

## 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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**The Scottish Parliament is in recess until 30 August 2009.**

## Immigration and Asylum

### Westminster Ministerial Statement

#### Migration Impacts Fund

**John Denham (Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government):** Today I am announcing the successful proposals for England to receive a share of the migration impacts fund. The fund provides £35 million across the UK for 2009-10 financed by a levy on migrants and, subject to a review in the autumn, a similar amount in 2010-11. This money will be used to tackle illegal working practices and reduce local pressure on public services.

This funding works alongside the Government's points based system which means only those migrants the country needs can come here. The money will be made available quickly and directly to local services across the country, including police, schools and hospitals.

These front-line services, police, councils, the NHS and voluntary organisations have identified projects in their area that will make the biggest difference to insulating them and local people against the impact of migration.

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Ministerial Statement (continued)

Every region of England will benefit, with the amount each receives being weighted towards the areas where international migration has had the greatest short-term impact. Projects receiving funding include those introducing tougher measures to crack-down on rogue employers, those creating more teachers in schools to ensure good results for all and those increasing GP registration to cut pressures on emergency services and A and E.

*Fairness in employment:* The vast majority of employers are responsible but a small minority attempt to flout the law, undercut minimum wages and exploit low paid workers, many of whom are migrants. We are funding projects that will protect existing workers through enforcing the minimum wage and by increasing awareness of health and safety regulations ensuring all employees meet their obligations to all workers.

*Housing services:* There is no evidence of unfair access to migrants in social housing. However, in some areas local authorities report concerns that the housing used by migrants can be overcrowded or in poor condition. This can lead to local tensions and cohesion issues. Funding is being targeted to this by cracking down on rogue landlords that will improve the quality of neighbourhoods for all residents.

*Children and young people:* Funding will be targeted at those schools dealing with a sudden influx of pupils whose first language is not English. This will support extra multilingual teachers freeing up teaching time for the benefit of all the class and helping new arrivals to settle in quickly.

*More English language lessons:* Being able to speak English is vital in order to find work and play a full role in the community. Funding provision through the MIF will mean that migrants will be paying for their own classes and ensure that they can access local services properly, reducing the pressure on services and the cost to public services from translation and interpretation.

*Community safety:* Migrants to this country should understand our laws and sign up to our shared values. Funding will be provided for projects that tackle anti-social behaviour and will support extra police community support officers.

*Health:* Local services report that migrants often do not understand how to access local healthcare in the most appropriate and therefore cheapest way. Funding will be targeted to increase GP registration relieving pressures on A and E.

Every project has been assessed on the basis that it will help migrants integrate into local communities and in doing so benefit the settled community. The agreed grant allocation for this year will be paid in one instalment.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090709/wmstext/90709m0001.htm#09070983000016>

## Westminster Parliamentary Questions

### Immigration

**Baroness Warsi** [HL4459]: To ask Her Majesty's Government further to the Written Answer by Lord West of Spithead on 1 June (WA 40), what the countries of origin are of the 15,965 people not granted indefinite leave to remain under immigration rule 276B(i)(b).

**Reply from Lord West of Spithead:** The information requested is as follows:

**To read the lengthy table see**

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200809/ldhansrd/text/90706w0002.htm#09070633000601>

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### Overseas Students (Visas)

**Adam Holloway** [283789]: What recent representations he has received on the system for issuing visas to students from overseas countries.

**Reply from David Hanson:** Since the implementation of tier 4 of the points-based system on 31 March 2009, Ministers have received a number of representations on the system for issuing visas to students from overseas countries.

**Adam Holloway:** One of your own Ministers has described student visas as a major loophole in Britain's border control. What winds people up in towns such as Gravesend and Northfleet and across the country is the perception and the reality that you have mismanaged and not controlled— ...What will the Government do to retake control of immigration?

**Reply from David Hanson:** The hon. Gentleman knows that the Government introduced the points-based system for the very reasons that he mentioned—to ensure that it is simple, transparent and robust, and that it does the job. Through student visa applications, it monitors who is coming in and it is making a difference by tightening up the loophole to which the hon. Gentleman referred. That is why we are doing it.

**James Brokenshire:** One of the key concerns surrounding student visas is ensuring that appropriate checks against fraud are made. The Minister for Borders and Immigration has suggested that for visa applications from Pakistan and Afghanistan, officers based in Islamabad have more than 11 minutes to carry out initial fraud and forgery checks. Can the Minister tell the House precisely how much more?

