

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

*MEMO is produced by the **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities** in partnership with the **Black and Ethnic Minority Infrastructure in Scotland**. It provides an overview of information of interest to minority ethnic communities in Scotland, including parliamentary Activity at Holyrood and Westminster, new publications, consultations, forthcoming conferences and news reports.*

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Immigration and Asylum

Holyrood Parliamentary Question

Asylum Seekers

Bill Butler (S3W-23383): To ask the Scottish Executive what projects to assist and support asylum seekers it has funded outside the Glasgow City Council area in 2008-09, broken down by individual award and local authority area.

Reply from Alex Neil: The Scottish Government did not fund any specific projects to assist and support asylum seekers outside the Glasgow City Council area in 2008-09.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/Business/PQA/default.aspx?pg=S3W-23383>

Immigration and Asylum (continued) Holyrood Parliamentary Motion

S3M-4141 Kenneth Gibson: The Immigration System and its Impact on the Parliament—That the Parliament disagrees with the new points-based system for immigration that effectively prevents non-EU interns from coming to work for the Parliament; recognises that, instead of making it difficult to stay here illegally, the UK Government has made it difficult to get here legally, which is counter to the well established needs of Scotland; is aware that Brigham Young University in the United States of America has sent qualified interns to various political parties for years, though is no longer able to do so in spite of continued student and MSP interest; further recognises that the successful countries of the future will be those that have a well developed international outlook firmly embedded as a core value; aims to position Scotland as a world leader in international education in order to equip our people to live responsibly in a global society, compete effectively in a global economy and develop relationships that increase our influence; notes that our talented international interns enrich our culture and challenge us to think in new ways, especially applicable to MSPs who seek to foster international cooperation in tackling the many global challenges; sees that these benefits are reduced when Westminster delivers an immigration system unfit for Scottish purpose; suggests that Westminster pass this key responsibility to Holyrood where Scotland's unique population and immigration needs will be met, and hopes that the UK Government will come to appreciate the wide-ranging benefits from immigration, which seemingly, as experienced so often under Labour, have been disregarded.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/business/motions/Default.aspx?motionid=16576>

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Asylum

Mark Oaten [273980]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many asylum seekers have been waiting 12 months or more for a decision on their case; and how many of these (a) have sought permission to work and (b) have been granted permission to work under the provisions of the 2003 EU Reception Directive.

Reply from Phil Woolas: The requested information is not collated and could be obtained only at disproportionate cost through examination of individual case records.

The United Kingdom Border Agency's asylum targets are based on case conclusion times and the agency is committed to fully concluding 90 per cent. of new asylum applications within six months by the end of 2011.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090512/text/90512w0006.htm#09051260000003>

Asylum: Females

Fiona Mactaggart [272601]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many female asylum seekers were interviewed with their children present during the first or subsequent substantive interview in (a) 2007-08 and (b) 2008-09.

Reply from Phil Woolas: The UK Border Agency does not record statistics in relation to the attendance of mothers with their children during the substantive interview on any of our internal databases. The information could be obtained only at disproportionate cost through the examination of individual case files.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090512/text/90512w0006.htm#09051260000004>

Immigration and Asylum

Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Immigration

Chris Grayling: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many people have been granted indefinite leave to remain in the UK in each of the last 15 years. [254498]

Reply from Jacqui Smith: Statistics on grants of settlement (indefinite leave to enter or remain) are provided in the table. Data for 1994 to 2007 are from Table 5.7 published in the Home Office publication "Control of Immigration: Statistics United Kingdom 2007". This publication may be obtained from the Library of the House and from the Home Office Research, Development and Statistics website at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs08/hosb1008.pdf>

The 2008 edition is due to be published in August this year.

The provisional grants of settlement total for 2008 is from Table 12 published in the "Control of Immigration: Quarterly Statistical Summary, United Kingdom—Fourth Quarter 2008" also available from the Library of the House and from the Home Office Research, Development and Statistics Directorate website at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs09/immig408.pdf>

Grants of settlement—Commonwealth citizens and foreign nationals, 1994-2008^(1,2) — United Kingdom

Number of persons

Year of grant	Total grants	On removal of time limit ⁽³⁾		Settlement on arrival ⁽⁴⁾	
		Commonwealth citizens ⁽⁵⁾	Foreign nationals	Commonwealth citizens ⁽⁵⁾	Foreign nationals
1994	55,010	31,990	20,410	1,790	810
1995	55,480	33,070	20,090	1,680	640
1996	61,730	33,960	25,650	1,550	570
1997	58,725	29,380	26,995	1,685	670
1998	69,790	38,795	28,100	1,705	1,190
1999	97,115	48,300	41,975	2,465	4,375
2000	125,945	63,000	54,750	2,875	5,315
2001	108,410	53,510	42,950	5,880	6,070
2002	115,965	58,600	48,800	4,440	4,120
2003	139,280	78,300	57,055	1,965	1,960
2004 ⁽⁶⁾	139,210	60,855	60,745	4,580	13,030
2005 ⁽⁶⁾	179,120	73,625	89,535	5,020	10,935
2006 ⁽⁶⁾	134,445	55,920	67,105	3,545	7,875
2007 ⁽⁷⁾	124,855	57,625	59,085	2,175	5,970
2008 ⁽⁷⁾	145,965	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

n/a = Not currently available. ⁽¹⁾ Excludes EEA nationals from 1999, Switzerland from 1 June 2002, A10 Accession States from 1 May 2004 and A2 Accession States from 1 January 2007. ⁽²⁾ Data from 2003 exclude dependants of EEA and Swiss nationals in confirmed relationships granted permanent residence.

⁽³⁾ Indefinite leave to remain. ⁽⁴⁾ Indefinite leave to enter.

