

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.*

Contents

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Immigration and Asylum | Other News |
| Community Relations | Bills in Progress |
| Equality | Consultations |
| Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination | Job Opportunities |
| Other Scottish Parliament and Government | Funding Opportunities |
| Other UK Parliament and Government | Events, Conferences, and Training |
| | Useful Links |

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

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Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Written Answers

Immigration Skills Charge

Christina McKelvie: To ask the Scottish Government what assessment it plans of what the impact would be on Scotland's economy of the proposal by the UK Government to levy firms in specific industries £1,000 a year for each EU worker that they hire. (S5W-6166)

Reply from Fiona Hyslop: The Immigration Skills Charge, as introduced by the UK Immigration Act 2016, will be paid by employers sponsoring skilled migrants from outside the EEA under Tier 2 of the UK Points Based System. The charge will be introduced in April 2017 and will be collected by the Home Office as part of the Certificate of Sponsorship application process.

The Scottish Government remains concerned that the charge will make it more difficult for employers to recruit the individuals they require for their business. The suggestion from the UK Government that the charge should be extended to cover

EU citizens working here sends entirely the wrong signal – especially given the ongoing uncertainty caused by UK Ministers’ failure to guarantee the residency rights of EU nationals – and any such move would be opposed by the Scottish Government.

The charge constitutes an additional bureaucratic and financial burden on Scottish businesses, and our employers should not be penalised for employing the skilled staff that they need. Given the nature of Scotland’s private sector being heavily made up of smaller establishments, the financial impact of the charge on smaller businesses may be felt more acutely in Scotland.

I wrote to the Minister of State for Skills in July 2016 asking about the impact that this new charge will have in Scotland, and specifically on Scotland’s seven key growth sectors. No reply has been received.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-06166>

Migrant Workers

Jackie Baillie: To ask the Scottish Government what assessment it has made of the contribution skilled workers coming to the country make to industries that export. (S5W-6108)

Reply from Derek Mackay: Migrant workers make a valuable contribution to our country and are an important part of Scotland’s future. We consider immigration as a positive lever in contributing to the Scottish economy, society and population and the Scottish Government published two analytical reports on the characteristics and contribution that migrants make to Scotland on 28 October 2016: ‘Characteristics of migrants in Scotland: Analysis of the 2011 Census’ and ‘The Impacts of migrants and migration into Scotland’ While the Scottish Government has not undertaken any specific assessment of the contribution of migrant workers to industries that export, the Scottish Government has published relevant data on the value of exports by industry and National Records for Scotland has published information on the number of migrant workers by industry: Information is published by the Scottish Government on industries which export in the publication Export Statistics Scotland. The latest information was published for 2014 on the 27 January 2016 at:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Economy/Exports/ESSPublication>

Information on number of migrants employed by detailed industry is published by National Records of Scotland from Scotland Census 2011 and can be accessed on the Scotland’s Census web site in table ‘CT_0171a_2011 – Migrant status (1) by Industry (detailed)’ accessible via the ‘Scotland Census Table index’ at:

<http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/ods-web/data-warehouse.html>

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-06108>

Scottish Parliament Motions

S5M-03585 Christina McKelvie: Detention of EU Citizens – That the Parliament is deeply concerned by the report from the charity, Bail for Immigration Detainees (BID), which highlights a fivefold increase in the number of EU nationals detained in immigration centres; notes that this increase has occurred since the Conservative administration came into power; is disturbed that the report notes that, in the vast majority of these detentions, no crime had been committed; notes that, according to BID, victims have been detained and threatened with deportation for trivial reasons, such as losing their ID Card or sleeping rough; believes that this causes disproportionate victimisation and anxiety towards EU nationals; further believes that, in the aftermath of the Brexit vote, the UK Government has offered no assurance to EU nationals that their right to remain will

be unaffected, causing undue worry and uncertainty to thousands that call Scotland home, and calls on the UK Government to guarantee the rights of Europeans living in Britain after Brexit.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-03585>

S5M-03605 Patrick Harvie: Over 100 Bicycles Donated Through Bikes for Refugees – That the Parliament congratulates Bikes for Refugees Scotland and its Glasgow-based partners, Soul Riders Scotland, on donating over 100 bicycles to refugees and asylum seekers across the country since it launched less than a year ago; notes that the bicycles and accessories, which are collected at its hub in Edinburgh and brought to Pollokshields in Glasgow where they are repaired and refurbished by volunteers; commends the project for its efforts to integrate refugees and asylum seekers by enabling them to explore their new surroundings and to connect with local communities and services; wishes everyone involved in Bikes for Refugees Scotland all the best for the future, and hopes that it can continue its hard work by training more volunteers and providing more people in need with bicycles.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-03605>

UK Parliament, Ministerial Statement

Migration Advisory Committee: Shortage Occupation List

The Minister for Immigration (Robert Goodwill): The independent Migration Advisory Committee has today published its partial review of the shortage occupation list relating to teachers. A copy can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/migration-advisory-committee>. I am grateful to the Committee for its thorough and detailed study.

