

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

*MEMO is produced by the **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities** in partnership with **BEMIS - empowering Scotland's ethnic and cultural minority communities**. 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

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Naturalisation

Nicholas Soames: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether time spent in the UK by a foreign national on a student visa counts towards the qualifying period for naturalisation as a British citizen; and if she will make a statement. [33729]

Reply from Damian Green: The position has not changed since my response of 21 July 2010, *Official Report*, column 445W. Time spent in the United Kingdom on a student visa can count towards the residence requirements for naturalisation if a person meets the statutory requirements on the date of application.

Any change to the requirements for naturalisation would require legislative change. There are no plans to do so at the current time.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110117/text/110117w0001.htm#1101173000073>

Immigration: Health

David Evennett: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what estimate she has made of the number of non-EU nationals who have been granted temporary leave to remain in the UK on medical grounds in each of the last five years. [33586]

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Reply from Damian Green: The UK Border Agency does not record the number of all non-EU nationals who have been granted temporary leave to remain in the UK on medical grounds in their standard reports.

To obtain such information for previous years would involve a case by case search or significant report development work at disproportionate cost.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110117/text/110117w0001.htm#1101173000071>

Immigration Controls

Nicola Blackwood: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what impact assessment her Department has undertaken on the effect on scientists and researchers who will be transferred from Tier 1 to Tier 2 under the Government's proposed changes to the points-based immigration system. [33830]

Reply from Damian Green: The Government will give a degree of priority within the revised Tier 2 for high-level scientists and researchers.

We will also introduce a new Tier 1 route for people of exceptional talent, such as world-leading scientists and academics who have achieved international recognition or are likely to do so.

Details of the new arrangements will be published in due course.

Nicola Blackwood: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what research her Department has undertaken on the effect of the points-based immigration system on low-earning but highly-qualified scientists and researchers. [33832]

Reply from Damian Green: Over last summer we carried out a full public consultation on our proposed changes to the points-based system, to ensure that we took a wide range of views and evidence on board and into account. Details of the new Tier 1 route for people of exceptional talent will be published in due course.

Nicola Blackwood: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether she plans to change the number of points allocated for (a) incomes and (b) qualifications under Tier 2 of the points-based immigration system. [33833]

Reply from Damian Green: We will publish full details of how the revised Tier 2 will operate in future in due course.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110118/text/110118w0001.htm#11011867000117>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Stewart Jackson: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what estimate has been made of the number of non-EEA residents who entered the UK after having gained (a) citizenship and (b) indefinite leave to remain in other EU member states in each of the last five years; and if she will make a statement. [33194]

Reply from Damian Green: The UK Border Agency does not hold this information. When a citizen of the EU enters the United Kingdom, it is not evident from their passport or national identity card how they obtained EU citizenship in another country. When a non-EEA citizen wishes to enter the United Kingdom, the individual is not required to provide evidence of having obtained indefinite leave to remain in another EU member state, and it may not be evident from their passport that such status was held. This is because at the point of arrival into the United Kingdom, non-EEA passengers must instead provide a valid United Kingdom entry clearance visa.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110117/text/110117w0001.htm#1101173000070>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Entry Clearances: Families

Frank Field: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many applications for family visitor visas there were in each year since 1997; how many of those were granted in each such year; how many times appeals were raised against refusals of such applications in each year; how many of those appeals were upheld in each year; and what her most recent estimate is of the average cost to her Department of such an appeal in the latest period for which figures are available. [33805]

Reply from Damian Green: With regard to family visit visas, the number of (a) applications received; (b) visas issued; (c) appeals received; and (d) appeals allowed, in each calendar year since 2004, is shown in the following table. This information is not available for previous years.

The cost of immigration appeals are split between the Tribunals Service and UKBA. The majority of the cost falls to the Tribunals Service.

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Most recent UKBA estimates (2009-10) suggest the cost of an appeal against refusal of entry clearance ranges typically between £200 and £500 per case. This unit will vary depending on the complexity of the case, with family visit visa appeals generally falling towards the lower end of this estimate.