⁽⁵⁾ Figures for settlement of Pakistani nationals have been included in Commonwealth throughout the period covered. Zimbabwe have been included in foreign from 2004 only.

⁽⁶⁾ Revised. ⁽⁷⁾ Provisional.

Note: Figures relating to 1996 and earlier have been rounded to the nearest 10. Figures from 1997 are rounded to the nearest 5 so may not sum to the totals.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090514/text/90514w0011.htm#09051468000008>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Immigration

Frank Field [271793]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether her Department uses the category of non-UK born UK nationals in its immigration (a) policy and (b) statistics.

Reply from Phil Woolas: The Home Office publishes data in statistical publications based on the nationality of a migrant rather than their place of birth. Publishing data on non-UK born UK nationals would require a cross tabulation of nationality and country of birth which is not available from the majority of UKBA statistical datasets.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090511/text/90511w0006.htm#09051126000018>

Immigration Controls

Chris Grayling [273027]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what recent proposals on improving existing collaborative arrangements between (a) forces at the UK border and (b) police forces and the UK Border Agency have been (i) made and (ii) agreed to; and what timetable has been established for implementation of the proposals agreed to.

Reply from Jacqui Smith: The creation of the UK Border Agency allows us to establish a single and strong border force bringing together immigration and customs controls at our ports. The role of the police and of other agencies in contributing to border security continues to be a high priority for us.

This year we will build on the high level Memorandum of Understanding between the UK Border Agency and the police published in 2008, in order to improve, strengthen and better coordinate border security arrangements. This will include increased opportunities for joint working including joint threat assessments and operations as well as secondments of UK Border Agency and police staff.

The National Coordinator (Protect), on behalf of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), is closely involved in the planning for the border and setting consistent practices across port-based staff in forces across England and Wales.

Mark Oaten [274170]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department pursuant to the answer of 28 April 2009, Official Report, column 1187W, on immigration controls, when she expects the information on the resources required by the UK Border Agency to be finalised.

Reply from Phil Woolas: The resource required to deliver the points based system which has five tiers, four of which are currently in operation includes both internal and commercial costs. It is not possible to disaggregate the resources required to operate individual tiers. The commercial costs of implementing PBS costs as a whole will not be known until spring 2010.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090512/text/90512w0007.htm#09051260000015>

Entry Clearances

Margaret Moran [273047]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what recent reports her Department has received on allegations that persons have been obliged to sign applications for leave to remain under duress by their spouses; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Phil Woolas: The information requested could be obtained only by the detailed examination of individual case records at disproportionate cost, all relevant information, including an allegation of duress if made would be considered prior to any decision being taken on an application.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090512/text/90512w0007.htm#09051260000009>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Detainees: Children

Peter Soulsby [272840]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many children of asylum seekers (a) had and (b) had not begun to receive a standard programme of child immunisation before entering immigration removal centres in the last 12 months; and how many of those who had not begun to receive immunisations have subsequently started a programme of immunisations at an immigration removal centre.

Reply from Phil Woolas: Health care at all three immigration removal centres where children can be detained includes an undertaking to continue with childhood vaccination programmes already commenced in the UK until they leave the centre. The specific information is not readily available and could be provided only at disproportionate cost by examining each individual record.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090512/text/90512w0007.htm#0905126000008>

British Nationality

Caroline Spelman [272444]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what assessment has been made of the effect on community cohesion of the Government initiative to require migrants to undertake community work before obtaining British citizenship.

Reply from Phil Woolas: The Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Bill sets out provision for speeding up the journey to British citizenship and permanent residence for migrants who contribute to the community through active citizenship. It will not be a mandatory requirement for migrants to undertake active citizenship. Those who choose to undertake active citizenship can speed up their journey by two years.

A design group was set up in autumn 2008 including representatives from the voluntary sector and local government to advise on the most effective way to operate active citizenship in practice.

A document was made available to the House in March 2009 to illustrate the Government's emerging thinking on active citizenship. Further details will be provided to the House when available.

Andrew Mackinlay [273997]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) what assessment she has made of recent representations made by the Strangers into Citizens campaign in respect of migrant workers and others whose residency status in the UK is undetermined; and if she will make a statement;

(2) [273998] what assessment she has made of recent representations to her Department by the church leaders in respect of migrant workers and others whose residency status in the UK is undetermined; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Phil Woolas: Recent high-profile campaigns, such as 'Strangers into Citizens' (supported by the Mayor of London, the former Archbishop of Westminster and others), have brought the debate over a proposed amnesty for illegal immigrants and undocumented migrants into the public arena. However, the Government have ruled out an amnesty and this remains our position.

An amnesty would be unfair to those who are here legally; it would act as a pull factor for even more attempts at illegal immigration; and it would counter the achievements by the UK Border Agency to toughen up our border and immigration system.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090511/text/90511w0005.htm#09051126000006>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Immigration: Commonwealth

Nicholas Soames [274431]: To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster what his most recent estimate is of the number of adult Commonwealth citizens resident in the UK.

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

Letter from Karen Dunnell, dated May 2009:

As National Statistician, I have been asked to respond to your question concerning the most recent estimate of the number of adult Commonwealth citizens resident in the UK.

The Office for National Statistics collects data on the Annual Population Survey (APS) which covers residents of the UK. The latest estimates available are for the 12 month period of July 2007 to June 2008. These show that the estimated number of adults resident in the UK who have Commonwealth nationality was 1.15 million. The margin of error around this estimate is +/- 44,000.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090511/text/90511w0007.htm#0905113000005>

Foreign Workers

James Clappison [253988]: To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions how many national insurance numbers were issued to adult (a) non-UK EU nationals and (b) non-EU nationals in the latest year for which figures are available.