**Reply from David Hanson:** My right hon. Friend the Home Secretary informs me that the hon. Gentleman's figures are wrong, and that that is not the situation. We have more than 200 individuals dealing with visa applications in Islamabad, and that is important. My hon. Friend the Minister for Borders and Immigration would be present today, were he not in Calais announcing £15 million worth of new technology to stop people coming into the country via Calais. We will look at those issues, but I advise the hon. Gentleman that his perception is not our perception on the matter.

**Susan Kramer:** The Minister will be aware that because of the system, a significant number of foreign students, particularly from countries such as the United States, have thrown in the towel in their attempts to come and join courses at UK universities. A number of public universities in the UK will be in financial difficulty because their students will not be turning up from overseas in September, and the future looks exceedingly bleak. Will he please look into the matter and, for once, co-ordinate with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills?

**Reply from David Hanson:** Again, from our perspective the points system is meant to be simple, transparent, objective and robust. There is an online calculator where people can examine this. A phased introduction of the scheme is taking place. We have had a number of applications to date and the number of failures has been very small. I will certainly consider the points that the hon. Lady

raises and pass them on to my hon. Friend the Minister for Borders and Immigration, but the purpose of the system is to make sure that we know who is coming in, that it is secure and that it provides robust and transparent operations.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090706/debtext/90706-0002.htm#0907062000018>

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

**Mark Oaten** [281391]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many and what proportion of applications from overseas students for visa extensions have taken longer than three months to process in the last 12 months.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** During the last 12 months, 35,527 applications were made by students for an extension of leave, of which, 3,230 (9 per cent.) have taken longer than three months to decide.

**David Evennett:** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what recent representations he has received from (a) training providers, (b) further education colleges and (c) universities on the effect of the points-based immigration system on student visas. [283015]

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** Since the implementation of Tier 4 on 31 March 2009, UKBA has received many representations. These have been considered and where necessary changes made to the process. To facilitate a rapid response to issues, a priority resolution team has been established.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090706/text/90706w0014.htm#09070625000151>

**Philip Hollobone:** For the time that he occupies the important and high office of Home Secretary, will the right hon. Gentleman rule out an amnesty for illegal immigrants?

**Reply from Alan Johnson:** We have no plans for an amnesty for illegal immigrants. That is not part of the work that I have taken over as Home Secretary, and I do not believe that it will be part of the work that I do, however long I am in this position. ...

**Anne Begg:** It is now some months since the points-based system came into effect. I am sure that I am not the only hon. Member who has experienced an increase in immigration casework, not because of the principle of the points-based system, but because the guidance is sometimes not as clear as it might be, simply because the system is new. The Department has probably received a lot of correspondence on the matter. When will the Government review the points-based system to examine the sort of cases that hon. Members are bringing to light?

**Reply from Alan Johnson:** Even as we speak, the Migration Advisory Committee is considering the matter. The system has worked well; no system is perfect and this one is comparatively new, so I have no doubt that we must ensure that the guidance is clear. We must consider whether people are applying through the wrong tier. There are sometimes problems when people try to come in under tier 1, and they would be much more successful if they applied under tier 5. We can undertake and then publish the results of that useful exercise very soon. ...

**Mark Lazarowicz:** My right hon. Friend will be aware that there is now a big backlog of applications for residency cards from spouses of European Union citizens. What will he be able to do to tackle that backlog?

**Reply from Alan Johnson:** We are seeking to address the legacy of cases involving families and dependents, and involving asylum seekers, as well as those inherited cases involving nationality. We are making progress—I believe that we have a date, around 2012, by which we would have that backlog completed—at the same time as dealing with current cases effectively. Some 60 per cent. of asylum seekers are now dealt with within six months, and that figure will be up to 90 per cent. very soon.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090706/debtext/90706-0003.htm#0907062000027>

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### Immigration

**Jim Cunningham** [271505]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what recent estimate he has made of the proportion of stateless people who have arrived in the UK from (a) Africa, (b) Afghanistan, (c) the Middle East, (d) North and South America and (e) Asia.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** The table contains details of the number of recorded admissions and grants of entry made at the UK Border to stateless nationals from 2004 to 2007. This is the latest period for which published information is available. Further information regarding the number of individuals granted entry in this category could be obtained by the detailed examination of individual records only at disproportionate cost.

The arrival routings of passengers entering the UK in this category are not routinely recorded. It is therefore not currently possible to provide accurate statistics on the embarkation points of stateless passengers who arrive in the UK.