The most recent estimate (2008-09) from the Tribunals Service indicate that a family visit visa appeal costs, on average, £504 and an appeal against other entry clearance decisions costs, on average, £577. These unit costs are based upon a broad estimate for the average cost and as such will vary depending upon the complexity of individual cases.

<i>Family visit visas</i>				
	<i>Applications received</i>	<i>Visas issued</i>	<i>Appeals received</i>	<i>Appeals allowed</i>
2004	354,217	248,153	29,697	5,685
2005	457,479	331,099	35,724	8,804
2006	502,032	376,375	57,540	18,328
2007	473,797	354,338	62,609	18,081
2008	414,695	313,392	55,965	19,663
2009	426,846	332,817	53,882	20,216
Jan to Sept 2010	423,251	350,677	37,657	16,802

Notes:

1. These data are based on management information. They are provisional and subject to change.
2. Data prior to 2007 may not be complete.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110120/text/110120w0003.htm#11012064000045>

Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

Nicholas Soames: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many appeals against refusal of entry clearance were lodged by those who had applied for student visas in each year since 2000; and how many of those appeals were upheld in each year. [33735]

Reply from Damian Green: The number of appeals against the refusal of student visas that were (a) lodged and (b) allowed, in each calendar year since 2004, is shown in the following table. This information is not available for previous years.

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

	<i>Appeals lodged</i>	<i>Appeals allowed</i>
2004	13,315	478
2005	14,181	2,202
2006	25,141	6,562
2007	33,067	7,452
2008	37,125	8,052
2009	⁽¹⁾ 19,699	⁽²⁾ 9,645

⁽¹⁾ Since March 2009, long-term student applications have been considered under tier four of the points-based system and do not attract a full right of appeal. However, an unsuccessful applicant is able to lodge an appeal on residual grounds, namely under provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998 and Race Relations Act 1976.

⁽²⁾ The figures show that in 2009, a total of 9,645 appeals in this category were allowed. Many of the decisions to which these appeals relate are likely to have been made in 2008 when there was a significant increase in long-term student applications prior to the introduction of the points-based system.

Notes:

1. This data is based on Management Information. It has not been published and should be treated as provisional.
2. The data before 2007 may not be complete.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110120/text/110120w0003.htm#11012064000046>

Entry Clearances: Appeals

Nicholas Soames: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what her most recent estimate is of the average cost of an appeal against refusal of entry clearance. [33734]

Reply from Damian Green: The cost of immigration appeals is split between the Tribunals Service and UKBA. The majority of the cost falls to the Tribunals Service.

Most recent UKBA estimates (2009-10) suggest the cost of an appeal against refusal of entry clearance ranges typically between £200 and £500 per case. This unit will vary depending on the complexity of the case, with family visit visa appeals generally falling towards the lower end of this estimate.

The most recent estimate (2008-09) from the Tribunals Service indicate that a family visit visa appeal costs, on average, £504 and an appeal against other entry clearance decisions costs, on average, £577. These unit costs are based upon a broad estimate for the average cost and as such will vary depending upon the complexity of individual cases.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110120/text/110120w0003.htm#11012064000044>

Asylum

Caroline Dinenge: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what plans she has to address the situation of failed asylum claimants who are neither legally settled nor under notice of removal. [33642]

Reply from Damian Green: All failed asylum seekers are put under notice of

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

removal when they are informed that their application has been refused. If an applicant fails to leave voluntarily their removal from the UK may be enforced by the UK Border Agency.

