

## 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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*Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month.*

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## Immigration and Asylum

### Holyrood Debate

#### **Former Gurkha Soldiers' Rights**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetingsParliament/or-09/sor0618-02.htm#Col18656>

### Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

#### **Immigration**

**Rob Gibson** (Highlands and Islands) (SNP): To ask the Scottish Executive what the ramifications for cultural activity in Scotland are of the requirement for a certificate of sponsorship under the UK Government's points-based immigration system. (S3W-24536)

**Michael Russell:** Our world renowned cultural festivals and events are vital to attracting tourists and artists, and contributing to our economy. It is vital that those who are coming here to contribute are welcomed, not shunned.

The UK immigration system should meet the needs of the whole of the UK and we are pressing the Home Office to ensure that the distinct needs of Scotland are taken into account.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/Business/PQA/default.aspx?pq=S3W-24536>

## Immigration and Asylum (continued)

### Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

**Rob Gibson** (Highlands and Islands) (SNP): To ask the Scottish Executive what it can do to encourage non-EU artists to visit and perform in Scotland. (S3W-24537)

**Michael Russell:** The UK immigration system should meet the needs of the whole of the UK and we are pressing the Home Office to ensure that the distinct needs of Scotland are taken into account. We are also working with colleagues at the UK Border Agency to ensure more is done to inform Scottish-based organisers and promoters about immigration systems and regulations, and to provide support and advice where possible.

Our Relocation Advisory Service (RAS) aims to assist and advise those who wish to live and work in Scotland, including those from the cultural sector. They seek to create a seamless service that streamlines UK, Scotland and local public services to make things easier for people to move to this country to live and work. The welcoming package includes information on living and working in Scotland, cultural networks, information on diversity and equality issues, where to seek employment, accommodation and healthcare and provides information on immigration issues such as work permits and visas. People are able to contact RAS via the website at [www.scotlandistheplace.com](http://www.scotlandistheplace.com), by telephone or, if they are in Glasgow, through a face-to-face meeting.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/Business/PQA/default.aspx?pg=S3W-24537>

## Westminster Ministerial Statement

### Language Analysis

**Phil Woolas (Minister for Borders and Immigration):** I have made an authorisation under section 19D of the Race Relations Act 1976 as amended, to enable the Secretary of State to request that asylum applicants claiming to be nationals of Palestine or Kuwait submit to language analysis.

Language analysis carried out for some Somali asylum applicants demonstrates that significant proportions of those tested have claimed to be of a nationality, or from a region or grouping, that is not their own in order to try to gain residence in this country. We are aware that a significant proportion of Palestinian and Kuwaiti claims also are from other nationalities. This new authorisation will assist the Secretary of State to make decisions in individual Palestinian and Kuwaiti cases, and to ascertain the extent of abuse within these nationalities.

The Secretary of State may take a refusal to submit to testing into account when determining whether an applicant has assisted in establishing the facts of his case or her case.

The authorisation will remain in place for 11 months (until April 2010), at which point we will review whether it is still necessary and appropriate.

I am placing a copy of the authorisation in the Libraries of both Houses of Parliament.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090615/wmstext/90615m0001.htm#0906152000011>

## Immigration and Asylum (continued)

### Westminster Parliamentary Questions

#### Entry Clearances: Families

**Douglas Carswell** [267569]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many family visitor visa applications were received from people in each of the six countries from which most applications were received in each of the last seven years; and how many such visas were granted to people from each of those countries.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** The number of family visit (a) visa applications and (b) visas issued, in each of the top six countries by volume of applications, in each of the last five calendar years, is shown in the following table. Reliable data for previous years are not held.

**To read the lengthy table see**

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090617/text/90617w0008.htm#090617111000022>

#### Entry Clearances: Religious Persons

**Jeffrey Donaldson** [276435]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what assessment he has made of the effect of the new regulations for religious workers who apply for a visa to enter the UK; how many applicants have been refused under the new arrangements; and if he will make a statement.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** There are provisions for religious workers to enter the UK under the new points based system, using Tier 2: Minister of Religion Route or Tier 5 Religious Worker. Both of these tiers were implemented on 27 November 2008. During the development of this policy and since implementation, officials have engaged with faith communities about these provisions. As the points based system beds in, it will undergo further evaluation.

In answer to the request for refusal figures, we are planning to publish information in August which will address grants and refusals. We will be able to provide the information requested at this point.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090616/text/90616w0011.htm#09061657000068>

#### Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

**Mark Oaten** [277885]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department pursuant to the answer of 19 May 2009, *Official Report*, column 1293W, on entry clearances: overseas students, whether the stipulated accreditation entities define the (a) method and (b) frequency with which assessments are undertaken.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** The definition of the method and frequency of educational institutions' assessment of students is not the responsibility of the UK Border Agency's approved accreditation bodies.