The Committee has recommended that maths and physics teachers remain on the shortage occupation list; that computer science, Mandarin and science teachers should be added to the list; and that chemistry teachers should be removed from it.

The Government have accepted the Committee's recommendations in full and the necessary changes will be made to the immigration rules to reflect this.

The Government are committed to reducing net migration to sustainable levels, which means the tens of thousands. That means we need to look first to the resident labour market to fill vacancies. The Department for Education is spending over £1.3 billion up to 2020 to attract new teachers into the profession. This includes continuing to offer generous bursaries of up to £30,000 tax free in priority subjects and a £67 million investment in STEM teaching in England to recruit up to 2,500 additional maths and physics teachers, and increase the skills of up to 15,000 existing teachers over the course of this Parliament.

However, we recognise there may be a need to recruit overseas where we continue to have genuine skill shortages or require highly specialist experts. We adjust the shortage occupation list from time to time and in line with the Migration Advisory Committee's recommendations to ensure that, where necessary, labour can be sourced from outside the European economic area. [HCWS437]

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-01-26/debates/17012648000012/MigrationAdvisoryCommitteeShortageOccupationList>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

Immigration Rules

Tommy Sheppard: If [the Home Secretary] will make an assessment of the potential

merits of applying different immigration rules to Scotland and other constituent parts of the UK. [908278]

John Nicolson: If [the Home Secretary] will make an assessment of the potential merits of applying different immigration rules to Scotland and other constituent parts of the UK. [908287]

Stephen Gethins: If [the Home Secretary] will make an assessment of the potential merits of applying different immigration rules to Scotland and other constituent parts of the UK. [908288]

Reply from the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Amber Rudd):

Immigration remains a reserved matter and we will consider the needs of the UK as a whole. Applying different immigration rules to different parts of the UK would complicate the immigration system, harming its integrity, and cause difficulties for employers who need the flexibility to deploy their staff across the UK.

Tommy Sheppard: That is a very disappointing response, infused with arrogance and complacency. Many large countries, such as Canada and Australia, have regional variations in their immigration and visa policies in order to take account of diverse and complicated local economic circumstances. Is it not foolhardy for the Government at this very early stage to rule out the prospect of doing that in the regions and nations of the United Kingdom?

Reply from Amber Rudd: I am sure that the hon. Gentleman shares my view that any policy changes should be informed by the facts and by assessments, which is why we consulted the Migration Advisory Committee to look at regional issues, and it was unequivocal in its conclusions. I urge him to look at its report.

John Nicolson: Does the Secretary of State not understand that Scotland needs more immigrants? Given that, why does she not give us the power to choose our own targets, for our own needs, for our own country?

Reply from Amber Rudd: The hon. Gentleman must surely share my view that Scotland has sufficient powers; it has its own powers to do many things—perhaps to improve its education system and its health system. Immigrants will come to a place where they see an improving education system and an improving health system. Perhaps the Scottish National party should send a little more time applying itself to those important issues, rather than constitutional ones.

Stephen Gethins: During the EU referendum campaign, we were told that Scotland should have control over immigration. We have already been told that leaving the EU is meant to be clear in what it means, so why is it that the Home Secretary can keep commitments that will cost us jobs but not one that might create some jobs?

Reply from Amber Rudd: I am afraid I do not share the hon. Gentleman's views about the outcome of the referendum. The fact is we have an immigration policy that works for the whole of the United Kingdom, and that is the one we will continue to support. As I said to the hon. Member for East Dunbartonshire (John Nicolson), I urge the SNP to apply itself to making Scotland an attractive place for immigrants to go to.

Stephan Crabb: Does my right hon. Friend agree that, while it is right that we seek to take account of different labour market concerns and demographic pressures in all parts of the United Kingdom, any separate immigration regime for Scotland—or Wales, for that matter—would undermine the coherence of the United Kingdom and risk creating softer, alternative entry points for the rest of the UK?