Roger Gale: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what assessment she has made of the effect of the withdrawal of the policy document entitled Guidance on R(S) Policy dealing with Failed Asylum Claims Which May Have Lost the Benefit of an ELR Policy as a Result of Delay; and what estimate she has made of the number of cases which will be affected by the withdrawal of the policy guidance. [34532]

Reply from Damian Green: The Case Resolution Directorate (CRD) is nearing the end of its programme to review the backlog of unresolved asylum cases, and remains on track to complete the legacy programme by summer 2011. Individuals who previously fitted the criteria of the R(S) policy would have fallen within one of CRD's priorities, namely those who may qualify to be allowed to stay in the UK. It is expected that the vast majority of such cases will have already been concluded. However, an accurate estimate of the numbers potentially affected by the withdrawal of the policy was not obtained, as this would have involved the manual checking of all CRD remaining cases, which could have delayed their completion. All representations made on the basis of the R(S) policy prior to its withdrawal on 20 December 2010 will still be considered against the R(S) policy. Any representations made on the basis of R(S) after the withdrawal of the policy will be considered on a case by case basis. The small number of individuals who would have qualified on the basis of R(S) but whose cases have not yet been concluded are still likely to qualify for leave under existing immigration rules and policy.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110119/text/110119w0001.htm#11011955000026>

Asylum

Nic Dakin: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if she will take steps to ensure that increasing the speed of decision-making on family asylum cases will not affect the fairness and effectiveness of such decisions. [34875]

Reply from Damian Green: The Asylum Improvement Project, which was established by the Government in the summer, is exploring new ways to improve the asylum system to speed up the processing of all applications, including family applications, while improving the quality of decision making, achieving greater productivity and efficiency in the asylum process and better, more sustainable, decisions.

We are also reviewing the decision making process for family cases as part of the review into ending the detention of children for immigration purposes and we are working with corporate partners to improve the process.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110120/text/110120w0003.htm#11012064000039>

Asylum: Children

Stephen Williams: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many asylum seekers who arrived in the country as unaccompanied minors and have been removed or detained with a view to removal in the last 12 months had been living in the UK for more than (a) three, (b) five and (c) 10 years. [34162]

Reply from Damian Green: A breakdown of the requested information is listed as follows:

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

<i>Time resident in United Kingdom</i>	<i>UASC and former UASC removed^(1, 2)</i>	<i>Former UASC detained^(1, 2, 3, 4)</i>
0 to 3 years	124	137
3 to 5 years	65	38
5-10 years	86	19
10+ years	5	4
Total	280	198

⁽¹⁾ UASC stands for unaccompanied asylum seeking children.

⁽²⁾ Time period covered, 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2010.

⁽³⁾ Data exclude detained individuals subsequently removed.

⁽⁴⁾ Of the 198 individuals detained, none were under 18-years-old.

Notes:

1. All figures quoted are internal management information only and are subject to change.

2. This information has not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110120/text/110120w0003.htm#11012064000040>

Detainees

Simon Kirby: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many (a) men and (b) women entered the detained fast track procedure in each year since 2005; and what proportion of (i) men and (ii) women entering the detained fast track procedure were granted leave to remain in each such year. [34912]

Reply from Damian Green: The information requested is provided in the following table.

<i>Applications accepted into the detained fast track process and percentage granted leave broken down by gender by year of application 2005-10</i>		
	<i>Accepted</i>	<i>Granted (percentage)</i>
<i>2005^(1)</i>		
Male	1,754	8
Female	381	12
Total	2,135	8
<i>2006</i>		
Male	1,565	7
Female	463	15
Total	2,028	9
<i>2007</i>		
Male	897	5
Female	523	12
Total	1,420	8
<i>2008</i>		
Male	1,283	7
Female	517	13
Total	1,800	9

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

2009		
Male	1,674	7
Female	510	11
Total	2,184	8
2010		
Male	2,061	7
Female	531	11
Total	2,592	8
⁽¹⁾ 2005 data pre-dates the current Asylum Process so there may be limitations to data quality. <i>Note:</i> All figures are internal management information only and are subject to change. This information has not been quality assured under National Statistics protocols.		

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110120/text/110120w0003.htm#11012064000042>

Detainees :Sexuality

Simon Kirby: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department what consideration she has given to adding complex sexuality-related persecution claims to the list of claims unlikely to be accepted in the suitability guidance note for routing into the detained fast track procedure. [34911]

Reply from Damian Green: Entry to the detained fast track procedure is determined by reference to published policy available on the UKBA website. There are no plans to exclude applicants from the detained fast track process because their claims appear to relate to complex sexuality-related persecution.