The awarding bodies responsible for each recognised qualification set out the standards required to achieve the qualification, as well as the assessment methods that are appropriate for each particular qualification.

**Nick Gibb** [278677]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what steps he is taking to expedite the issuing of visas for schoolchildren from overseas who wish to attend independent schools in the UK from September 2009.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** There are no special arrangements to expedite the issuing of visas for schoolchildren from overseas who wish to attend independent schools in the UK. We are committed to processing all visa applications in line with our Customers Service Standards, published on our website at: [www.ukvisas.gov.uk](http://www.ukvisas.gov.uk) and which provide a prompt service.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090615/text/90615w0008.htm#09061526000023>

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### Immigration Controls: Overseas Students

**Mark Oaten** [271294]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many academic institutions have successfully registered as sponsors with the UK Border Agency under Tier 4 of the points-based immigration system; and how many such institutions made applications to register which were rejected.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** There are at present just less than 1,600 educational establishments on the register of sponsors under tier 4 of the points-based system.

Over 500 applications for sponsorship have been unsuccessful, including those applications rejected, refused and withdrawn, of which around 30 were from organisations identifying themselves as universities or educational establishments. Figures provided have been rounded to the nearest five.

The figures quoted are not provided under National Statistics protocols and have been derived from local management information and are therefore provisional and subject to change.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090618/text/90618w0007.htm#09061887000020>

### Immigration Controls

**Damian Green** [278551]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many immigrants entered the UK under Tier 1 of the points-based system in 2008.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** During 2008, a total of 12,052 visas were issued to non-EEA nationals for entry to the UK under tier 1 of the points based system.

These data are unpublished and should be treated as provisional.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090616/text/90616w0012.htm#09061657000075>

### Immigration

**Claire Curtis-Thomas** [253147]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what discussions he has had with ministerial colleagues to reduce levels of enforced migration to the UK, with particular reference to (a) human rights abuses and (b) levels of inequality in source countries.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** I have regular discussions with the Home Secretary about controlling immigration to the United Kingdom. The foreword to the UK Border Agency business plan for 2009-12 was signed jointly by the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Secretary of State for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Financial Secretary to Her Majesty's Treasury, reflecting the cross cutting nature of the Government's work on immigration. I also meet regularly to discuss issues of joint interest, with Ministers from across Government, including with colleagues from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) which leads on global human rights and the Department for International Development which leads for the UK in the fight against global poverty.

Information on the Government's work in this area is published in the FCO's Annual Report on Human Rights which can be found at:

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/resources/en/pdf/pdf15/human-rights-2008>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090617/text/90617w0009.htm#090617111000025>

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### Immigration

**Jim Cunningham** [271503]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what recent estimate his Department has made of the number of stateless people residing in the UK.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** As signatories to the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons ('the Stateless Convention') we fulfil our Convention obligations, including recognition of the definition of stateless contained in Article 1 of the Convention.

No estimate has been made of the number of stateless people residing in the UK by the Home Office.

**Jim Cunningham** [271504]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what assistance is available to stateless people in the UK.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** As signatories to the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons ('the Stateless Convention') we fulfil our convention obligations, including recognition of the definition of stateless contained in article 1 of the convention.

There is no provision in primary legislation or in the Immigration Rules that provides for assistance to be made available to a person on the basis of a claim that they are stateless. As with any other person subject to immigration control, a person claiming to be stateless will only be eligible for publicly funded assistance in limited circumstances: if they have applied for leave to enter or remain in the UK under the Immigration Rules, or if they have made a claim for international protection, and meet the criteria for specific assistance as applicable. While each case would be considered on its merits, in practice stateless people who are granted international protection would be eligible for assistance.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090616/text/90616w0011.htm#09061657000074>

### Immigration: Armed Forces

**Hugh Bayley** [277070]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many (a) Gurkhas and (b) other foreign nationals who have served in the armed services have been granted the right to settle in the UK in each of the last 20 years.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** The number of main applicants granted settlement as a former member of the armed forces is set out in the following table.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Total
Gurkhas	214	2,115	3,123	578	98	6,128
Commonwealth	6	48	181	288	140	663
Total	220	2,163	3,304	866	238	6,791

Data from earlier than 2004 is not available.