Reply from Amber Rudd: Of course my right hon. Friend puts it so well. Any immigration policy will take into account needs driven by industry and by our skills, but it will not be regionally based, because the fact is that people like to be able to move around, and it is right that they should be able to do so. ...

Joanna Cherry: May I remind the Home Secretary that it was the right hon. Member for Surrey Heath (Michael Gove) who said during the EU referendum campaign that migration should be devolved to Scotland? A starting point might be to allow EU nationals residing in Scotland to stay. Last week, the Select Committee on Exiting the

European Union heard evidence from witnesses representing EU nationals living in the UK and witnesses representing British citizens living elsewhere in the European Union. Every single one of them said that it is their desire for the British Government to make a unilateral declaration of the continued rights of EU citizens in the UK. Will the Home Secretary now persuade the Prime Minister to do that?

Reply from Amber Rudd: I remind the hon. and learned Lady that nothing has changed: we are still in the European Union, and those citizens still have the same rights. In terms of their ongoing rights, the Prime Minister was very clear last week when she made her speech: she said it was going to be an early priority to give them the security they seek. I would urge all colleagues here to reassure their constituents that that is our intention, and we need to make sure that it is reciprocal for UK citizens as well. ...

To read the full question and answer session see

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-01-23/debates/1916CED0-74A5-41EA-B4A6-3C32EE9AD3F1/ImmigrationRules>

Migration

Laurence Robertson: How many foreign students from (a) EU and (b) non-EU countries were included as part of the net migration figures in the last 12 months for which figures are available. [908293]

Reply from the Minister for Immigration (Robert Goodwill): Long-term migration statistics are produced by the independent Office for National Statistics. The most recent figures estimate that in the year ending June 2016, 113,000 non-EU nationals came to the UK to study; in that same year, 45,000 non-EU nationals who were former students left. For EU nationals, the corresponding figures are 34,000 and 18,000 respectively.

Laurence Robertson: I thank the Minister for that detailed response. I accept that students are classified as immigrants internationally, but when the immigration figures are published, would it not be a good idea to state how many of the people in the figures are students bringing money to this country?

Reply from Robert Goodwill: I can confirm to my hon. Friend that these statistics are produced and presented by the ONS, and that figures for students are clearly identified separately within those statistics.

Martyn Day: This Government's immigration policies are separating rather than uniting families because of the ridiculous financial thresholds and restrictive rules on evidence of financial support. When will these rules be changed to support the real needs of family units? [908298]

Reply from Robert Goodwill: It is certainly very important for family reunification, particularly for spouses, that rules are in place to ensure that these people are not a burden on the taxpayer. Indeed, the levels set are such that if there were a separate figure for Scotland, it would be higher, given that average incomes in Scotland are higher than those in the UK overall.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-01-23/debates/9E068E8F-5009-4F91-A444-66205BF6D781/Migration#contribution-C286BF38-C23B-4DA7-B5AD-AB452DDE69FB>

Vulnerable Syrian Families

Helen Whately: What progress the Government have made on placing vulnerable Syrian families in the UK. [908281]

Reply from the Minister for Security (Ben Wallace): The resettlement programme is on track to deliver the commitment to resettle 20,000 vulnerable Syrians during this Parliament. Between the start of October 2015 and the end of September 2016, 4,162 people have been resettled under the Syrian vulnerable persons resettlement scheme across 175 different local authorities.

Helen Whately: My constituents have been deeply moved by the refugee crisis and have

asked me what they can do to help. I welcome the launch last year of the community sponsorship scheme. Will my hon. Friend update the House on the scheme's progress and what more he is doing to harness the generosity of the British people?

Reply from Ben Wallace: The community sponsorship scheme was launched on 19 July 2016. The scheme embodies the commitment that the Prime Minister made when she was Home Secretary to allow individuals, charities, faith groups, churches and businesses to support refugees. My hon. Friend's constituents are, indeed, part of that generous giving, because they want to help some very vulnerable people. A "help refugees in the UK" webpage has been developed to make it easier for any member of the public to support refugees in the UK, and to allow local authorities to focus support on the goods and services that refugees need.

Rob Marris: Those from Syria and elsewhere who are granted refugee status can apply for immediate family members to join them here. Since the Home Office stopped funding DNA tests for such relatives, refusals from many countries have shot up. By what date will the Home Office review on this matter have been completed and published? [908296]

Reply from Ben Wallace: The hon. Gentleman makes some valid points. I will come back to him with the exact details of the timescale, and I will help to inform him about refugees from further afield than just Syria on that scheme.