Reply from Tony McNulty: The available information is in the following table.

National insurance number registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK, by quarter of registration and EU/non-EU status

Thousand

	<i>EU nationals</i>	<i>Non-EU nationals</i>
October 2007 to December 2007	108.29	76.67
January 2008 to March 2008	110.83	80.93
April 2008 to June 2008	100.68	74.65
July 2008 to September 2008	101.93	65.26

Notes:

1. Figures are rounded to the nearest 10 and displayed in thousands.
2. There are a small number of registrations where citizens' nationalities are unknown, these are not included.
3. Registration date is derived from the date at which a national insurance number is entered on the National Insurance Recording System
4. When presenting the EU time series, countries which joined the EU during time series have been included in the EU for the whole of the time series, to facilitate comparisons over time.
5. Bulgaria and Romania are listed as EU accession states for the entire time series. The EU total includes the accession states.
6. The EU time series excludes national insurance numbers registered to UK nationals.

Source:

100 per cent. extract from National Insurance Recording System

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090511/text/90511w0015.htm#09051148000017>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Foreign Workers: Pakistan

Nicholas Soames [274430]: To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster how many people who were born in Pakistan were in employment in the UK in each year since 1997.

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

Letter from Karen Dunnell, dated May 2009 :

As National Statistician, I have been asked to reply to your Parliamentary Question asking how many people who were born in Pakistan were in employment in the UK in each year since 1997.

The requested information is shown in the attached table. The estimates are derived from estimates from the Labour Force Survey. As with any sample survey, estimates from the LFS are subject to a margin of uncertainty. This is assessed in a footnote to the table. The figures in the table are derived from the LFS microdata which are weighted using the official population estimates published in autumn 2007. Consequently the 2007 and 2008 estimates are not entirely consistent with the figures published in the monthly Labour Market Statistics First Release, or the non-UK born employment figures published every quarter, which are weighted using more up-to-date population estimates.

People aged 16 and over born in Pakistan in employment, three- month periods ending December, 1997 to 2008, United Kingdom, not seasonally adjusted

	<i>Number</i>
1997	76,000
1998	87,000
1999	102,000
2000	105,000
2001	108,000
2002	108,000
2003	101,000
2004	100,000
2005	112,000
2006	132,000
2007	160,000
2008 ⁽¹⁾	**181,000

⁽¹⁾ Coefficients of Variation have been calculated as an indication of the quality of the estimates, as described below:

Guide to Quality: The Coefficient of Variation (CV) indicates the quality of an estimate, the smaller the CV value the higher the quality. The true value is likely to lie within +/- twice the CV—for example, for an estimate of 200 with a CV of 5 per cent. we would expect the population total to be within the range 180-220

Key Coefficient of Variation (CV) (%) Statistical Robustness

* 0 [le] CV<5 Estimates are considered precise

** 5 [le] CV <10 Estimates are considered reasonably precise

*** 10 [le] CV <20 Estimates are considered acceptable

**** CV ≥ 20 Estimates are considered too unreliable for practical purposes

It should be noted that the above estimates exclude people in most types of communal establishment (e.g. hotels, boarding houses, hostels, mobile home sites etc).

Source: Labour Force Survey

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090511/text/90511w0007.htm#0905113000004>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Human Trafficking

Margaret Moran [272925]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what assessment she has made of the incidence of repeat trafficking of individuals.

Reply from Alan Campbell: The nature of human trafficking makes it difficult to provide a precise estimate of the number of victims in the United Kingdom, including those who are repeat victims. Our current estimate of the number of victims is that at any one time in 2003 there were up to 4,000 women in the UK who were victims of trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation.

The United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre continues to work on providing a more up to date estimate of the number of victims. We will be in a position to provide a more up to date estimate of the overall number including repeat victims by the end of the year.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090511/text/90511w0006.htm#09051126000016>

Trafficked Women

Peter Bone [275282]: To ask the Minister for Women and Equality what recent discussions she has had with ministerial colleagues on levels of funding for non-governmental organisations working to assist trafficked women who have been raped and who are unable to obtain assistance from other sources.

Reply from Maria Eagle: The Inter-Departmental Ministerial Group on Human Trafficking, of which I am a member, regularly discusses this subject.

As part of the UK's commitment to implementing the Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Beings, the Government have awarded £3.7 million over the next two financial years to the POPPY Project. This grant will be used for national support services for victims of human trafficking for sexual exploitation and domestic servitude. The Government have also implemented a National Referral Mechanism to help facilitate victims of trafficking into the appropriate support and protection.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090514/text/90514w0029.htm#09051483000004>

Children: Human Trafficking

Margaret Moran [273058]: To ask the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families what estimate he has made of the number of children recovered from trafficking activities who have subsequently gone missing from local authority care in the last 12 months.

Reply from Beverley Hughes: Although information is collected centrally about the number of children who go missing from their care placement, it is not possible to derive data from these statistics about the number who may have been trafficked before coming into care. The information collected for 2007-08 can be found in Table LAB5 on the weblink as follows:

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000810/FinalDecemberTables.xls>

Local authorities have a range of duties to support looked after children to ensure that their needs are met including that they are effectively safeguarded. The care plan of looked after children known to have been previously trafficked should include how to minimise the risk of traffickers being able to re-involve a child in exploitative activities and contingency procedures to be followed if the young person goes missing from care.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090512/text/90512w0015.htm#09051278000005>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Human Trafficking: Babies

Margaret Moran [273056]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what steps her Department is taking to (a) identify and (b) prosecute offences related to the trafficking of babies into the UK.