Please note this is Management Information and is not a National Statistic.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090616/text/90616w0012.htm#09061657000076>

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### Immigration: Gurkhas

**Damian Green** [274005]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what recent discussions he has had with Ministerial colleagues on Government policy in respect of Gurkha settlement rights.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** We were determined to get the guidance right to ensure that it is fair to all Gurkhas. Officials in the UK Border Agency consulted across Government.

The consultation process and the issues involved were complex. There was a need to consider issues such as how many former Gurkhas would want to settle, the impact on communities and affordability.

**Damian Green** [274006]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what estimate he has made of the number of retired Gurkhas expected to settle in the UK following the High Court decision of 30 September 2008.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** : As a result of the High Court decision of 30 September 2008 the UK Border Agency issued revised guidance on 24 April 2009 for considering settlement applications from former Gurkhas. We estimated that approximately 10,000 former Gurkhas and their families would benefit from the new guidance and would be entitled to settle in the United Kingdom should they choose to do so. These estimates were based on an analysis of records held by the Ministry of Defence.

On 21 May 2009 the Home Secretary announced that any former Gurkha with more than four years service who had been discharged from the Brigade of Gurkhas before 1 July 1997 would be eligible for settlement in the UK. We estimate that 36,000 former Gurkhas are now eligible to apply to come to the United Kingdom although we believe that not all of those would want to settle here.

**Damian Green** [275905]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department (1) how many legacy cases involving Gurkhas the UK Border Agency has;

(2) [278549] how many Gurkha legacy cases had been concluded by 31 May 2009.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** Legacy cases are recorded by nationality. It is not possible to disaggregate the number of Nepalese cases that may involve Gurkhas without the examination of individual cases at disproportionate cost.

**David Drew** [278660]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what estimate he has made of the number of (a) former Gurkha soldiers and (b) dependants of such soldiers eligible for residency in the UK following the recent change in policy, broken down by period of service during (a) 1947 to 1952, (b) 1953 to 1958, (c) 1959 to 1964, (d) 1965 to 1969, (e) 1970 to 1974, (f) 1975 to 1979, (g) 1980 to 1984, (h) 1985 to 1989, (i) 1990 to 1994, (j) 1995 to 1999 and (k) 2000 to 2004.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** The estimate of the number of former Gurkha soldiers and the dependants of such soldiers eligible for residency in the UK following the recent change in policy was not broken down by the period of service of the former Gurkha soldiers.

The estimates were based on the known age profile of former Gurkha soldiers and the estimated age profile of their spouses and dependants.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090615/text/90615w0008.htm#09061526000027>

## Immigration and Asylum

### Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

#### Polygamy

**Lord Avebury** [HL3528]: To ask Her Majesty's Government further to the answer by Lord Bach on 28 April (*Official Report*, House of Lords, col. 106) and his letter of 6 May to Lord Avebury which was placed in the Library of the House, whether a person who is granted asylum in the United Kingdom and who is legally married to more than one person in his country of origin before he was granted asylum is eligible to bring more than one spouse to join him in the United Kingdom.

**Reply from Lord West of Spithead:** It is Government policy to prevent the formation of polygamous households in this country. Entry clearance or leave to enter or remain is refused if the applicant's spouse has another spouse living who is, or at any time since their marriage has been, in the UK, or who has been granted a certificate of entitlement in respect of right of abode under Section 2(1)(a) of the Immigration Act 1988, or who has been granted entry clearance to enter the UK on the basis of their marriage.

There are certain exceptions to this general restriction: a spouse who seeks leave to entry or remain if he/she has been in the UK before 1 August 1988, having been admitted on the basis of his/her marriage; or, if he/she has, since his/her marriage, been in the UK at any time when there was no such other spouse living.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200809/ldhansrd/text/90616w0002.htm#09061631000270>

#### Justice: Sharia Law

**Lord Pearson of Rannoch** [HL4145]: To ask Her Majesty's Government further to the answer by Lord Bach on 4 June (*Official Report*, House of Lords, col. 296), whether they will take steps to ensure that resident Muslim men cannot bring their second, third or fourth wives, together with their children, to live in the United Kingdom and to draw benefits.

**Reply from Lord West of Spithead:** It is government policy to prevent the formation of polygamous households in this country. Entry clearance or leave to enter or remain is refused if the applicant's spouse has another spouse living who is, or at any time since their marriage has been, in the UK, or who has been granted a certificate of entitlement in respect of right of abode under Section 2(1)(a) of the Immigration Act 1988, or who has been granted entry clearance to enter the UK on the basis of their marriage.