James Berry: Will the Minister congratulate councils such as Kingston Council that have come forward to host vulnerable Syrian refugees, and also the families who have done so? Will he explain that it is still the case that refugees require individual housing, rather than joining a family in an existing house, for very good reasons? Lots of these people are victims of the most terrible atrocities.

Reply from Ben Wallace: My hon. Friend makes an important point. It is important, if this scheme is to work, that people do come forward. Many local authorities and, indeed, the Scottish Government have been incredibly generous in offering support and holding out the hand of friendship. We do need more, and we need more community groups to come through. I warn hon. Members that when charities and the third sector come forward, we do the correct due diligence to enable us to ensure that very vulnerable people are given exactly the support that they need, to make sure that the scheme is sustainable.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-01-23/debates/9287D5C3-1C0F-4D0D-9D89-E73B8AAB2826/VulnerableSyrianFamilies>

Refugees: Children

Hywel Williams: The French dispersal centre, which took unaccompanied children from Calais, is set to close on 10 February. What steps is the Secretary of State taking to ensure that the cases of all children who might have a right of entry to the UK are considered before then?

Reply from Amber Rudd: ... I spoke to my new French counterpart just this morning about the actions that we are taking together to ensure that the correct assessment of the children who would like to come to the UK continues. A substantial number of centres are still open, and we still have a number of staff out there. We will be reducing our work there, as the Calais camp has largely dispersed, but we will continue to have an interest and ensure that we work closely with the French to stop a new camp coming up.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-01-23/debates/9E068E8F-5009-4F91-A444-66205BF6D781/Migration#contribution-5A5E1B2E-A03A-4907-957A-0646D19CD628>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

British Nationality

Diana Johnson [61352] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what

the Government's policy is on removing British protected person status where to do so would result in a person becoming stateless.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The UK is a signatory to the 1961 UN Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. The principle of that Convention is that statelessness should be avoided. It seeks to prevent statelessness by prohibiting the withdrawal of citizenship from the nationals of a state when doing so would result in them becoming stateless. British nationality legislation reflects this position and therefore only makes provision for British Protected Person status to be lost automatically where a person has another nationality. It can also be removed where deprivation of citizenship would be conducive to the public good and the individual would not become stateless as a result, or if the person had obtained the status through deception.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-24/61352/>

Immigration

Neil Gray [908302] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will make an assessment of the potential merits of applying different immigration rules to Scotland and other constituent parts of the UK.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Immigration remains a reserved matter and we will consider the needs of the UK as a whole.

Applying different immigration rules to different parts of the UK would complicate the immigration system, harming its integrity, and cause difficulties for employers who need the flexibility to deploy their staff to other parts of the UK.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-17/908302/>

Immigration

Steve Reed [59765] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for (a) leave to remain outside the immigration rules and (b) indefinite leave to remain have been awaiting allocation to a casework unit for over three months.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Data on UK Visas and Immigration temporary and permanent migration activities including In-Country Work In Progress Casework, and Percentage of Temporary and Permanent Migration in-country visa applications for each Route, processed within Service Standards, is published at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/temporary-and-permanent-migration-data-november-2016>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-12/59765/>

Naturalisation

Alison Thewliss [60742] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for naturalisation as a British citizen were (a) lodged, (b) granted and (c) refused in each year since 2010.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The latest available Home Office immigration statistics of British citizenship applications, grants and refusals are published in 'Immigration Statistics, July to September 2016', available from the Home Office website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-statistics> Quarterly statistics covering the period in question are held here. Data for October to December 2016 will be published on 23 February 2017.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-19/60742/>

Immigrants: Health Services

Patrick Grady [60528] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people in (a) Scotland and (b) the UK have paid the immigration health surcharge in each year for which records exist.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Information on the Immigration Health Surcharge can be found in the within the published National Audit Office annual figures, dated 28 October 2016.

<https://www.nao.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Recovering-the-cost-of-NHS-treatment-for-overseas-visitors.pdf>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-18/60528/>

Immigrants: Private Rented Housing

Stuart McDonald [60467] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many notices her Department has issued informing a landlord that an occupier is disqualified from renting (a) since and (b) prior to 1 December 2016; how many such notices were issued where that occupier was below the age of 18 in each such period; and what process she follows in carrying out her duties under section 55 of the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009 in respect of such notices being issued to a person who is (i) a child and (ii) with a child.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The residential tenancy measures in the Immigration Act 2016 came into force in England on 1 December 2016. These introduced a new offence for landlords and their agents of knowingly renting to an illegal migrant, and new powers for the Home Office to prosecute for this offence; and also introduced a new route for landlords to evict illegal migrants more quickly.