Reply from Alan Campbell: A number of steps are being taken to identify and prosecute offenders trafficking babies into the UK. This includes the Government amendment to the Borders Citizenship and Immigration Bill which will enable the prosecution under trafficking legislation of those who bring babies and young children into the country for illegal purposes and where because of their age the role of the child is entirely passive.

The Government's Action Plan on Tackling Human Trafficking includes a measure to prevent the trafficking of babies and children into the UK for fraudulently acquiring welfare benefits.

Ongoing police-led operations at Heathrow and Gatwick continue to succeed in identifying trafficked children and ensuring their safety by working effectively with border staff and social workers.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090511/text/90511w0006.htm#09051126000017>

People Trafficking

Lord Sheikh: To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to tackle human trafficking and to provide assistance to its victims.

Reply from Lord Brett: My Lords, we continue to make the UK a hostile environment for trafficking and to ensure that victims are protected as part of our comprehensive victim-centred, end-to-end strategy, as set out in the UK plan to tackle human trafficking. This approach has been reinforced by our ratification of the Council of Europe convention against human trafficking which came into effect on 1 April and which strengthens our identification and protection arrangements for victims.

Lord Sheikh: My Lords, I thank the Minister for that response. I have a number of concerns but will confine myself to two points. First, bearing in mind that victims of human trafficking are all over the country, what is being done to ensure that training is provided to all the police forces? Secondly, as human trafficking is a global problem, what liaison is being maintained between us and other European countries and other foreign countries?

Reply from Lord Brett: My Lords, I agree entirely with the noble Lord on both the points he makes. Our strategy regards the fight against human trafficking as a core part of police business, and the training of all police officers in all regions is an essential part of that. Providing funding for that activity through the core funding of police is also important. The noble Lord makes a very important point; in many cases we are a destination country for trafficked people. Some years ago when I chaired a major conference with Interpol I came across the most horrific story involving deaf and dumb people who were trafficked from Russia to sell dolls in France, and the evidence suggested that they never returned to Russia if they failed to sell the dolls in question. It is most important that we use Interpol and our European colleagues and the UK is playing a leading part in that task.

To continue reading the lengthy question and answer session see

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200809/ldhansrd/text/90511-0001.htm#0905117000608>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre

Anthony Steen [272048]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how her Department (a) monitors and (b) evaluates the work and performance of the UK Human Trafficking Centre (UKHTC); when the UKHTC plans to publish its first annual report; and if she will place a copy of that report in the Library on publication.

Reply from Alan Campbell: Oversight of all work on human trafficking is carried out by the Inter-Departmental Ministerial Group of which I am Chair.

Monitoring and evaluation of the UK Human Trafficking Centre's work is carried out by the Oversight and Advisory Board, chaired by CC Graeme Maxwell, the ACPO lead on Organised Immigration Crime and on which the Home Office is represented.

The UKHTC plans to publish its annual report in the near future, a copy of which will be placed in the Libraries of the House.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090511/text/90511w0007.htm#09051126000034>

Westminster Petition Response

Police Interpreting

The Petition of persons concerned at the treatment of nationally registered interpreters,

Declares that the Greater Manchester Police are currently considering outsourcing provision of face-to-face interpreters to a commercial intermediary; further declares that registered interpreters are not prepared to work for an intermediary and that Greater Manchester Police would no longer be able to obtain their services should they outsource;

Notes that data obtained pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 show that outsourcing can lead to the use of persons purporting to be interpreters who are not on the National Register (which is stipulated as the first port of call by the Office for Criminal Justice Reform) or any of the other lists authorised by the National Agreement;

Believes that competent, vetted and professional interpreters are an integral part of the Criminal Justice System, ensuring a just and fair delivery of justice; further believes that taxpayers are entitled to see their money spent on a high quality service which will aid the administration of justice for ethnic minorities.

The Petitioners therefore request that the House of Commons urges the Home Secretary to do all in her power to persuade Greater Manchester Police to treat the profession with the respect it deserves and to include registered interpreters in any future consultations which may affect their livelihoods and profession; the petitioner further requests that the House of Commons urges the Home Secretary to intervene where police forces do not abide by the terms of the National Agreement.

And the Petitioners remain, etc. —[Presented by Mr. John Leech , Official Report, 9 March 2009; Vol. 489, c. 127.][P000322]

Observations from the Secretary of State for the Home Department:

The Code of Practice C for the detention, treatment, and questioning of persons by police officers, issued under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE) 1984, provides that the chief police officer for the individual force concerned is responsible for making sure that appropriate arrangements are in place for the provision of suitably qualified interpreters for people who are deaf or who do not understand or speak English. The Code states that, wherever possible, interpreters should be drawn from the National Register of Public Service Interprets (NRPSI).

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Petition Response (continued)

The National Agreement on Arrangements for the Use of Interpreters and Translators in the Criminal Justice System indicates that an interpreter must be used from the National Register, where possible.

The Association of Chief Police Officers wrote to all chief officers in April 2008 reminding them that they should follow the National Agreement and the benefits of using an interpreter from the NRPSI. The letter further advised that any forces considering or which already outsourcing interpreting service must ensure that the outsourcing process does not compromise compliance with the standards set out in the National Agreement.

Chief Officers are required to achieve value for money and to ensure compliance with rights and safeguards for the individual as set out in legislation. The Government understands that ACPO consider that there is no evidence to support the claim that these rights and safeguards are not being delivered.