There are certain exceptions to this general restriction: a spouse who seeks leave to entry or remain if he/she has been in the UK before one August 1988, having been admitted on the basis of his/her marriage; or, if he/she has, since his/her marriage, been in the UK at any time when there was no such other spouse living.

At the present time we see no firm evidence that further legislation and/or other restrictions, on top of the existing tight restrictions, are necessary.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200809/ldhansrd/text/90617w0002.htm#09061798000226>

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### Asylum: Democratic Republic of Congo

**Robert Goodwill** [278005]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what measures are in place to monitor the safety of asylum seekers returned to the Democratic Republic of Congo.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** The UK Border Agency only enforces the return of individuals to the Democratic Republic of Congo whom we, and the courts, are satisfied are not in need of protection and who do not elect to leave voluntarily. The Court of Appeal's decision in December 2008 upheld the Asylum and Immigration Tribunal's finding that failed asylum seekers are not at risk on return to the Democratic Republic of Congo simply because they have claimed asylum. The returns policy is kept under review for countries where we make returns. The UK Border Agency does not routinely monitor the treatment of individual unsuccessful asylum seekers once they are removed from the UK. However, we investigate, in partnership with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, if specific allegations are made that any returnee, to any country, has experienced ill-treatment on return from the UK.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090615/text/90615w0007.htm#09061526000014>

### Asylum Seekers: Democratic Republic of Congo

**The Lord Bishop of Winchester:** To ask Her Majesty's Government why they have concluded that asylum seekers returned to the Democratic Republic of Congo will be safe from harm.

**Reply from Lord West of Spithead:** My Lords, failed asylum seekers are returned to the Democratic Republic of Congo only when we and the independent courts are satisfied that it is safe to do so, taking full account of the circumstances of the individual applicant. The Court of Appeal has upheld the Asylum and Immigration Tribunal's finding, based on all the evidence, that there is no general risk to failed asylum seekers returned to the DRC.

**The Lord Bishop of Winchester:** My Lords, I thank the Minister for that Answer, but there will be many in your Lordships' House who find it bizarrely inadequate. I sympathise with the Minister for having to stick so closely to his brief and to close his mind to the large body of evidence that is available among those who work with asylum seekers all over the country. Does he agree that the Home Office can continue to say what he has just reported it saying only because of its consistent refusal to take any steps for itself to discover what actually happens to those whom it hands over to Congolese authorities as marked people at N'Djili Airport in Kinshasa? Will he agree to meet soon with me and no more than two or three others so that he can hear some of that evidence at first hand—evidence to which his department and a succession of asylum and immigration tribunals have shut their ears?

**To continue reading the lengthy question and answer session see**  
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200809/ldhansrd/text/90618-0001.htm#09061859000381>

### Deportation: Children

**Andrew Smith** [278388]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what estimate he has made of the cost to the public purse of accommodating British citizen children accompanying a foreign parent subject to a removal enforcement process in immigration removal centres in each of the last three years.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** The information is not held centrally and could be provided only at disproportionate cost.

*(continued below)*



## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

**Andrew Smith** [278387]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department pursuant to the answer of 6 May 2009, *Official Report*, column 275W, on deportation: children, whether a race impact study has been undertaken of the expulsion from the UK of British citizen children accompanying a foreign parent subject to a removal enforcement process.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** The UK Border Agency does not expel, remove or deport people who hold British citizenship, including the British citizen children of foreign nationals subject to the removal process; consequently no race impact study has been conducted. Arrangements can be made for a child with British citizenship to accompany a foreign national parent who is to be removed. However, this is strictly voluntary and dependent on the consent of all parties.

UK-born children who are not British citizens can be detained and removed under Immigration Act powers.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090615/text/90615w0007.htm#09061526000020>

### Illegal Immigrants

**Chris Grayling** [279623]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many illegal immigrants were detained at their point of entry to the UK in each month of 2008; and how many were subsequently deported.

**Reply from Alan Johnson:** The following table outlines how many illegal entrants were detained at their point of entry to the UK and subsequently removed or deported, during each month of 2008.

<i>Month</i>	<i>Total illegal entrants detained at port</i>	<i>Total removed</i>	<i>Total deported</i>
2008			
January	814	792	0
February	730	722	0
March	620	589	0
April	573	557	0
May	510	492	0
June	537	510	<sup>(1)</sup> 5
July	662	645	0
August	700	650	0
September	968	921	0
October	1,096	1,065	0
November	963	949	0
December	740	720	0
Total	8,913	8,612	<sup>(1)</sup> 5

<sup>(1)</sup>Total figure is no greater than five.