However, there is an existing condition in published policy that cases may enter the process only if they are amenable to a quick, fair and sustainable decision. If, at the time of application, it is apparent that this condition cannot be fulfilled the applicant will not be entered into the process.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110120/text/110120w0003.htm#11012064000043>

Deportation: Human Rights

Stewart Jackson: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many deportations from the UK did not proceed as a consequence of the application of the provisions of (a) Article 3 and (b) Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights in each year since 2005; and if she will make a statement. [34146]

Reply from Damian Green: In responding to this question, we have assumed 'deportations' to mean 'removals'.

The UK Border Agency does not record this information centrally. Providing a breakdown of specific reasons for removals not to be pursued, either at initial decision stage or following a successful appeal, can only be determined by investigating individual case files which would incur a disproportionate cost.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110118/text/110118w0001.htm#11011867000115>

Human Trafficking

Peter Bone: To ask the Attorney-General how many people recognised as trafficked under the national referral mechanism procedure were prosecuted for criminal offences by the Crown Prosecution Service in each of the last three years. [34018]

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Reply from the Attorney-General: The CPS has no records to identify how many people recognised as a trafficked victim under the national referral mechanism have been prosecuted for criminal offences in each of the last three years. The National Referral Mechanism was introduced on 1 April 2009, and up to 31 December 2010, 1,254 referrals have been made for potential victims of trafficking.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110118/text/110118w0001.htm#11011867000133>

New publications

Unsustainable: the quality of initial decision-making in women's asylum claims

<http://www.asylumaid.org.uk/data/files/unsustainableweb.pdf>

Access to Primary Health Care for migrants is a right worth defending

<http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/files/Access-to-Health-Care.pdf>

News

Curb on foreign students 'may force language schools to close'

<http://www.heraldsotland.com/business/corporate-sme/curb-on-foreign-students-may-force-language-schools-to-close-1.1080138>

Damien Green apologises over asylum seeker letter

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-12228040>

UK can't deport asylum seekers back to Greece as they will be subjected to 'inhumane or degrading treatment'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1349477/UK-deport-asylum-seekers-Greece.html>

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Race Relations

New publication

Ethnic and Social Differences in Education in a Comparative Perspective

http://www.edumigrom.eu/sites/default/files/field_attachment/page/node-5387/comparativesurveyfinal.pdf

News

"Contextualising Islam in Britain" enters second phase

<http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/news/dp/2011011401>

Race Relations

News (continued)

Filming British Muslims' fight against extremism

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/help/insideguardian/2011/jan/17/filming-british-muslims-fight-extremism>

Muslim resistance: Under the prayer mat – video

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/video/2011/jan/18/muslim-resistance-under-prayer-mat-video>

Muslim resistance: The struggle within – video

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/video/2011/jan/17/muslim-resistance-struggle-within-video>

Faith is a choice, not an identity

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/comment/ian-bell/faith-is-a-choice-not-an-identity-1.1081303?75500>

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Equality

Westminster Parliamentary Question

Department of Chamber and Committee Services: Ethnic Groups

Keith Vaz: To ask the hon. Member for Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross, representing the House of Commons Commission, how many people employed as Clerks in the Department of Chamber and Committee Services of the House of Commons are from an ethnic minority. [34382]

Reply from John Thurso: Following the post-Tebbit restructuring of the House Service, there is no longer a clear definition of "Clerk" in the Department of Chamber and Committee Services (DCCS). There are 100 people within the DCCS who are in the pool of staff liable to be circulated into posts traditionally held by Clerks. Of these, five are on secondment to the House from other organisations and are therefore not employed by the House.