The Government is also informed that ACPO has the utmost respect for interpreters who are drawn from the NRPSI. The issues around outsourcing are about availability of interpreters and timeliness of their arrival at the police station. These are issues which will be looked at with colleagues, stakeholders and practitioners in the criminal justice system.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090508/petntext/90508p0001.htm#09050838000023>

Press Releases

Detention of children in Dungavel

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2009/05/12104542>

Jim Murphy comments on the announcement of a new pilot for asylum families in Glasgow

<http://www.scotlandoffice.gov.uk/scotlandoffice/11982.html>

Review of the alternative to detention

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/reports/alternative-to-detention/>

Committee publishes human trafficking report

<http://news.parliament.uk/2009/05/committee-publishes-human-trafficking-report/>

Identity cards: new sites for biometric enrolment

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/new-biometric-enrolment-sites>

Voluntary returns project for refused asylum families to start in June

http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/voluntary_returns_project

Tough new regulations for immigration advisers

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/tough-regulations-for-advisers>

Asylum Support Partnership report on destitute asylum seekers - UK Border Agency response

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/asp-report-ukba-response>

Immigration and Asylum Press Releases (continued)

New visa regimes and changes to IRIS accounts for passport holders of South Africa, Swaziland and Lesotho

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/iris-sa-swaziland-lesotho>

New visa regimes and changes to IRIS accounts for Bolivian and Venezuelan passport holders

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/iris-bolivia-venezuela>

British mothers - proposed changes

http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/british_mothers_proposed_changes

Asylum in the EU in 2008: Around 20 000 asylum applicants registered each month in EU27

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=STAT/09/66&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Victims must be at the centre of anti-trafficking action

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/Victimsofanti-traffickingaction.aspx>

Commission in Scotland calls time on consensus that threatens Scotland's future

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/scotland/news/Pages/EHRCScotlandcallstimeonconsensus.aspx>

More than half of asylum seekers requesting our help are destitute, says Scottish Refugee Council

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/Med_Rel_Dest_May

New publications

Review of the Alternative to Detention (A2D) Project

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/reports/alternative-to-detention/alternative-to-detention.pdf?view=Binary>

The Trade in Human Beings: Human Trafficking in the UK

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmselect/cmhaff/23/23ii.pdf>

Room for manoeuvre?

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/Documents/Scotland/EHRC%20Migration%20Report%20Room%20for%20manoeuvre.pdf>

News

13,500 fewer colleges for visas

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/8046341.stm>

Scottish taxpayers foot £400k bill for foreign patients in our hospitals

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/2009/05/12/scottish-taxpayers-foot-400k-bill-for-foreign-patients-in-our-hospitals-86908-21351617/>

Immigration and Asylum News (continued)

Scots 'not tolerant' of migrants

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/8046728.stm>

Failed asylum families offered flats

[http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2507723.0.Failed asylum families offered flats.php](http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2507723.0.Failed_asylum_families_offered_flats.php)

Flats for failed asylum seekers

[http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2507863.0.flats for failed asylum seekers.php](http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2507863.0.flats_for_failed_asylum_seekers.php)

'Dungavel was built to be a prison and that is what it is'

[http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2507725.0.Dungavel was built to be a prison and that is what it is.php](http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2507725.0.Dungavel_was_built_to_be_a_prison_and_that_is_what_it_is.php)

Dungavel move may herald asylum breakthrough

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Dungavel-move-may-herald-asylum.5259766.jp>

Polish mums meet up to offer support

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/latestnews/Polish-mums--meet-up.5260543.jp>

Anger at mother and son dawn raid

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/glasgow_and_west/8050550.stm

Mother and boy, 4, taken to Dungavel in dawn raid

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Mother-and-boy-4-taken.5270698.jp>

Fury over asylum seekers' detention

[http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2508419.0.fury over asylum seekers detention.php](http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2508419.0.fury_over_asylum_seekers_detention.php)

Protest over asylum seeker Dungavel detention

[http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2508426.0.protest over asylum seeker dungavel detention.php](http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2508426.0.protest_over_asylum_seeker_dungavel_detention.php)

Four-year-old refugee latest victim of broken vows by Westminster

[http://www.sundayherald.com/international/shinternational/display.var.2508630.0.fouryearold refugee latest victim of broken vows by westminster.php](http://www.sundayherald.com/international/shinternational/display.var.2508630.0.fouryearold_refugee_latest_victim_of_broken_vows_by_westminster.php)

Asylum seeker rules 'not working'

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/8047910.stm>

Scots view sought on migrant jobs

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/8050437.stm>

Britain's asylum policy is failing

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2009/may/14/asylum-seekers-britain>

Police chief: foreign nationals must be scanned

[http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2508238.0.Police chief foreign nationals must be scanned.php](http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2508238.0.Police_chief_foreign_nationals_must_be_scanned.php)

Immigration and Asylum News (continued)

Migrants boost population

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Migrants-boost-population.5273337.jp>

Asylum seekers 'living off hand-outs'

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/8049300.stm>

20th June International Refugee Day

<http://www.unitedagainstracism.org/pages/camprfc.htm>

Rulings in age assessment cases

<http://www.irr.org.uk/2009/may/ha000034.html>

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Race Relations

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Community Relations: Religion

Desmond Swayne [273196]: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government what plans her Department has to mark Inter Faith Week; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Sadiq Khan: The Department announced on 24 March that inter faith week will take place from 15 to 21 November across England and possibly Wales. It was proposed to Government by the Inter Faith Network for the UK (the member bodies of which include the Churches and other major faith communities) in 2008 as part of the consultation for the Government's inter faith strategy "Face to Face and Side by Side: A Framework for Partnership in our Multi Faith Society."

We are keen to see local faith groups and communities around the country reaching out to each other to build stronger bonds of understanding and co-operation. Places of worship, inter faith bodies, schools and colleges, local authorities and other public agencies will be holding their own local events. Activities will also aim to increase public awareness of the various faith communities of the UK, focusing on the contribution which their members make to their neighbourhoods and wider society. Local, regional and national inter faith initiatives will be able to raise their profile. We hope the week will also increase understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs.