<i>Passengers given leave to enter the United Kingdom recorded as stateless nationals by purpose of journey<sup>(1)</sup>, 2004-07—United Kingdom</i>					
<i>Number of journeys</i>					
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Visitors</i>	<i>Passengers returning after a temporary absence abroad</i>	<i>Passengers in transit</i>	<i>Others given leave to enter</i>
2004	78,455	18,330	54,070	2,380	3,675
2005	71,860	16,085	50,105	2,225	3,445
2006 <sup>(2)</sup>	64,830	15,615	43,945	2,205	3,065
2007 <sup>(1,3)</sup>	44,035	10,745	29,400	1,930	1,960

<sup>(1)</sup> Excludes asylum related grants of leave to enter.  
<sup>(2)</sup> Due to some gaps in the data from ports estimates have been used.  
<sup>(3)</sup> Provisional.

**Notes:**  
1. May undercount as some administrative records on non-EEA nationals were unavailable for statistical analysis.  
2. Data have been rounded to the nearest five.

This information has been taken from published Home Office Statistics which can be found at <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration-asylum-stats.html>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090706/text/90706w0015.htm#09070625000157>

### Immigration

**Lord Avebury** [HL4356]: To ask Her Majesty's Government what duties existing employers have to investigate the immigration status of an employee hired before the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 came into force.

**Reply from Lord West of Spithead:** Prior to the implementation of the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006, legislation to prevent illegal migrant working was in place in the form of Section 8 of the Asylum and Nationality Act 1996. This placed a requirement on employers to check and record certain specified documents before a potential employee is employed, if the employer wanted to establish a statutory defence from prosecution for employing an illegal migrant worker.

The Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 has, since it came into force on 29 February 2008, allowed the UK Border Agency to instead issue civil penalties of up to £10,000 per worker to employers who are found to be liable for employing illegal migrant workers.



## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

This is combined with the introduction of a new criminal offence of knowingly employing an illegal migrant worker (under Section 21 of the 2006 Act). This will help in the more serious cases where rogue employers knowingly and deliberately use illegal migrant workers, often for personal financial gain. This will carry a maximum two year custodial sentence and/or an unlimited fine.

The Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 does not apply retrospectively; therefore, any employer who is found to have been employing a person illegally prior to 29 February 2008 (when the 2006 Act came into force) may still risk prosecution under Section 8 of the 1996 Act. To comply with the requirements of the 2006 Act, which would apply to employees who started work since 29 February 2008, an employer would have to satisfy themselves of the entitlement of prospective employees to work in the UK to ensure they are not employing an illegal migrant worker before the employment begins.

**Baroness Warsi [HL4384]:** To ask Her Majesty's Government how many people have been (a) arrested, and (b) convicted, under immigration legislation in each of the past three years for trafficking people for exploitation.

**Reply from Lord West of Spithead:** Offences of human trafficking are prosecuted under the Sexual Offences Act 2003 and the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants Act etc) 2004.

Figures from the UK Human Trafficking Centre's interrogation of the Police National Computer show that as of 24 May, the number of arrests and convictions as below:

	Arrests	Convictions
2006	111	35
2007	135	22
2008	177	30
2009	76	2

**Baroness Warsi [HL4417]:** To ask Her Majesty's Government how many foreign nationals have been excluded from entering the United Kingdom on grounds of (a) national security, and (b) unacceptable behaviour, in each year since 2006.

**Reply from Lord West of Spithead:** In each year since 2006, the following number of foreign nationals have been excluded from the UK on grounds of (a) national security, and (b) unacceptable behaviour:

In 2006	(a) 40	(b) 32
In 2007	(a) 80	(b) 21
In 2008	(a) 26	(b) 12
To date 2009	(a) 7	(b) 18

**Baroness Warsi [HL4419]:** To ask Her Majesty's Government how many illegal immigrants were arrested in each of the past five years.

**Reply from Lord West of Spithead:** The attached table sets out the total number of arrests for suspected illegal entry and Section 10 offences. Due to changes in the nature of the system used to record details of arrests made by the UK Border Agency, complete and reliable data is only available from October 2006.

Section 10 offences include overstaying, working in breach of conditions, claiming public funds in breach of conditions, and obtaining leave to remain by deception.

These figures do not constitute part of National Statistics as they are based on internal management information. The information has not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols, should be treated as provisional and is subject to change.

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Period	Illegal Entry Arrests	Section 10 Arrests
Oct 2006-Mar 2007	2,546	1,337
2007-08	4,626	3,924
2008-09	4,362	3,739

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200809/ldhansrd/text/90707w0003.htm#09070762000480>

**Baroness Warsi** [HL4461]: To ask Her Majesty's Government further to the Written Answer by Lord West of Spithead on 1 June (WA 40), what steps they are taking to remove the 15,965 people not granted indefinite leave to remain under immigration rule 276B(i)(b).

**Reply from Lord West of Spithead:** Applicants whose application and any associated appeal is finally rejected are expected to leave the country. If they do not do so action will be taken to enforce their removal. In 2008, case ownership was introduced for all in-country cases.