Of the remaining 95 people, 86 have voluntarily supplied information on their ethnic origin. Fewer than five of them have declared themselves to be non-white.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110119/text/110119w0001.htm#11011955000025>

News

The law is eroding our right to a set of beliefs

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/telegraph-view/8267763/The-law-is-eroding-our-right-to-a-set-of-beliefs.html>

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Racism and Religious Hatred

Westminster Debate

Anti-Semitism

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110120/halltext/110120h0001.htm#11012058000001>

Westminster Parliamentary Question

Racism: International Co-operation

Matthew Offord: To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what his policy is on UK representation at the proposed UN conference on anti-racism planned for 2011. [34088]

Reply from Jeremy Browne: The Government have not yet made a decision on our participation in the meeting in September to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the World Conference Against Racism. We recognise that it is common practice for the UN to convene meetings at regular periodic intervals to commemorate the adoption of its various social and human rights-related agendas such as the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. But previous meetings on this issue, including the initial World Conference Against Racism as well as its 2009 review conference, were overshadowed by unacceptable and offensive anti-Semitic rhetoric and behaviour.

UK officials will work closely with colleagues in other countries to ensure that the September meeting does not become another platform for such behaviour and that the meeting addresses all ensure that any outcome from the meeting includes a clear statement on the need to further combat anti-Semitism as part of wider efforts to combat racism. Our position on participation and representation will remain under review as a result of these efforts.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110120/text/110120w0002.htm#11012056000127>

Lecture: UK Minister without Portfolio

Baroness Warsi of Dewsbury made the case against the rising tide of anti-religious bigotry when she gave the University of Leicester Sir Sigmund Sternberg Lecture

To read the note of her speech see

<http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/news/transcript-baroness-warsi's-sternberg-lecture-speech>

Press Releases

Council of Europe defends religious freedom

<https://wcd.coe.int/wcd/ViewDoc.jsp?id=1734623&Site=DC&BackColorInternet=F5CA75&BackColorIntranet=F5CA75&BackColorLogged=A9BACE>

UN has duty to speak out for human rights, Ban says at Holocaust event

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=37353&Cr=holocaust&Cr1=>

Racism and Religious Hatred (continued) **News**

Baroness Warsi says Muslim prejudice seen as normal

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-12235237>

Islamophobia: Baroness Warsi waxes distinctly fuzzy

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/columnists/jennymccartney/8275933/Islamophobia-Baroness-Warsi-waxes-distinctly-fuzzy.html>

Tory chief Baroness Warsi attacks 'bigotry' against Muslims

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstoppers/religion/8270294/Tory-chief-Baroness-Warsi-attacks-bigotry-against-Muslims.html>

Baroness Warsi: David Cameron won't back 'Islamophobia' claims

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstoppers/religion/8272273/Baroness-Warsi-David-Cameron-wont-back-Islamophobia-claims.html>

Anti-Muslim prejudice 'is now deemed acceptable in polite society'

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/news/AntiMuslim-prejudice-39is-now-deemed.6697502.jp>

Lady Warsi claims Islamophobia is now socially acceptable in Britain

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/jan/20/lady-warsi-islamophobia-muslims-prejudice>

Lady Warsi is right to confront anti-Muslim prejudice

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2011/jan/20/lady-warsi-speech-anti-muslim-prejudice>

Muslim leaders back Lady Warsi's comments on Islamophobia

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/jan/20/muslim-leaders-lady-warsi-islamophobia>

Islamophobia is the moral blind spot of modern Britain

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/jan/22/warsi-islamophobia-britain-moral-blind-spot>

Lady Warsi and the concept of extremism

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2011/jan/20/lady-warsi-extremism>

The Brits don't diss over dinner, Baroness Warsi

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/jan/23/victoria-coren-islamophobia-over-dinner>

Sayeeda Warsi: A matter of pride and prejudice

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/theobserver/2011/jan/23/observer-profile-baroness-warsi-islamophobia>

Alex Salmond backs bid to end football bigotry

<http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/news/Alex-Salmond-backs-bid-to.6697536.jp>

Teacher calls city leader to answer race tribunal claim

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/Teacher-calls-city-leader-to.6698109.jp>

Barnardo's ex-head says race issues threaten adoptions

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-12258379>

Racism and Religious Hatred

News (continued)

'Race issues to blame' for fall in adoptions

<http://scotlandonsunday.scotsman.com/news/39Race-issues-to-blame39-for.6699377.jp>