The Department is facilitating the week in partnership with the Inter Faith Network and in consultation with the Department for Children, Schools and Families, the Local Government Association and the Equality and Human Rights Commission. We are liaising with the relevant public agencies, helping facilitate publicity and developing written materials. We will also organise a launch event in the preceding week.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090511/text/90511w0003.htm#09051121000004>

Race Relations

Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Pakistani Christians

Lord Greaves [HL3327]: To ask Her Majesty's Government why the research and report on the Pakistani Muslim Community in England commissioned by Communities and Local Government from the Change Institute does not include the United Kingdom Pakistani Christian communities; and whether they propose to commission similar research into them.

Reply from Baroness Andrews: Communities and Local Government commissioned research into 13 Muslim ethnic communities in England in order to improve our understanding of the diversity which exists within, and is often masked by, the blanket term "British Muslim". For this reason populations of a relevant ethnicity but different faith—such as Pakistani Christian, Egyptian Coptic Christian and Indian Sikh—were acknowledged but deemed outside the scope of the research. There are no immediate plans to produce further reports on other communities.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200809/ldhansrd/text/90512w0003.htm#09051245000476>

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Equality

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Judiciary: Ethnic Groups

Keith Vaz [273691]: To ask the Secretary of State for Justice how many black and minority ethnic people were appointed to the judiciary in each of the last five years.

Reply from Jack Straw: Following the question tabled in February on appointments, we are in the process of cleansing our data. This has yet to be completed, so I regret that I am unable to respond at this time. I will write with further information in due course, and ensure copies of this information are made available in the Libraries of both Houses.

Keith Vaz [273692]: To ask the Secretary of State for Justice what proportion of applications to become a member of the judiciary were from black and minority ethnic candidates in each of the last five years.

Reply from Jack Straw: We have not been able to provide all the information in the time requested, but are working to provide it. I will write with further information in the near future, and ensure copies of this information are made available in the Libraries of both Houses.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090512/text/90512w0021.htm#0905136000008>

Equality

Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Legal Profession: Chinese Community

Harry Cohen [273768]: To ask the Secretary of State for Justice what criteria are applied to the selection of applicants to participate in the Lord Chancellor's Training scheme for young Chinese Lawyers; and if he will consider the merits of increasing the number of places available under the scheme each year.

Reply from Michael Wills: Applicants to the Lord Chancellor's Training scheme for young Chinese Lawyers must:

be Chinese nationals aged between 25 and 40 on the application closing date;
be graduates of law who have passed the national lawyers' examination in China and have at least two years' post-qualification experience in a law firm in China;
have excellent written and oral English demonstrated by an overall score of 6.5 or over in the International English Language Testing System test (IELTS), ideally with a score of 6.0 or over in every test;

have specialist experience in one or more areas of legal practice of significance to China's development as a market economy and have strong personal motivation and an ability to adapt to different environments.

From past experience it has also been found desirable that the 15 successful lawyers:

represent a gender balance between males and females;

represent a wide variety of Chinese regions;

be working for Chinese law firms;

be experienced in commercial areas of law;

have a strong interest in and perhaps some experience in international work;

be willing and keen to contribute to the development of the Chinese Justice system upon their return;

have excellent communication skills;

be highly motivated to learn, have a positive attitude, and be an excellent team player; and

be capable of resolving ethical dilemmas.

The Ministry of Justice has committed to fund the scheme until 2011. We will review the scheme in due course, using a set of criteria which is likely to focus on value for money, impact, achievements, and fit with our departmental strategic objectives. We will also need to consider the public sector's fiscal restraints at that time. I am sure you will appreciate therefore that I cannot comment on the merits of increasing the number of places available until the review has been concluded.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090512/text/90512w0021.htm#090513600009>

Press Release

Final chance for your views on Government's new race equality strategy

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/1230453>

Publication

Equality and Human Rights Commission Briefing: Equality Bill

http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/09v_ehrc_equality_bill_parl_brief_0509.pdf

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Press Releases

New report offers 'rare insight' into racism suffered by UK Chinese community
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/1229681>

The Min Quan monitoring group project
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/speeches/corporate/minquanproject>

The great divide
http://www.sundayherald.com/news/heraldnews/display.var.2508621.0.the_great_divide.php

News

Diplomat charged with race abuse
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/8045680.stm>

Bull advert for milk deemed not racist
http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2507753.0.bull_advert_for_milk_deemed_not_racist.php

Donald Findlay: Singing The Famine Song is free speech
<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/2009/05/16/findlay-famine-song-is-free-speech-86908-21363426/>

Muslim doctor claims discrimination over Friday prayers
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstoppers/religion/5325391/Muslim-doctor-claims-discrimination-over-Friday-prayers.html>

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Other Holyrood

Parliamentary Question

Organ Donation

Anne McLaughlin: To ask the Scottish Executive how it intends to increase the levels of organ donation in the black and minority ethnic community. (S3W-23482)

Reply from Nicola Sturgeon: The Scottish Transplant Group, which we have asked to oversee implementation in Scotland of the recommendations in the first report of the UK Organ Donation Taskforce, is considering how best to take forward recommendation 13, which calls for promoting organ donation and the "gift of life" to the general public, and specifically to the Black and Minority Ethnic population. I expect to receive advice from the Group on this issue in due course.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/Business/PQA/default.aspx?pg=S3W-23482>

Press Release

Summer Cabinet plans
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2009/05/17113757>

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Parliamentary Questions

Discrimination: Religion

Stewart Jackson [273393]: To ask the Minister for Women and Equality what assessment has been made of the likely effect of the provisions of the European Commission's Draft Discrimination Directive on (a) faith schools and (b) public authorities procuring services from faith groups.