*Note:*

The data provided are based on locally-collated management information and are not subject to the detailed checks that apply for National Statistics. It is provisional and may be subject to change.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090617/text/90617w0009.htm#090617111000024>

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### Social Services: Illegal Immigrants

**Stephen O'Brien** [279215]: To ask the Secretary of State for Health how many reports of care providers employing illegal immigrants have been received by the (a) Commission for Social Care Inspection and (b) Care Quality Commission in each year since its establishment; how many such reports have been investigated; and how many illegal immigrants have been found to be working in the care sector by each commission as a result of such investigations to date.

**Reply from Phil Hope:** We are informed by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) that it does not routinely collect information about the number of illegal workers in care services and that no estimates of the numbers of such workers have been made.

CQC is responsible for regulating and inspecting care services against statutory regulations and national minimum standards—as was its predecessor, the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI), until 1 April 2009. If care services are not meeting these requirements, including those in relation to recruitment and staffing, CQC may take enforcement action against them.

However, CQC has no specific responsibilities regarding immigration and is not responsible for prosecuting employers in relation to immigration offences. This is the responsibility of the United Kingdom Border Agency (UKBA).

CSCI agreed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the UKBA in December 2008. The purpose of the MoU was to facilitate co-operation, communication and co-ordination between CSCI and UKBA, to help ensure regulated adult social care services comply with immigration law and best recruitment practice to safeguard the best interests of people who use care services.

Discussions to develop a MoU between the UKBA and CQC are ongoing. The working arrangements set out in the existing MoU will continue until this is agreed.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090615/text/90615w0026.htm#09061536000017>

### Human Trafficking

**Shailesh Vara** [277238]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department pursuant to the answer of 19 January 2009, *Official Report*, columns 1227-28W, on human trafficking, how many of those foreign nationals convicted for human trafficking offences were deported on the completion of their sentence.

**Reply from Alan Campbell:** To date there have been 106 convictions for trafficking for sexual exploitation, five for trafficking for forced labour and three for conspiracy to traffick. Of these convictions recorded by the UK Human Trafficking Centre 25 people have been deported with a further 35 having received recommendations for deportation at the end of their sentence.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090617/text/90617w0009.htm#090617111000023>

## Press Releases

### Increased support for victims of human trafficking

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/news/newsrelease180609c.htm>

### Management of asylum applications report

<http://news.parliament.uk/2009/06/management-of-asylum-applications-report/>

## Immigration and Asylum Press Releases (continued)

### **War criminals in the United Kingdom - UK Border Agency response**

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/war-criminals-response>

### **400,000 migrants in UK could benefit from regularisation of their status**

<http://www2.lse.ac.uk/ERD/pressAndInformationOffice/newsAndEvents/archives/2009/06/Immigrationreport.aspx>

### **Amnesty for illegal migrants - UK Border Agency response**

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/amnesty-illegal-migrant-response>

### **Public Accounts Committee report - Government response**

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

### **Top UN officials urge donors to step up support for displaced on World Refugee Day**

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=31215&Cr=UNHCR&Cr1=>

### **World Refugee Day –Statement by Council of Europe Secretary General Terry Davis**

[https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?Ref=PR489\(2009\)&Language=lanEnglish&Ver=original&Site=DC&BackColorInternet=F5CA75&BackColorIntranet=F5CA75&BackColorLogged=A9BACE](https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?Ref=PR489(2009)&Language=lanEnglish&Ver=original&Site=DC&BackColorInternet=F5CA75&BackColorIntranet=F5CA75&BackColorLogged=A9BACE)

## New publications

### **Management of Asylum Applications** (House of Commons Public Accounts Committee)

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmselect/cmpublicacc/325/325.pdf>

### **Economic impact on the London and UK economy of an earned regularisation of irregular migrants to the UK**

[http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor/economic\\_unit/docs/irregular-migrants-report.pdf](http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor/economic_unit/docs/irregular-migrants-report.pdf)

## News

### **Bill to end nationality restrictions on civil servants put to Commons**

[http://www.theherald.co.uk/politics/westminster/display.var.2514140.0.Bill\\_to\\_end\\_nationality\\_restrictions\\_on\\_civil\\_servants\\_put\\_to\\_Commons.php](http://www.theherald.co.uk/politics/westminster/display.var.2514140.0.Bill_to_end_nationality_restrictions_on_civil_servants_put_to_Commons.php)

### **Polish community to have voice in Holyrood**

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/output/2009/06/17/newsstory13312010t0.asp>

### **Kurds back Dungavel detainee who fears death if he is returned to Syria**

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Kurds-back-Dungavel-detainee-who.5371749.jp>