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Other Holyrood

Press Releases

Committee calls for greater transparency in Scottish Government operations

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/nmCentre/news/news-comm-11/cpac11-s3-001.htm>

Certificate of Death (Scotland) Bill supported

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/nmCentre/news/news-comm-11/chands11-s3-001.htm>

New publication

Public Audit Committee Report

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/nmCentre/news/news-comm-11/cpac11-s3-001.htm>

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Other Westminster

Parliamentary Questions

Animals: Slaughter

Lord Moonie: To ask Her Majesty's Government how many abattoirs are licensed to carry out animal slaughter without stunning the animal first.[HL5579]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Lord Henley): There are currently 346 approved slaughterhouses operating in Great Britain. There is no separate approval of slaughterhouses carrying out animal slaughter without prior stunning. However, where bovine animals are slaughtered by a religious method the restraining pen used must be approved by the Minister as required under Schedule 12 of the Welfare of Animals (Slaughter or Killing) Regulations 1995 (as amended). Eight restraining pens have been approved in England and Wales and are currently operational.

Lord Moonie: To ask Her Majesty's Government what representations they have made to the European Commission and the Agriculture Council about changing the regulations in respect of animal slaughtering without stunning the animal first. [HL5580]

Reply from Lord Henley: We have made no recent representations to the European Commission or the Agriculture Council about changing regulations in respect of animal slaughtering without prior stunning.

We were involved in discussions on the new EU Regulation (Number 1099/2009)

Other Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

on the protection of animals at the time of killing which was agreed on 24 September 2009 and comes into effect on 1 January 2013. This regulation permits the use of additional national rules to improve welfare protection in relation to the slaughter of animals without prior stunning. Detailed consideration of this issue will take place over the next year as we decide how to implement the new regulation. We will consult widely on our approach before final decisions are taken.

Lord Moonie: To ask Her Majesty's Government what estimate they have made of the number of domesticated animals and birds slaughtered in 2010 without being stunned first.[HL5581]

Reply from Lord Henley: The most recent data on the slaughter of animals without prior stunning was published in March 2004 by the Meat Hygiene Service in its Animal Welfare Review. The data was collected through a survey of meat plants between 1 and 7 September 2003. The table below shows the number of animals killed over that period without prior stunning for the production of Kosher and Halal meat:

Species	Not Stunned
Cattle	365
Calves	8
Young lambs	6,845
Other sheep	11,454
Goats	62
Broilers	167,745
Hens	15,900
Turkeys	749
Ducks	610

More recent data collected by the EU Dialrel project (see <http://www.dialrel.eu/images/factsheet-assesment-practices.pdf>) shows that, of the UK abattoirs surveyed, 100 per cent of the animals and birds slaughtered for the production of Kosher meat were slaughtered without prior stunning. For Halal meat, 25 per cent of cattle and 7 per cent of sheep were slaughtered without prior stunning. The Dialrel data also indicates that no poultry were slaughtered for Halal production without stunning.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/110118w0001.htm#11011869000122>

Press Release

ID cards no longer valid

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/news/id-cards-valid>

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New Publication

The ambitions and challenges of SROI (Social Return on Investment)

<http://www.tsrc.ac.uk/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=QwHhAC%2br88Y%3d&tabid=762>

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Other News

Students' new help initiative

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/Students39-new-help-initiative.6692925.jp>

New umbrella body for the community sector in Scotland

<http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/News/DailyBulletin/1049579/New-umbrella-body-community-sector-Scotland/C15BE37EFBBD62C9E7DF1FA7CC379D1E/?DCMP=EMC-CONDailyBulletin>

Religion must be in key school exam, insist faith leaders

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/jan/23/religion-education-school-examinations>

Spotlight on travellers as public asked for potential strategies

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/News/Angus/article/9806/spotlight-on-travellers-as-public-asked-for-potential-strategies.html>

Old girls' school to be reopened as Muslim centre

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/news/Old-girls39-school-to-be.6699128.jp>

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Bills in Progress ** New or updated this week