Further information on the UK Border Agency's enforcement strategy is available to view at <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/managingborders/enforcement/>.

**Baroness Warsi** [HL4479]: To ask Her Majesty's Government further to the Written Answer by Lord West of Spithead on 1 June (WA 41), whether they will place in the Library of the House a copy of the List of Unacceptable Behaviours published by the then Home Secretary, Charles Clarke, in August 2005.

**Reply from Lord West of Spithead:** The list of unacceptable behaviours was announced by the then Home Secretary, Charles Clarke, in Press Release 124/05, on 24 August 2005, and published on the Home Office website at that time.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200809/ldhansrd/text/90707w0004.htm>

### Immigration: Detention

**Baroness Warsi** [HL4382]: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many detainees have escaped from each immigration detention centre in each of the past five years.

**Reply from Lord West of Spithead:** Information on the number of detainees who have escaped from each immigration removal centre is taken from local management information. This data are normally used for management information only and are not subject to the detailed checks that apply for National Statistics publications.

In 2004, there were 12 escapes from Oakington immigration removal centre.

In 2005, there were four escapes from Oakington and one from Campsfield immigration removal centres.

In 2006, there were 19 escapes from Oakington and one from Dungavel immigration removal centres.

In 2007, there were 63 escapes from Oakington, 26 from Campsfield and one from Yarl's Wood immigration removal centres.

In 2008, there were 25 escapes from Oakington, seven from Campsfield, one from Dungavel and two from Haslar immigration removal centres.

The UK Border Agency takes all escapes very seriously. Procedures are in place to seek to recover individuals who escape from detention. The police are informed immediately and the individuals' details are recorded on the police national computer (PNC) as an absconder should the individual be apprehended at a later date.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200809/ldhansrd/text/90706w0003.htm#09070633000602>

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### Entry Clearances: Married People

**Margaret Moran** [282244]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department on how many occasions an application for a marriage visa has been refused on the basis of violence or coercion of a spouse since 1997; and if he will make a statement.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** The grounds for refusing a spouse visa as set out in the Immigration Rules are that the following requirements are not met:

(i) (a) The applicant is married to or the civil partner of a person present and settled in the United Kingdom or who is on the same occasion being admitted for settlement; or

(b)(i) the applicant is married to or the civil partner of a person who has a right of abode in the United Kingdom or indefinite leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom and is on the same occasion seeking admission to the United Kingdom for the purposes of settlement and the parties were married or formed a civil partnership at least four years ago, since which time they have been living together outside the United Kingdom; and

(b)(ii) the applicant has sufficient knowledge of the English language and sufficient knowledge about life in the United Kingdom, unless he is under the age of 18 or aged 65 or over at the time he makes his application; and

(ii) the parties to the marriage or civil partnership have met; and

(iii) each of the parties intends to live permanently with the other as his or her spouse or civil partner and the marriage or civil partnership is subsisting; and

(iv) there will be adequate accommodation for the parties and any dependants without recourse to public funds in accommodation which they own or occupy exclusively; and

(v) the parties will be able to maintain themselves and any dependants adequately without recourse to public funds.

As such we do not keep records of visas refused where coercion may have been a factor in determining the nature of the relationship. In 2008 the forced marriage unit of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office dealt with 200 immigration-related cases.

**Stephen Williams** [282908]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what the timetable is for the review of the policy of no recourse to public funds for those entering the UK on a spouse visa in relation to people who are victims of domestic violence and trafficking.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** The Home Office and the UK Border Agency are working together to introduce a new scheme for victims of domestic violence whose applications for indefinite leave to remain under the domestic violence rule are successful. The scheme will provide a contribution towards the housing and living costs incurred by the supporting organisation, while the applicant's ILR application was outstanding with the UK Border Agency.

The scheme was due to be implemented in June 2009, however, Ministers and stakeholders raised concerns about whether the scheme adequately supported victims. We are taking further time to consider these concerns.

The Council of Europe Convention on Trafficking came into force on 1 April and has provisions for identified victims to access a 45 day reflection period which gives access to accommodation and other services.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090707/text/90707w0024.htm#0907082000091>



## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

**Mark Oaten** [281392]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what percentage of applications from (a) Chinese, (b) Indian and (c) US nationals for a student visa have been rejected since 31 March 2009.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** The percentage of applications from (a) Chinese, (b) Indian and (c) US nationals for entry as a student under Tier 4 of the Points Based System between 31 March 2009 and 26 June 2009 is shown in the following table:

	<i>Received</i>	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Refused</i>	<i>Withdrawn</i>	<i>Lapsed</i>	<i>Total resolved</i>	<i>Percent refused</i>
Chinese nationals	1,687	692	374	4	0	1,070	34.9
Indian nationals	3,497	966	938	5	0	1,909	49.1
US nationals	924	662	181	6	0	849	21.3