### **Nearly 25% of refugee women have tried to kill themselves**

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Nearly-2537-of-refugee-women.5381766.jp>

## Immigration and Asylum

### News (continued)

#### **Gang conned immigrants out of thousands with fake UK citizenship ceremony**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/2009/06/19/gang-conned-immigrants-out-of-thousands-with-fake-uk-citizenship-ceremony-86908-21453458/>

#### **Stop inhumane treatment of asylum seekers**

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/opinion/Jess-Wade-Stop-inhumane-treatment.5382299.jp>

#### **Asylum seekers and politicians – a lesson in cultural diversity**

[http://www.sundayherald.com/oped/opinion/display.var.2515526.0.asylum\\_seekers\\_and\\_politicians\\_a\\_lesson\\_in\\_cultural\\_diversity.php](http://www.sundayherald.com/oped/opinion/display.var.2515526.0.asylum_seekers_and_politicians_a_lesson_in_cultural_diversity.php)

#### **Cost of keeping failed asylum seekers has soared from £4m to £73m in just FOUR years, minister admits**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1194445/Cost-keeping-failed-asylum-seekers-soared-4m-73m-just-FOUR-years-Minister-admits.html>

#### **World Refugee Day Must Spark Renewed Commitment to U.S. Protection of Refugees**

<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/media/asy/2009/alert/471/index.htm>

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## Race Relations

### Press Releases

#### **Cabinet meets faith groups**

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2009/06/16104703>

#### **Expo funding for Mela festival**

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2009/06/18114742>

#### **Mela wins £30,000 to celebrate diversity**

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Mela-wins-30000-to-celebrate.5381765.jp>

### New publication

#### **Surrey Street Market – the heart of a community**

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/publications/pdfs/SurreyStreetMarket-2009.pdf>

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## Equality

### Holyrood Parliamentary Question

#### Police

**Richard Baker** (North East Scotland) (Lab): To ask the Scottish Executive how many black and minority ethnic police officers were serving in (a) 2006-07 and (b) 2007-08, broken down by (i) rank, (ii) gender and (iii) the percentage of all police officers that this represents. (S3W-24643)

**Reply from Kenny MacAskill:** Data on the total number of police officers, and the total number of black and minority ethnic police officers, broken down by both rank and gender, is available on the HMICS (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary for Scotland) website, available at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Justice/public-safety/Police/local/15403/Statistical/TotalstaffHTML>

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/Business/PQA/default.aspx?pq=S3W-24643>

### Press Releases

**Harman: action to improve diversity in public appointments**

[http://www.equalities.gov.uk/media/press\\_releases/harman\\_action\\_to\\_improve\\_dive.aspx](http://www.equalities.gov.uk/media/press_releases/harman_action_to_improve_dive.aspx)

**An impressive commitment by all to Equal Opportunities for All!**

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/09/971&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

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## Racism and Religious Hatred

### Press Releases

**Everyone must help eliminate cyber hatred, says Secretary-General**

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=31157&Cr=cyber&Cr1>

**Minister McGimpsey condemns racial attacks**

<http://www.northernireland.gov.uk/news/news-dhssps/news-dhssps-17062009-minister-mcgimpsey-condemns.htm>

### News

**Race hate criminals return to UK**

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/north\\_yorkshire/8103870.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/north_yorkshire/8103870.stm)

**Judges brand Famine Song 'racist'**

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/glasgow\\_and\\_west/8109359.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/glasgow_and_west/8109359.stm)

**Famine Song is racist, not free speech, judges rule**

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Famine-Song-is-racist-not.5385303.jp>

**Virulent new strain of anti-Semitism rife in UK, says Chief Rabbi**

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/faith/article6539415.ece>

## Racism and Religious Hatred

### News (continued)

#### **Mosque bomb threat man to be sentenced**

[http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2515335.0.mosque\\_bomb\\_threat\\_man\\_to\\_be\\_sentenced.php](http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2515335.0.mosque_bomb_threat_man_to_be_sentenced.php)

#### **Man who threatened to behead a Muslim has sentence deferred again**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/2009/06/19/man-who-threatened-to-behead-a-muslim-has-sentence-deferred-again-86908-21454285/>

#### **Racists may plague Tory Europe group**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/racists-may-plague-tory-europe-group-1710729.html>

#### **Whistleblower accuses watchdog of covering up its racist bully culture**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2009/jun/21/fsa-racism-culture-internal-report>

#### **Fleeing Romanians are rehoused**

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/northern\\_ireland/8105488.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/northern_ireland/8105488.stm)