The Home Office may issue a notice to a landlord informing them that they are letting property to someone who is disqualified from renting; possession of such a notice allows the landlord to access the new eviction route. Landlords may avoid liability for prosecution by taking reasonable steps within a reasonable period of time to end the tenancy.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-17/60467/>

Visas

Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh [60175] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average length of time taken to consider an application for a UK visa was in cases where an applicant referenced Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights in each of the last three years.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: I am sorry but 'Article 8' is not a specific Visa category. To answer this question would involve individual scrutiny of every application within the period. This would incur disproportionate cost.

Overall information on work in progress and performance against service standards for UKVI and Border Force is published in the Home Office's transparency data, available at:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-16/60175/>

Visas

The following three questions all received the same answer

Deidre Brock [60882] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people arrived in the UK on Tier 1 (Investor) visas in each of the last eight years.

Deidre Brock [60883] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for Tier 1 (Investor) visas have been refused in each of the last eight

years.

Deidre Brock [60885] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people are in the UK having arrived on a Tier 1 (Investor) visa.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Information on the numbers of grants, refusals, withdrawals and lapsed cases for Tier 1 (Investor) visa applications is published quarterly, latest data in the Home Office's 'Immigration Statistics, July – September 2016', table vi_01_q (visa data tables volume 1), available here:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-july-to-september-2016/list-of-tables#visas

Information on the numbers of admissions on Tier 1 (Investor) visas is published quarterly, latest data in the Home Office's 'Immigration Statistics, July – September 2016', table ad_02_q (admissions data tables), available here:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-july-to-september-2016/list-of-tables#admissions

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-19/60882/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-19/60883/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-19/60885/>

Visas

Deidre Brock [60884] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of people who arrive in the UK on Tier 1 (Investor) visas later apply to settle; and what proportion of those later applications is successful.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The proportion of Tier 1 Investors who arrived in the UK who later applied to settle; and the proportion of those later applications that were successful cannot be obtained without exceeding proportionate cost limits. The number of Tier 1 (Investor) settlement application granted are published and are available at:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-july-to-september-2016/settlement#data-tables

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-19/60884/>

Entry Clearances: Families

Anna Turley [60226] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what criteria are used to determine whether an applicant is likely to leave the UK by the end-date of a family visitor visa.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Applications for a visa to travel to the UK to visit family are considered on their merits, in accordance with the requirements set out in Appendix V to the Immigration Rules, taking into account the information and supporting documents provided in the application.

It is for the applicant to satisfy the decision maker that they meet those requirements, including that they are a genuine visitor. A genuine visitor is a person who will leave the UK at the end of the visit, will not live in the UK for extended periods or make the UK their main home, has sufficient funds for their support during the visit and who intends to undertake permitted visit activities and not prohibited activities. The assessment of the genuineness of a visitor relates to the particular factors of the individual application, but may include the applicant's personal and economic ties to their country of residence.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-17/60226/>

Immigration: EEA Nationals

Neil Coyle [60595] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to monitor whether EEA nationals residing in the UK who are out of work or not actively seeking work for a period longer than three months have been asked to provide evidence (a) of identity and nationality of an EEA member state and (b) that they are exercising a free movement right in the UK.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: An EEA national has the right to reside in the UK for more than three months where they can demonstrate they are exercising free movement rights. Exercising such rights in this context means that they must be a worker, jobseeker, self employed, self sufficient or a student.

Newly arriving jobseekers must wait for three months before they can claim Job Seekers' Allowance (JSA) and are subject to a genuine prospect of work (GPOW) test after three months. Retained workers, those who have previously worked in the UK and left work involuntarily, are subject to the GPOW test after six months on JSA. Following a GPOW test, if an EEA national does not have a genuine prospect of work, benefits are stopped immediately and they are liable for removal from the UK.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-18/60595/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Hilary Benn [60664] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many appeals there have been against refusal of an application for permanent residence by EU nationals in each

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Available published data on EEA Free Movement appeals can be found in Table FIA.3 of the Tribunals and gender recognition statistics. These cover the period up to September 2016 and include data for allowed and dismissed appeals.