*Note:*  
1. This data is unpublished and should be treated as provisional  
2. Some applications received in the period will be resolved after the period end, and some applications resolved in the period will have been received prior to the period start.  
*Source:* Central Reference System

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090707/text/90707w0024.htm#0907082000092>

### Immigration Controls

**James Clappison** [280797]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many (a) highly-skilled migrants and (b) dependents of highly-skilled migrants were given leave to enter the UK under (i) the highly-skilled migrants programme and (ii) tier 1 of the points-based system in the first quarter of 2009.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** The Highly Skilled Migrant Programme was subsumed under Tier 1 of the Points Based System on 30 June 2008.

In the first quarter of 2009, 7,803 non-EEA nationals were issued with visas to enter the UK as highly skilled migrants under Tier 1 of the Points Based System, and 3,468 non-EEA nationals were issued with visas to enter as their dependents (i.e. partner or child).

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090707/text/90707w0025.htm#0907082000104>

### Asylum: Deportation

**Pete Wishart** [280809]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how much the UK Border Agency spent on (a) commercial air flights and (b) chartering flights for the deportation of unsuccessful asylum seekers in each month of the last four years.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** The total costs for public expense removals on scheduled flights and chartered flights in each of the last four financial years are shown in the following table. It is not possible to disaggregate the costs for removal of failed asylum seekers from the overall removal figures without the examination of individual records at disproportionate cost.

These figures do not constitute part of National Statistics as they are based on internal management information. The information has not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols and should be treated as provisional and subject to change.

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

The Home Office publishes statistics on the number of persons removed and departed voluntarily from the UK on a quarterly and annual basis. National Statistics on immigration and asylum are placed in the Library of the House and are available from the Home Office's Research, Development and Statistics website at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration-asylum-stats.html>

£	Charter flights	Scheduled flights <sup>(1)</sup>
2005-06	4,339,865.31	12,933,092.35
2006-07	4,149,294.35	12,895,668.31
2007-08	4,811,162.12	15,606,958.80
2008-09	8,227,553.38	18,562,162.35

<sup>(1)</sup> The total cost of charter and scheduled flights includes administration cost plus cancellation fees.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090706/text/90706w0013.htm#09070625000137>

### Deportation

**Damian Green** [282997]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many people awaiting deportation were held in open prisons on 1 June 2009.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** Figures published by the Ministry of Justice confirm that at March 2009 there were 204 foreign nationals held in open prisons. Information relating to the number of those who are awaiting deportation is not readily available and could be obtained only at disproportionate cost.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090706/text/90706w0014.htm#09070625000146>

### Immigration Officers: Restraint Techniques

**Damian Green** [282990]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what guidance his Department provides to immigration officers on the use of control and restraint techniques.

**Reply from Phil Woolas:** All immigration officers undertaking arrest activity are trained on a three week bespoke course for the UK Border Agency which is guided by the Personal Safety Manual approved by the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO).

A key component of the course is conflict management. Immigration officers are taught a range of verbal and physical techniques to equip them for undertaking enforcement activity in a safe and managed way for both themselves and the people they come into contact with. Immigration officers are required to be refreshed on this component annually.

Further guidance on control and restraint can be found in the Enforcement Instructions and Guidance at Chapter 45.2.10, which is available to view on the UK Border Agency website at:

<http://www.bia.homeoffice.gov.uk/policyandlaw/guidance/enforcement/>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090706/text/90706w0015.htm#09070625000159>

## Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

### Human Trafficking

**Nadine Dorries** [282542]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how much funding his Department has allocated to the prevention of crime relating to the trafficking of people from (a) EU member states and (b) other countries in each year since 1997; and if he will make a statement.

**Alan Campbell:** Since the introduction of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 and the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants etc) Act 2004 which criminalised the trafficking of human beings, we have provided the UK Human Trafficking Centre with £5.6 million. Additionally, we fund the Serious Organised Crime Agency, which has organised immigration crime as its second highest priority, with around £400 million per annum.

Funds to these two organisations are not provided on a hypothecated basis in order to allow them the operational and financial freedom to put resources into all work, including prevention on an intelligence-led basis.