Holyrood

**** Certification of Death Bill**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/58-CertDeath/index.htm>

Stage 1 Report

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/hs/reports-11/her11-01-vol1.htm>

Forced Marriage etc. (Protection and Jurisdiction) Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/53-forcedMarriage/index.htm>

Local Electoral Administration Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/57-LocalElecAdmin/index.htm>

Public Records Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/56-PublicRecords/index.htm>

Bills in Progress Westminster

**** Fixed Term Parliaments Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/fixedtermparliaments.html>

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/119/amend/psc1191401a.1365-1370.html>

Consideration of Bill

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/119/amend/psc1191801m.1371-1376.html>

Bills in Progress

Westminster (continued)

Fixed Term Parliaments Bill: Report Stage, House of Commons

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110118/debtext/110118-0001.htm#11011866000002>

Report Stage Proceedings

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/119/pro1191801p.363-368.html>

Third Reading, House of Commons

http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110118/debtext/110118-0003.htm#column_793

Bill as brought from the House of Commons

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldbills/040/11040.pdf>

Explanatory Notes to Bill

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldbills/040/en/11040en.pdf>

First Reading, House of Lords

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/110119-0001.htm#11011953000201>

**** Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/parliamentaryvotingsystemandconstituencies.html>

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldbills/026/amend/ml026-ixr.htm>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldbills/026/amend/ml026-xi.htm>

Committee Stage, House of Lords

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/110117-0001.htm#1101179000440>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/110117-0002.htm#11011736000138>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/110118-0001.htm#11011918000345>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/110119-0001.htm#11011953000203>

and

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/110119-0002.htm#1101202000235>

**** Scotland Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/scotland.html>

Scottish Parliament Committee scrutiny of the Legislative Consent Motion

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/scotBill/or-11/sb11-0202.htm#Col198>

House of Commons Library: Report

<http://www.parliament.uk/briefingpapers/commons/lib/research/rp2011/RP11-006.pdf>

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Consultations (closing date)

** new or updated this week

Student Immigration System (31 January 2011)

Full consultation paper:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/policyandlaw/consultations/students/>

Online survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BDPMGMTM>

Department for International Development Match Funding Scheme (24 February 2011)

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Working-with-DFID/Consultations/Match-Funding-Scheme/>

International Commission for Aid Impact (scrutiny of UK overseas aid) (7 April 2011)

<http://icai.independent.gov.uk/>

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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!*

Violence against Women in Muslim Communities

24 – 26 January 2011 in Glasgow (10.00 – 6.00)

Amina Muslim Women's Resource Centre training to enhance the skills and knowledge of existing trainers and those who work on women's issues. For information contact tabassum@mwrc.org.uk or see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/11i_mwrc.pdf

** *this week!*

From the Ballot Box to the Podium: Webinar: Mobilising Immigrant Voters and Political Leadership

25 January 2011

Webinar to explore how under-represented ethnic groups can be engaged, bringing fresh ideas and alternative perspectives to the political table. For information see <http://citiesofmigration.ca/integration-learning-exchange/calendar/lang/en/>

** *this week!*

OSCR Outreach Programme: Becoming a Charity

26 January 2010 in Edinburgh (2.00 – 4.30)

19 April 2011 in Dundee (10.00 – 12.30)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator training for charity advisors to enable them to assist organisations in deciding whether to register as a charity, and, if so, to do so. For information see <http://www.oscr.org.uk/EventItem.aspx?ID=6bb95a2f-165b-4bbc-8f78-25fd07c79e34> or contact communications@oscr.org.uk

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Domestic abuse: a consultation day for faith groups

3 February 2011 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 1.00)

Consultation to bring together interested representatives from faith communities to explore how Scottish Women's Aid can work with and support faith communities in addressing domestic abuse. For information contact Fiona Buchanan 0131 226 6606 / fiona.buchanan@scottishwomensaid.org.uk or see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/11i_swa.pdf

UKBA asylum support - the essentials

3 February 2010 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course for people supporting those going through the asylum process. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/325_ukba_formerly_nass_asylum_support_-_the_essentials

Toward a Registration System for CLD Practitioners

3 February 2011 in Glasgow

4 February 2011 in Edinburgh

9 March 2011 in Glasgow

11 March 2011 in Edinburgh

Standards Council for Community Learning and Development for Scotland consultations on establishing a registration system for Community Learning and Development practitioners. For information see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/11iii_cld.doc or contact Gail Herrigan 0141 282 5054 / G.Herrigan@LTScotland.org.uk.