The most recent edition is available at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/tribunals-and-gender-recognition-certificate-statistics-quarterly-july-to-september-2016>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-18/60664/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Hilary Benn [60675] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for permanent residence by EU nationals living in the UK there have been in each of the last five years; and what proportion of those applications were refused.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Statistics on applications for Documents Certifying Permanent Residence issued to EEA nationals are published quarterly in table ee_02_q of the Immigration Statistics. These cover the period up to September 2016 and include data for granted and refused applications. The most recent edition (European Economic Area data tables Immigration Statistics July to September 2016) is available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/572387/eea-q3-2016-tables.ods

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-18/60675/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Hilary Benn [60676] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what average length of time is taken for her Department to process applications for permanent residency from EU nationals.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: In line with Regulation 18(1) of the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations, a document certifying permanent

residence must be issued to an EU national as soon as possible after an application and relevant documents have been submitted. The time taken to reach a decision will depend on the complexity of the case and the evidence supplied.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-18/60676/>

Immigration: EEA Nationals

Charlotte Leslie [61027] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to simplify the process for UK-resident EEA nationals and their families to apply for permanent residence status.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: We continue to make all applications quicker and easier. As part of the ongoing Home Office programme to digitise all applications for immigration routes, a service was launched in October 2016 to enable single EEA applicants to apply for permanent residence online.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-20/61027/>

Immigration: EEA Nationals

Neil Coyle [61427] To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, how many EEA migrants have been through the Genuine Prospect of Work assessment since May 2015; and how many such people have (a) had access to benefits denied and (b) been removed from the UK.

Reply from Damian Hinds: The numbers of EEA migrants who have been through the Genuine Prospect of Work assessment and had their benefit claim either ended or extended was published in August 2016 at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/548225/analysis-of-eea-migrants-access-to-income-related-benefits-measures.pdf

Information on the number of EEA migrants who have been through the Genuine Prospect of work assessment and subsequently removed from the UK is not available.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-24/61427/>

Migrant Workers: EU Nationals

Harriet Harman [60534] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the change in the number of EU citizens in the UK that will be (a) engaged in agricultural work, (b) engaged in construction work, (c) employed in the NHS and (d) employed in the UK after April 2017.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Office for National Statistics estimate around 2.3 million EU nationals resident in the UK were in employment in Q3 2016. This is included in the November 2016 edition of the ONS Labour Market Statistics publication. Estimates are subject to a degree of uncertainty.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-18/60534/>

NHS: Migrant Workers

The following two questions both received the same answer

Norman Lamb [60013] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what plans she has to extend an Immigration Skills Charge to (a) new and (b) existing NHS clinical staff recruited from the European Economic Area (EEA) in the event of the UK leaving the EEA.

Norman Lamb [60015] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what estimate she has made of the potential annual cost to the NHS of the introduction of the Immigration Skills Charge (a) from April 2017 and (b) in the event of that charge being extended to cover nationals of countries within the European Economic Area after the UK has left the EU.

Reply from Robert Halfon: The Immigration Skills Charge will be paid by UK employers recruiting workers from outside the European Economic Area (EEA) through the Tier 2 skilled worker route. There are no plans to extend the charge to employers recruiting from the European Economic Area post-Brexit.

We have not estimated the potential annual cost to the NHS of the Immigration Skills Charge. The cost to the NHS will depend on its use of the Tier 2 skilled worker route.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-16/60013/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-16/60015/>

Refugee Council

Diana Johnson [61060] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many asylum seekers received independent advice from the Refugee Council over the course of the duration of its contract with her Department; and what the average length of time was between opening and closing those cases.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Refugee Council run Children's Panel provided advice to 1,971 children in 2016. The length of time between opening and closing cases, could only be provided at disproportionate cost by examination of individual case records.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-20/61060/>

Refugees

Diana Johnson [60819] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether someone with leave to remain in the UK as a stateless person has (a) a right to work in the UK and (b) recourse to public funds.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Those granted leave to remain as a stateless person are entitled to work and have access to public funds.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-19/60819/>

Refugees

The following two questions both received the same answer

Diana Johnson [60936] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications to renew the right to stay in the UK as a stateless person were made by people who previously had the right to remain as a stateless person in each year since 2009-10; and how many of those applications were (a) accepted and (b) rejected.

Diana Johnson [60943] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications to stay in the UK as a stateless person were made in each year since 2009-10; and how many of those applications were (a) accepted and (b) rejected.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Home Office Stateless policy is designed to assist those who do not qualify for protection but are unable to return to the country of their former habitual residence because they are stateless and would not be admitted to any other country. The requirements are set out in the Immigration Rules and reflect our obligations under the 1954 UN Convention relating to the status of stateless persons.