Within the existing budget, the UK Human Trafficking Centre has developed the "Blue Blindfold" brand under which future awareness raising and prevention work will take place.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090706/text/90706w0014.htm#09070625000155>

## Press Releases

### Research finds no bias in allocation of social housing

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/media-centre/research-finds-no-bias-in-allocation-of-social-housing/>

### Denham announces successful projects to support communities with migration

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/1277459>

### New agreement with France on border controls

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2009/july/france-border-controls?area=allNews>

### UK-French Summit: Declaration on immigration

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/Page19943>

### Keep doors open to migrant workers to meet long-term labour needs, says OECD

[http://www.oecd.org/document/39/0,3343,en\\_2649\\_201185\\_43195111\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/39/0,3343,en_2649_201185_43195111_1_1_1_1,00.html)

## New publications

### Social housing allocation and immigrant communities

[http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded\\_files/ehrc\\_report\\_-\\_social\\_housing\\_allocation\\_and\\_immigrant\\_communities.pdf](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/ehrc_report_-_social_housing_allocation_and_immigrant_communities.pdf)

### Child Trafficking in the EU - Challenges, perspectives and good practices

[http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/Pub\\_Child\\_Trafficking\\_09\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/Pub_Child_Trafficking_09_en.pdf)

## Immigration and Asylum

### New Publications (continued)

**The challenges of mixed migration, access to protection and responsibility-sharing in the EU**

<http://www.unhcr.org/4a44dd756.html>

**Migrants Rights News**

[http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/downloads/newsletters/MRN\\_Newsletter\\_Jul09.pdf](http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/downloads/newsletters/MRN_Newsletter_Jul09.pdf)

**European Council on Refugees and Exiles Memorandum to the new EU Presidency: Putting protection back at the heart of EU asylum policy**

[http://www.ecre.org/files/ECRE\\_Memorandum\\_Swedish\\_Presidency\\_June\\_2009.pdf](http://www.ecre.org/files/ECRE_Memorandum_Swedish_Presidency_June_2009.pdf)

**Stories Old and New: Migration and identity in the UK heritage sector**

[http://www.ippr.org.uk/members/download.asp?f=/ecomm/files/stories\\_old\\_and\\_new.pdf&a=skip](http://www.ippr.org.uk/members/download.asp?f=/ecomm/files/stories_old_and_new.pdf&a=skip)

**A Moving Story: Is there a case for a major museum of migration in the UK?**

<http://www.ippr.org.uk/members/download.asp?f=%2Fecomm%2Ffiles%2Fa%5Fmoving%5Fstory%2Epdf>

## News

**'Difficulties' if teachers are forced to leave**

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/output/2009/07/06/newsstory13410669t0.asp>

**Housing 'not favouring migrants'**

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk\\_politics/8137408.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/8137408.stm)

**Refused asylum seekers forced to eat from bins, says Rowntree trust**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2009/jul/08/asylum-seekers-rowntree-report>

**Hijab and civil war in the House of Lords**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/opinion/commentators/christina-patterson/christina-patterson-hijab-and-civil-war-in-the-house-of-lords-1704160.html>

**Migration, Muslims and mythology**

[http://www.pcs.org.uk/en/news\\_and\\_events/pcs\\_comment/index.cfm/id/F96271EB-1B80-48A6-8DA9A601A325362B](http://www.pcs.org.uk/en/news_and_events/pcs_comment/index.cfm/id/F96271EB-1B80-48A6-8DA9A601A325362B)

**Revealed: Scandal of Britain's fruit-farm workers**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/revealed-scandal-of-britains-fruitfarm-workers-1740207.html>

**Cost of deportations questioned**

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/8146019.stm>

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## Race Relations

### Press Releases

**PM's message for Dharma Day**

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/Page19951>

**OSCE meeting on freedom of religion or belief gets under way with calls for better implementation of commitments**

[http://www.osce.org/odihr/item\\_1\\_38722.html](http://www.osce.org/odihr/item_1_38722.html)

### News

**White flight 'is segregating schools'**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1198950/White-flight-segregating-schools.html>

**Church accuses Government of favouring Muslims**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newsttopics/religion/5803962/Church-accuses-Government-of-favouring-Muslims.html>

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## Equality

### Press Releases

**Jobcentre Plus needs to do more to promote equality**

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/media-centre/jobcentre-plus-needs-to-do-more-to-promote-equality/>

### New publications

**Public sector duty assessment of the Department for Work and Pensions through Jobcentre Plus**

[http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded\\_files/ehrc\\_jobcentre\\_plusweb.pdf](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/ehrc_jobcentre_plusweb.pdf)

**Poverty pathways: ethnic minority women's livelihoods**

<http://www.fawcettsociety.org.uk/documents/Povertypathways.pdf>

### News

**Minister 'plots to oust' equality czar**

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article6689641.ece>

**Honours system quotas to decorate more women and ethnic minorities**

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/5804178/Honours-system-quotas-to-decorate-more-women-and-ethnic-minorities.html>

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# Racism and Religious Hatred