#### **100 flee homes after racist attacks**

[http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2514848.0.100\\_flee\\_homes\\_after\\_racist\\_attacks.php](http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/display.var.2514848.0.100_flee_homes_after_racist_attacks.php)

#### **Fresh attack on Belfast Romanians**

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/northern\\_ireland/8106306.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/northern_ireland/8106306.stm)

#### **Shelter given to Romanian race hate victims**

[http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2514957.0.Shelter\\_given\\_to\\_Romanian\\_race\\_hate\\_victims.php](http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2514957.0.Shelter_given_to_Romanian_race_hate_victims.php)

#### **Romanian families find sanctuary from Belfast race hate – for now**

<http://thescotzman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Romanian--families-find-sanctuary.5377340.jp>

#### **Police response criticised after Romanians face racist terror**

<http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/1267691>

#### **Man arrested over racist attacks**

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/northern\\_ireland/8109877.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/northern_ireland/8109877.stm)

#### **Teens charged over racist attacks**

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/northern\\_ireland/8111278.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/northern_ireland/8111278.stm)

#### **Two teenagers charged over racist attacks on Romanian families in Belfast**

<http://scotlandonsunday.scotsman.com/latestnews/Two-teenagers-charged-over-racist.5386399.jp>

#### **Another way to hate**

<http://scotlandonsunday.scotsman.com/opinion/Dani-Garavelli-Another-way-to.5386376.jp>

#### **Abused, driven out and poisoned: the scandal of the Kosovo Roma**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/jun/21/kosovo-lead-mitrovica-poison>

## Racism and Religious Hatred

### News (continued)

#### Hatred ... Belfast's cultural habit

[http://www.sundayherald.com/oped/opinion/display.var.2515523.0.hatred\\_belfasts\\_cultural\\_habit.php](http://www.sundayherald.com/oped/opinion/display.var.2515523.0.hatred_belfasts_cultural_habit.php)

#### Moderator: Scotland must stamp out sectarianism

<http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news/nr46a0609.htm>

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## Other Holyrood

### New publication

#### Community Empowerment Case Study Research

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/275241/0082550.pdf>

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## Other Westminster

### Ministerial Statement

#### Commission on Scottish Devolution

**Jim Murphy (Secretary of State for Scotland):** On behalf of the Government I welcome the publication today of the final report from the Commission on Scottish Devolution. The Commission was set up by the Scottish Parliament and supported by the UK Government. The Commission's remit was:

“to review the provisions of the Scotland Act 1998 in the light of experience and to recommend any changes to the present constitutional arrangements that would enable the Scottish Parliament to serve the people of Scotland better, improve the financial accountability of the Scottish Parliament, and continue to secure the position of Scotland within the United Kingdom.”

The Commission, under the chairmanship of Professor Sir Kenneth Calman, have produced a detailed report, based on sound analysis, a robust evidence base and extensive engagement with people in Scotland. I welcome in particular the efforts the Commission made to engage as widely as possible, through public events across the country, through oral and written evidence, a public questionnaire and through their website. I welcome their conclusion that the devolution settlement in Scotland has been “a remarkable and substantial success”. We are approaching the 10th anniversary of the Scottish Parliament receiving full legislative competence, and there is broad support in Scotland and across the UK for the devolution settlement.

***To continue reading the lengthy statement see***

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090615/wmstext/90615m0002.htm>

### News

#### Murphy urges against complacency after BNP attracts 27,000 votes in Scotland

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Murphy-urges-against-complacency-after.5377332.jp>

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## New Publication

### **Human Rights Inquiry (Equality and Human Rights Commission)**

[http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded\\_files/hri\\_report.pdf](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/hri_report.pdf)

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## Other News

### **For Diversity. Against Discrimination Journalist Award 2009**

Closing date 31 August 2009

The competition is open to journalists who write on issues of discrimination on the grounds of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, age, disability and sexual orientation. All entries must have been published in a print or online media outlet which has its main editorial office in one of the 27 EU Member States.

<http://journalistaward.stop-discrimination.info/>

### **Political Shadowing Scheme**

This scheme, organised by Glasgow Anti-Racist Alliance, is intended to encourage more people from minority communities to become involved in Scottish politics by providing them with first hand experience of the work of an MSP or Councillor. For information see <http://www.gara.org.uk/attachments/pss%20applicationform.pdf>.