The Home Office has released information on Stateless applications and decisions made in the response to previous parliamentary questions 50073, 50074 and 50075:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-10-25/50073/>

Additionally, the Home Office regularly shares information with UNHCR, relating to

stateless applications and decisions made. The information provided is published by UNHCR, in regular trend reports, the latest published report by UNHCR on mid year trends June 2015 can be found at link below:

<http://www.unhcr.org/uk/statistics/unhcrstats/56701b969/mid-year-trends-june-2015.html>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-19/60936/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-19/60943/>

Refugees

Diana Johnson [60942] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for stateless person travel documents have been made in each year since 2009-10; and how many of those applications were (a) accepted and (b) rejected.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The number of travel documents granted is available in the TD_01: Travel Documents, Applications Raised and Despatched tab of the quarterly Asylum Transparency Data Tables, which are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-19/60942/>

Refugees: Children

Diana Johnson [61055] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 31 October 2016 to Question 49716, what further progress has been made by her Department in processing refugee family reunion applications for unaccompanied children in France with family ties in the UK; and how many family reunion applications (a) are still outstanding and (b) were closed without a decision being made because the applicant went missing.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: As part of the UK's support for the Calais camp clearance, we welcomed more than 750 children to the UK. Many have been reunited with family members already in the UK, while others are being cared for by local authorities across the UK.

We supported the French in their efforts to move all children from the camp in Calais to safe alternative accommodation across France. Home Office staff, interpreters and social workers visited the specialist centres in France to carry out the necessary assessments and we interviewed all children who were present in the specialist centres at the time they visited. The phase of the Calais operation immediately following the dismantling of the camps has concluded, barring a few outstanding cases which are still being considered for transfer.

There is no application process under the Dublin Regulation, which determines the Member State responsible for processing an asylum claim. We will continue to meet our obligations under the Dublin Regulation and accept responsibility for processing asylum claims where the UK is determined to be the responsible Member State.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-20/61055/>

The answer referred to in the question above can be read at

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-10-20/49716/>

Refugees: Children

Diana Johnson [61056] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to her oral contribution of 10 October 2016, Official Report, column 25, whether her Department transferred all the minors from the Calais camp within days of the

demolition of that facility.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Calais camp clearance was a French-led operation and the UK worked closely with the French authorities to support the process of transferring children out of the camp quickly and safely.

Almost 200 minors were transferred from the Calais camp to the UK between 10 October and the start of the clearance operation on 24 October. The Home Office worked with the French Government to ensure that suitable accommodation was provided for all minors during the operation.

Home Office officials worked at pace, whilst carrying out the proper safeguarding, age assessment and security checks, working closely with local authorities and social workers here in the UK to ensure that where it was in their best interests, eligible children were transferred to the UK as soon as possible.

Since 10 October 2016, more than 750 children have arrived. This is in line with the commitments made by the Home Secretary to Parliament on 24 October.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-20/61056/>

The Ministerial comment referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-10-10/debates/9D71E865-0139-40CC-83FC-EF8556FDCEE1/CalaisJungle#contribution-68CE9706-61F8-41E4-8E24-40DF991E4B88>

Refugees: Children

Catherine West [57969] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what plans he has to allocate funding to local authorities to support (a) the mental health of child refugees and (b) those child refugees diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder.

Reply from Marcus Jones: The Government has committed £129 million to assist with local authority costs over years two-five of the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement scheme. This is allocated on a tariff basis over four years, tapering from £5,000 in year two to £3,700 in year three, to £2,300 in year four and £1,000 in year five. This is in addition to the first 12 months of a refugee's resettlement costs, which are funded by central government using the Official Development Assistance budget.

The grant to local authorities is not ring fenced, and can be used for example towards support for costs such as counselling, social care and other needs. Funding payments (per individual refugee) can be pooled and managed across all the refugees a local authority takes in.

For unaccompanied asylum seeking children, local authorities receive a daily rate towards the costs of care.

Refugees and unaccompanied asylum seeking children also have access to health and education services, which are funded through the normal per capita funding routes. The Government is investing £1.4 billion over the lifetime of this Parliament to drive improvement and support significant transformation in children and young people's mental health so that there is easy access to the right support from the right service when it is needed. Specifically, this includes £1.4 million in 2016/17 followed by £2.8 million annually, for the following three years, targeted at improved mental health support for the most vulnerable looked-after children and young people, those who are looked-after in secure children's homes.