Reply from Maria Eagle: EU competence in relation to education is restricted to contributing to the development of quality education and encouraging member states in their responsibility for their own educational systems and content of teaching. The draft directive cannot therefore affect faith schools in the UK. We are seeking to make this clear in the text during negotiations on the directive.

The draft directive proposes to prohibit discrimination in the provision of services on the grounds of religion or belief, disability, age and sexual orientation. It applies to those who are providing the service and not those who are procuring the service. Any organisation that is delivering a service, whether a faith group or not, will have to deliver that service in a non-discriminatory way. This is already a requirement in UK law on three of the grounds covered by the draft directive (religion or belief, disability and sexual orientation) and we are introducing protection from discrimination on the remaining ground (age) in the Equality Bill. The directive will not therefore affect public authorities procuring services from faith groups.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090513/text/90513w0019.htm#09051376000017>

Polygamy

Lord Lester of Herne Hill [HL3264]: To ask Her Majesty's Government further to the Written Answer by Lord Bach on 28 April (Official Report, House of Lords, col. 105), what provision for financial and property protection is available as a safety net for multiple wives whose polygamous marriages are not recognised in United Kingdom law.

Reply from Lord Bach: Where people live together without being legally married, the ordinary law of property, contract and trusts will generally apply.

Parties in a polygamous relationship have the option of entering into a contract to govern their respective shares in property or assign proceeds of an insurance policy. They can choose to draft wills to give some or all of their property to partners or make specific gifts in the event of a death. Legislation also exists to allow claims to be made for maintenance from a deceased partner's estate if sufficient provision has not been made for surviving partners who were being maintained by the deceased at the date of death. Where title to a property is registered in joint names, there will be a presumption that the parties are entitled to an equal share of the proceeds of any sale. On the death of a joint tenant, the deceased's share of the property will pass to the surviving joint tenants.

It is currently possible for people to assign the proceeds of an insurance policy on their own life to named beneficiaries, and this enables parties in a polygamous relationship to provide funds for the benefit of their fellow partners.

A former partner from a polygamous relationship can apply for maintenance for any children from the polygamous relationship involved under the Child Support Acts and capital provision for the benefit of children may be sought under Schedule 1 of the Children Act 1989 following a breakdown in the relationship.

The strict application of property law may be modified by the law of trusts, to give one party a beneficial interest in property vested in the other where, for example, one party has contributed towards the purchase price.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200809/ldhansrd/text/90511w0003.htm#09051117000519>

Other Westminster (continued)

New publications

Count of Gypsy and Traveller Caravans - January 2009

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/xls/1228795.xls>

and

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/xls/1228798.xls>

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New Publications

Addressing Ethnic Profiling by Police: A Report on the Strategies for Effective Police Stop and Search Project

http://www.justiceinitiative.org/db/resource2/fs/?file_id=20706

Funding practice and funding gaps for the equality voluntary sector in Scotland

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/publicationsandresources/Pages/FundingpracticeegapsqualityvoluntarysectorScot.aspx>

European Parliament Election

MEMO+ Voting in the European Parliament Election

http://www.scojec.org/memo+/2009/09v_eu_voting.pdf

Liberal Democrat Party Manifesto

<http://europe.libdems.org.uk/sites/default/files/euromanifesto.pdf>

Green Party Manifesto

http://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/EU_Manifesto_2009.pdf

British National Party Manifesto

http://www.bnp.org.uk/pdf_files/Euro-Manifesto-2009.pdf

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Other News

Standing up for the gypsies

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/standing-up-for-the-gypsies-1685206.html>

No religion advocates so-called 'honour crimes', according to PACE rapporteur

http://assembly.coe.int/ASP/NewsManager/EMB_NewsManagerView.asp?ID=4643&L=2

Scottish Unions mobilising against the BNP

<http://stuc.siteiscentral.com/news/640/scottish-unions-mobilising-against-the-bnp>

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Bills in Progress ** New or updated this week

Holyrood

Arbitration Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/19-Arbitration/index.htm>

**** Education (Additional Support for Learning) Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/16-EdAddSup/index.htm>

revised Explanatory Notes

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/16-EdAddSup/b16as3-stage2-amend-en-rev.pdf>

proposed amendments

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-09/bb-05-14g.htm>

and

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/businessBulletin/bb-09/bb-05-15g.htm>

**** Criminal Justice and Licensing Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/24-CrimJustLc/index.htm>

Justice Committee: Stage 1 evidence from the High Court of Justiciary, the Sheriffs' Association, the Scottish Justices Association, and the Royal Society of Edinburgh

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/justice/or-09/ju09-1402.htm#Col1759>

written evidence to the Justice Committee

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/justice/inquiries/CriminalJusticeandLicensing/ju-criminaljustice-evid.htm>

Offences (Aggravation by Prejudice) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/09-AggPrej/index.htm>

Scottish Local Government (Elections) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/21-SLGelections/index.htm>

Sexual Offences Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/11-sexualOffences/index.htm>

Bills in Progress Westminster

Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2008-09/borderscitizenshipandimmigration.html>

Bills in Progress

Westminster (continued)

** Equality Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2008-09/equality.html>

amendment papers

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/085/amend/pbc0851105a.1-5.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/085/amend/pbc0851205a.7.html>

House of Commons: Second Reading

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090511/debtext/90511-0004.htm#0905118000001>

programme

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090511/debtext/90511-0020.htm#0905122000004>

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Consultations

(closing date)

** new or updated this week

** *closes this week!*

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator Corporate Plan 2009-11 (20 May 2009)

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/DocumentViewer.aspx?ID=a98d0e42-1f22-456f-94f9-2478749f650e>