## New publication

**Stop hate in Central Scotland** (website)

<http://www.stophateincentralscotland.org.uk/index.htm>

## News

**Islamic charity fire 'deliberate'**

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/glasgow\\_and\\_west/8137021.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/glasgow_and_west/8137021.stm)

**Hunt for two men after fire attack on charity shop**

[http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2518537.0.hunt\\_for\\_two\\_men\\_after\\_fire\\_attack\\_on\\_charity\\_shop.php](http://www.theherald.co.uk/news/news/display.var.2518537.0.hunt_for_two_men_after_fire_attack_on_charity_shop.php)

**Attack on shop 'may be racist'**

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/Attack-on-shop-39may-be.5433683.jp>

**Two held over charity shop fire**

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/glasgow\\_and\\_west/8139588.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/glasgow_and_west/8139588.stm)

**Sink immigrants' boats - Griffin**

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk\\_politics/8141069.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/8141069.stm)

**No tiffin for Griffin as BNP is given a brush-off in Brussels**

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/latestnews/No-tiffin-for-Griffin-as.5447265.jp>

**'Racism' CV project cost £170,000**

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk\\_politics/8141510.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/8141510.stm)

**Police fear far-right terror attack**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2009/jul/06/far-right-terrorism-threat-police>

**Protect our mosques from the far right**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2009/jun/22/mosques-attack-far-right>

**Anti-Islamic attacks are not history**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2009/jul/08/anti-islamic-violence-muslims-far-right>

**Is Europe really Islamophobic?**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2009/jul/07/martyr-hejab-germany-muslim>

**Pair jailed for web race crimes**

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/north\\_yorkshire/8144366.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/north_yorkshire/8144366.stm)

**Youth council criticised over BNP article**

<http://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/Article.aspx/1301740>

**Jail for online race hate pair over Auschwitz jibes**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/2009/07/11/jail-for-online-race-hate-pair-over-auschwitz-jibes-86908-21511564/>

## Racism and Religious Hatred

### News (continued)

#### Pair jailed for web race crimes

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/north\\_yorkshire/8144366.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/north_yorkshire/8144366.stm)

#### Midwives reject BNP births scare

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2009/jul/12/midwives-reject-bnp-births-scare>

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## Other Westminster

### Parliamentary Questions

#### Muslim Population

**Douglas Carswell** [284443]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what estimate his Department has made of the size of the Muslim population of the UK in each year since 1979.

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

*Letter from Karen Dunnell, dated July 2009:*

As National Statistician, I have been asked to reply to your question asking what estimate has been made of the Muslim population of Britain in each year since 1979.

The Census is the most commonly used source for statistics on religion by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), with more recent information on religious affiliation (that is the identification with a religion irrespective of actual practice or belief) from the Labour Force Survey (LFS). The way people respond to questions on religion is sensitive to what question is asked and how it is asked. Therefore because of differences between the Census and LFS in terms of question design and also coverage of the type of establishments in which people reside, data from these two sources cannot be compared.

The 2001 Census was the first time that a religion question had been asked in the England and Wales (and Scotland) census, and revealed that 1,589,000 people in Great Britain identified as Muslim in 2001.

A question on religious affiliation was introduced into the LFS in Great Britain in Spring 2002 using an extended version of the wording used in the England and Wales Census, but was not asked of people aged 16 and under until 2004. Consequently the earliest suitable estimates are from 2004 which cover people of all ages, and are shown in Table 1 attached.

As with any sample survey, estimates from the LFS are subject to a margin of uncertainty. A guide to the quality of the estimates is included at Table 1.

*Table 1: Muslim population<sup>(1:)</sup> Three month period ending September, 2004-08 , Great Britain, not seasonally adjusted*

	<i>Thousand</i>
2004	*1,870
2005	*2,017
2006	*2,142
2007	*2,327
2008	*2,422

## Other Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

(1) All ages

Coefficients of Variation have been calculated as an indication of the quality of the estimates, as described:

*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 = CV [le]5 Estimates are considered precise

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

\*\*\* 10 = CV [le]20 Estimates are considered acceptable

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

*Note:*

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/cm090707/text/90707w0026.htm#0907082000109>

## Press Releases

**Faith groups can help government deliver says Murphy**

<http://www.scotlandoffice.gov.uk/scotlandoffice/12344.html>

**Secretary of State: Faith groups can have a role delivering government services**

<http://www.scotlandoffice.gov.uk/scotlandoffice/12346.html>

## New publication

**Forced Marriage: Prevalence and Service Response**

<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-RR128.pdf>

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## New Publications

**Ethnic Profiling**

<http://cms.horus.be/files/99935/MediaArchive/pdf/FS40%20-%20ethnic%20profiling.pdf>