### **Stop and search: white people held 'to balance racial statistics'**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/stop-and-search-white-people-held-to-balance-racial-statistics-1707895.html>

### **Police stop white people to 'racially balance' terror figures**

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Police-stop-white-people-to.5377284.jp>

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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>

#### **\*\* Convention Rights Proceedings (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/28-ConRights/index.htm>

Bill as introduced

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/28-ConRights/b28s3-introd.pdf>

Explanatory Note

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/28-ConRights/b28s3-introd-en.pdf>

Policy Memorandum

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/28-ConRights/b28s3-introd-pm.pdf>

Business Motion followed by Stage 1 debate

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetingsParliament/or-09/sor0618-02.htm#Col18517>



## Bills in Progress

### Holyrood (continued)

Committee of the whole Parliament: Stage 2

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetingsParliament/or-09/sor0618-02.htm#Col18608>

Stage 3 debate

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetingsParliament/or-09/sor0618-02.htm#Col18609>

Bill passed

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

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

Bill as passed

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/16-EdAddSup/b16bs3-aspassed.pdf>

### **\*\* Criminal Justice and Licensing Bill**

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

Justice Committee: Stage 1 evidence from ACPOS, the Scottish Beer and Pub Association, Fife Council, the Law Society of Scotland, the City of Glasgow, and City of Edinburgh Licensing Boards, the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, the Scottish Late Night Operators Association, Noctis, and the Scottish Licensed Trade Association

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/justice/or-09/ju09-2002.htm#Col2096>

### **\*\* Scottish Local Government (Elections) Bill**

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

Stage 3 debate

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetingsParliament/or-09/sor0617-02.htm#Col18456>

### **Sexual Offences Bill**

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

Bill as passed

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/11-sexualOffences/b11bs3-aspassed.pdf>

## Bills in Progress

### Westminster

### **\*\* Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Bill**

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

amendment paper

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/086/amend/pbc0861606m.55-61.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/086/amend/pbc0861806m.65-71.html>

Public Bill Committee consideration of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmpublic/borders/090616/am/90616s01.htm>

## Bills in Progress

### Westminster (continued)

Public Bill Committee consideration of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmpublic/borders/090616/pm/90616s01.htm>

Public Bill Committee proceedings

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/086/pbc0860616p.13-16.html>

#### **\*\* Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill**

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

House of Commons, Second Reading Debate

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090612/debtext/90612-0006.htm#09061259000004>

#### **\*\* Equality Bill**

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

amendment paper

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/085/amend/pbc0851606m.141-147.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/085/amend/pbc0851606a.189-190.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/085/amend/pbc0850617m.191-197.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/085/amend/pbc0851806a.229-235.html>

Public Bill Committee consideration of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmpublic/equality/090618/am/90618s01.htm>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmpublic/equality/090618/pm/90618s01>

Public Bill Committee Proceedings

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/085/pro0851606p.11-17.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/085/pro0851806p.21-27.html>

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## Consultations

(closing date)

\*\* new or updated this week

**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>

## Consultations (continued)

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

[http://www.equalities.gov.uk/international/eu\\_directive.aspx](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](http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/221878/oversight_of_the_immigration_adv/oversight_immigration_advice/immigration_advice_consultation?view=Binary)

### Equality Bill: Policy Proposals for Specific Duties (closes 30 September)

<http://www.equalities.gov.uk/PDF/Specific%20Duties%20Consultation%20DocumentWEB.pdf>

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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!*

#### Protecting Vulnerable Groups: Check to Protect

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

### \*\* *this week!*

#### Ethnic Minority Women and Politics

24 June 2009 in Glasgow (10.30 – 1.30)

BEMIS and Fawcett Society event to bring politics directly to disengaged ethnic minority women in Scotland in order to get their voices heard and engage ethnic minority women in politics. For information contact Tanveer Parnez [Tanveer.parniez@bemis.org.uk](mailto:Tanveer.parniez@bemis.org.uk) or Ashay Ghai [Ashay.ghai@bemis.org.uk](mailto:Ashay.ghai@bemis.org.uk) / 0141 548 8047

#### 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](mailto:info@mwrc.org.uk) or Fiach 01786826012 / [fiach.obroin-molloy@centralscotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:fiach.obroin-molloy@centralscotland.pnn.police.uk)

## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### **Introduction to Working with Asylum Seekers & Refugees**

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](mailto:train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) or see

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

### **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](mailto: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](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](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

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

**Equality and Human Rights Commission** <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/>  
**Scotland Helpline** 0845 604 5510

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

**ACAS** [www.acas.org.uk](http://www.acas.org.uk)

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

**Volunteer Development Scotland** [www.vds.org.uk](http://www.vds.org.uk)

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

## Links (continued)

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](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/>