** *closes this week!*

Community planning for tackling poverty and deprivation (BEMIS consultation)
(23 May 2009)

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=ltofvE2_2fMrorgWbMuRbXrw_3d_3d

Equality Bill: Assessing the impact of a multiple discrimination provision

(5 June 2009)

<http://www.equalities.gov.uk/pdf/090422%20Multiple%20Discrimination%20Discussion%20Document%20Final%20Text.pdf>

Working together to protect crowded places (10 July 2009)

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/cons-2009-crowded-places/working-together-crowded-places?view=Binary>

and

Safer Places: a counter-terrorism supplement

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/cons-2009-crowded-places/safer-places?view=Binary>

UK Consultation on the European Commission Proposal for an Equal Treatment Directive (28 July 2009)

http://www.equalities.gov.uk/international/eu_directive.aspx

Oversight of the Immigration Advice Sector consultation (6 August 2009)

http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/221878/oversight_of_the_immigration_adv/oversight_immigration_advice/immigration_advice_consultation?view=Binary

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Job Opportunities

[Click here](#) to find out about job opportunities advertised in MEMO+ Recruitment

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Events/Conferences/Training

** New or updated this week

**** this week!**

Introduction to the Needs of Refugee Women

21 May 2009 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course for people working with asylum seekers and refugees who need a comprehensive understanding of the core issues affecting women seeking sanctuary in Scotland. For information contact SRC 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=65>

**** this week!**

NHS 24 consultation

22 May 2009 in Glasgow (age 18-40: 10.00-12.00; age 40+ 2.00-4.00)

BEMIS consultation event to investigate specific barriers faced by Ethnic Minorities in accessing NHS24 services. For information contact Ashai Ghay 0141 548 8047 / ashay.ghai@bemis.org.uk

**** Equality and Human Rights Commission Funding Surgeries**

28 May 2009 in Glasgow (10.30-2.30)

1 June 2009 in Dundee (10.30-2.30)

For information contact Douglas Guest or Fiona McLeod

scotland@equalityhumanrights.com

Protecting Vulnerable Groups: Check to Protect

2 June 2009 in Edinburgh (9.30-1.30)

10 June 2009 in Glasgow (9.30-1.30)

16 June 2009 in Aberdeen (9.30-1.30)

17 June 2009 in Dundee (9.30-1.30)

24 June 2009 in Inverness (9.30-1.30)

25 June 2009 in Perth (9.30-1.30)

Scottish Government events to inform organisations about the new Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme. This new membership scheme for people who work with children and protected adults will replace current disclosure arrangements for people whose post requires an enhanced disclosure. For information see <http://www.protectingvulnerablegroups.com/> or contact Holyrood Events 0131 272 2136

Introduction to Working with Asylum Seekers & Refugees

9 June 2009 in Glasgow

20 August 2009 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to identify the issues and concerns participants have in relation to working with asylum seekers and refugees, provide information on legal, political, economic and historical factors in relation to people seeking asylum, share ideas for developing good practice, and to identify strategies and resources for work with refugees. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=73>

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

New Scrutiny Bodies 2011

26 June 2009 in Glasgow (9.30-2.00)

(Applications must be received by 5 June)

Scottish Government Conference for equality groups and people who use services on how health, care and social work services will be inspected from April 2011. For information see <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Health/Scrutiny/PublicEvent>

Hate crime and community safety (event for Muslim Women)

1 July 2009 in Falkirk (10.00-1.30)

Event organised by AMINA women's resource centre, and Central Police with speakers from the Crown Office, Police, Victim Support, and AMINA, and including round table discussions on issues affecting Muslim Women in relation to policing. For information contact Samina or Gabrielle 0141 585 8026 / info@mwrc.org.uk or Fiach 01786826012 / fiach.obroin-molloy@centralscotland.pnn.police.uk

UKBA (formerly NASS) Asylum Support - The Essentials

3 September 2009 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course covering the asylum process and the legal framework, support arrangements available to asylum seekers from the beginning to the end of the asylum process, and entitlements for refugees and unaccompanied or separated asylum-seeking children. For information contact SRC 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=60>

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Useful Links

Scottish Parliament <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/home.htm>

Scottish Government <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Home>

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

Directgov (links to UK Government Departments)

http://www.direct.gov.uk/DI1/Directories/AToZOfCentralGovernment/fs/en?CONTENT_ID=10013528&chk=8b2gQw

European Parliament <http://www.europarl.eu.int/parliament/public.do?language=en>

One Scotland Many Cultures <http://www.scotlandagainstracism.com/>

Scottish Refugee Council www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Scottish Inter Faith Council <http://www.scottishinterfaithcouncil.org/>

Equality and Human Rights Commission

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/Pages/default.aspx>

Scotland Helpline 0845 604 5510

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

Useful Links (continued)

SCVO <http://www.scvo.org.uk/scvo/Home/Home.aspx>

Volunteer Development Scotland www.vds.org.uk

Social Economy Scotland <http://www.socialeconomyscotland.info/content/index.asp>

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

Central Registered Body for Scotland (CRBS) <http://www.crbs.org.uk/>

Disclosure Scotland <http://www.disclosurescotland.co.uk/>

BBC News24 <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/default.stm>

BBC Parliament online

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/bbc_parliament/default.stm

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



BEMIS (the Black and Ethnic Minority Infrastructure in Scotland) is the umbrella body for ethnic minority organisations in Scotland. It aims to strengthen the capacity of the ethnic minority voluntary sector; raise the profile and coordinate the voice of this sector; and take a lead on policy issues to ensure that issues of concern are raised with government and other relevant bodies. <http://www.bemis.org.uk/index.html>



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.scotlandagainstracism.com/>