An introduction to working with asylum seekers and refugees

10 February 2011 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to explore immigration terminology, main refugee nationalities, why people flee and factors affecting migration, the Refugee Convention - its history and interpretation, the UK asylum process and current implementation in Scotland, how to develop culturally sensitive services, and issues facing practitioners and possible solutions; best practice for support and advocacy. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/858_an_introduction_to_working_with_asylum_seekers_and_refugees

Becoming British citizens? The experiences and opinions of refugees living in Scotland

10 February 2011 in Glasgow (1.30 – 4.30)

Research findings examining the opinions of refugees living in Scotland towards the UK citizenship process and their views on becoming British citizens. For information see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/events_calendar/892_research_seminar_becoming_british_citizens or contact 0141 223 7915 / info@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Equality Act 2010: What does it mean for you?

17 February 2011 in Inverness

Equality and Human Rights Commission conferences to provide information about how the Act works and how to use it, what discrimination means and who is protected. For information contact David Reilly David.Reilly@equalityhumanrights.com / 0141 228 5967 or see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/11ii_ehrc.pdf

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Violence Against Women Faith, Culture and Practice Training

23 February 2011 in Stirling(10.00 – 4.00)

Amina training to explore the faith and cultural dimensions associated with the perpetration of violence against women in the Muslim and other Communities. For information contact pdu@stirling.gov.uk / 01786 442 562.

Justice and Fairness in the Workplace

18 February 2011 in Glasgow (10.00 – 3.00)

Conference jointly organised by BEMIS, the Scottish Refugee Council, and the STUC to discuss employment and human rights, migrants and employment, the role of the unions, and active citizenship. For information contact Tanveer Parnez 0141 548 8047 / conference@bemis.org.uk or see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/11ii_bemis.pdf

OSCR Outreach Programme: Completing OSCR Returns

22 February 2010 in Glasgow (2.00 – 4.30)

10 May 2010 in Aberdeen (10.00 – 12.30)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator training for charity advisors to enable them to assist charities to complete annual and supplementary monitoring returns. For information see <http://www.oscr.org.uk/EventItem.aspx?ID=41d2239c-6e59-4edb-96ea-cfd052854b50> or contact communications@oscr.org.uk

An introduction to working with separated children

24 February 2011 in Glasgow (9.15 – 4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course about children under 18 years of age, in the UK without a parent or other guardian who may be going through the asylum process, have been granted leave to remain, or be victims of trafficking. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/879_an_introduction_to_working_with_separated_children

Researching Poverty at Community Level

The second pilot programme will begin in April 2011

BEMIS in partnership with Glasgow Caledonian University (Scottish Poverty Information Unit) and Faith in Community Scotland are offering a 12 week Certificate Level training programme to empower local community and faith groups with much needed necessary skills in relation to research and tackling poverty. For information see http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/11iv_bemis.pdf and registration form http://www.scojec.org/memo/files/ads/11iv_bemis.doc or contact Tanveer Parnez Tanveer.parniez@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

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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/>

Useful Links (continued)

Directgov (links to UK Government Departments)

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

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

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

Scottish Refugee Council www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

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

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

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

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

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

Volunteer Development Scotland www.vds.org.uk

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

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

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

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

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

BBC Parliament online

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

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



BEMIS is the Scottish national Ethnic Minorities led umbrella body, supporting, empowering, and building the capacity of minority third sector community organisations. As a strategic partner with Government, it is proactive in influencing the development of race equality policy in Scotland, and helps develop and progress multicultural Scotland, active citizenship, democracy, and Human Rights Education at the Scottish, UK, and European levels. <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/>