure-types>

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

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

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SCoJeC
Scottish Council of
Jewish Communities

Representing, connecting, and supporting Jewish people in Scotland



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



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



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

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