**Overseas Disclosure Checks (CRBS)**

<http://www.crbs.org.uk/news/documents/OverseasDisclosurechecks-Aguide.pdf>

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## Other News

Positive Action in Housing is currently finalising the 2009/10 version of the Scottish Ethnic Minorities Directory which details services available for people from ethnic minority communities, refugees, asylum seekers and new migrants. If you would like your organisation to be listed in the directory please complete the form at [http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/09vii\\_paih.html](http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/09vii_paih.html) and send it by 24 June to Robina Qureshi [robina@paih.org](mailto:robina@paih.org)

### **Muslim Scots launch 'Tartan Week' in the Middle East**

[http://www.sundayherald.com/news/heraldnews/display.var.2519472.0.muslim\\_scots\\_launchn\\_tartan\\_week\\_in\\_the\\_middle\\_east.php](http://www.sundayherald.com/news/heraldnews/display.var.2519472.0.muslim_scots_launchn_tartan_week_in_the_middle_east.php)

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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>

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

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

## **Bills in Progress** (continued)

### **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/115/amend/pbc1150706a.1091-1092.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/115/amend/pbc1150707a.1111-1112.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/115/amend/pbc1150807a.1145-1146.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/115/amend/pbc1150907a.1149-1154.html>

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

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

## Bills in Progress

### Westminster (continued)

#### \*\* Equality Bill

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

amendment paper

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/085/amend/pbc0850707m.369-375.html>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/085/amend/pbc0850707a.1113-1119.html>

Public Bill Committee Proceedings

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/085/pro0850707p.63-69.html>

Bill as amended in Public Bill Committee

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmbills/131/2009131.pdf>

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## Consultations

(closing date)

\*\* new or updated this week

**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)

**Cycling Action Plan for Scotland** (20 August 2009)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/273788/0081826.pdf>

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

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

**Freedom of Information: Improving Openness** (30 September)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/278119/0083564.pdf>

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## Job Opportunities

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

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**\*\* please note that this week's course has been cancelled**

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

~~17 July 2009 in Glasgow - cancelled~~

20 August 2009 in Glasgow

8 October 2009 in Glasgow

8 December 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>

### **BA in Community Development**

Closing date for applications: 3 August 2009

The University of Glasgow and BEMIS have reached an agreement that will see BEMIS facilitating support for trainees through a 36 month degree course focusing on Community Learning & Development complemented by extra direct training days/workshops styles. For information see [http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/09vii\\_bemis.pdf](http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/09vii_bemis.pdf) or contact Tanveer Parnez 0141 548 8047 / [Tanveer.parniez@bemis.org.uk](mailto:Tanveer.parniez@bemis.org.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](mailto:train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk) or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=60>

### **\*\* Positive Action in Housing AGM**

4 September 2009 in Glasgow (11.00)

For information contact [home@paih.org](mailto:home@paih.org)

### **Working with Interpreters**

22 September in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to address practical, ethical and professional issues regarding working with interpreters, including briefing on legal obligations and entitlement to services. For information contact 0141 248 9799 / [train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

### **Scottish Third Sector Research Conference**

26 October 2009 in Edinburgh (9.45 – 5.00)

Conference organised by SCVO in conjunction with the Centre for Public Services Research, Edinburgh University Business School to connect researchers, policy-makers and practitioners to ensure Scotland's Voluntary Sector has the latest knowledge and research at its fingertips. For information contact Ian Lees [ian.lees@scvo.org.uk](mailto:ian.lees@scvo.org.uk)  
To find out how to submit a paper for the conference see <http://www.scvo.org.uk/scvo/Information/ViewInformation.aspx?al=t&page=&all=&from=DSR&Info=1946&TCID=30&PageName=Impact>

## Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

### **An Introduction to the Needs and Experiences of Refugee Women**

12 November 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 0141 248 9799 / [train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

### **Scottish Charity Accounts and Reporting to OSCR**

30 November 2009 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 4.30)

SCVO seminar to look at what OSCR expects from charities in terms of compliance. For information contact Jane Baillie 0131 474 8019 / [jane.baillie@scvo.org.uk](mailto:jane.baillie@scvo.org.uk)

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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>

**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/>

## Useful Links (continued)

**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** is the national Ethnic Minorities led umbrella body supporting the development of the Ethnic Minorities Third Sector and the communities that this sector represents in Scotland. **BEMIS** aims: to empower and build the capacity of minority formal and informal community organisations, to be proactive in influencing policy development in relation to race equality agenda in Scotland (strategic partnership role to the Government), and to help develop and progress multicultural Scotland, active citizenship, democracy and Human Rights Education at the Scottish, UK and European levels. <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/>