We have also established an independent Expert Working Group to develop care pathways to support an integrated approach to meeting the needs of looked-after children with mental health difficulties. In November 2016 we announced that we will be piloting, from spring, how mental health can be better assessed as part of the health assessment for looked-after children entering care.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-12-15/57969/>

Refugees: Children

David Davies [58821] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether any of the child refugees who were brought to the UK from Calais in 2016 have been subsequently assessed as being over the age of 18.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Home Office publish the number of age dispute cases raised and resolved for asylum claimants in the Immigration Statistics release each quarter, in table 10 q:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/572377/asylum3-q3-2016-tables.ods

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-06/58821/>

Refugees: Children

The following two questions both received the same answer

Andrew Smith [60279] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what progress is being made on providing sanctuary for refugee children currently in France, Greece and Italy.

Edward Vaizey [60307] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what progress has been made on the implementation of the Dubs amendment to bring unaccompanied child refugees in Europe into the UK.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: In 2016, we transferred over 900 unaccompanied asylum-seeking children to the UK from Europe, including more than 750 from France as part of the UK's support for the Calais camp clearance. Approximately 200 of these children met the criteria for section 67 of the Immigration Act.

More eligible children will be transferred from Europe, in line with the terms of the Immigration Act, in the coming months and we will continue to meet our obligations under the Dublin Regulation. In addition to our long standing secondee in Italy, we have seconded an expert to Greece who has been working closely with UNHCR, IOM and the Greek authorities to identify potentially eligible children under section 67 of the Immigration Act and support transfers under the Dublin Regulation.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-17/60279/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-17/60307/>

Refugees: Children

The following two questions both received the same answer

Daniel Zeichner [60292] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016, at what date unaccompanied child refugees will arrive in Cambridge.

Daniel Zeichner [60294] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the average time taken to accommodate unaccompanied child refugees in the areas of local authorities that have offered to do so.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Government has, and continues to, work closely with partners within the UK and across Europe to ensure the timely and effective transfer of children to the UK under the Dublin Regulation and section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016. The date on which an unaccompanied child refugee arrives in a local authority will depend on both when the child is brought to the UK, which will be agreed with the country in which they currently reside, and on the availability of a placement in the local authority that has agreed to participate in the National Transfer Scheme.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-17/60292/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-17/60294/>

Refugees: Children

Daniel Zeichner [60293] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of how many unaccompanied child refugees will be brought to the UK in 2017.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: We will continue to meet our obligations under the Dublin Regulation and more unaccompanied children will be transferred to the UK under section 67 of the Immigration Act in the coming months. An announcement will be made in due course on the total number of children to be transferred to the UK under the Immigration Act.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-17/60293/>

Refugees: Children

Geoffrey Cox [60619] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to assist unaccompanied refugee children in (a) France and (b) other European countries.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: In 2016, we transferred over 900 unaccompanied asylum-seeking children to the UK from Europe, including more than 750 from France as part of the UK's support for the Calais camp clearance. Approximately 200 of these children met the criteria for section 67 of the Immigration Act.

More eligible children will be transferred from Europe, in line with the terms of the Immigration Act, in the coming months and we will continue to meet our obligations under the Dublin Regulation.

In addition to our long standing secondee in Italy, we have seconded an expert to Greece who has been working closely with UNHCR, IOM and the Greek authorities to identify potentially eligible children under section 67 of the Immigration Act and support transfers under the Dublin Regulation.

The Government has also established a £10 million Refugee Children Fund to support the needs of vulnerable refugee and migrant children arriving in Europe.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-18/60619/>

Refugees: Children

The following two questions both received the same answer

Heidi Allen [61210] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what progress her Department has made on determining the eligibility criteria for children in Greece and Italy to be considered for transfer to the UK under the Dublin Regulations and section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016.

Heidi Allen [61273] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will confirm when the first transfers of unaccompanied refugee children from Greece and Italy will arrive in the UK under the Dubs amendment; how many children the Government plans to transfer to the UK under that amendment; and when she plans for the programme of transfers to the UK under that amendment to end.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: In 2016, we transferred over 900 unaccompanied children to the UK from Europe, including more than 750 from France. Approximately 200 of these children met the criteria for section 67 of the Immigration Act.

We have seconded an expert to Greece to support efforts to transfer children from Greece under the Dublin Regulation and section 67 of the Immigration Act. Our secondee has been working closely with UNHCR, IOM and the Greek authorities to identify potentially eligible children and put in place a process to transfer

children to the UK where it is in their best interests. We have a long standing secondee in Italy who is based in the Italian Dublin Unit and supports the effective functioning of the Dublin Regulation between the UK and Italy.

More eligible children will be transferred from Europe, in line with the terms of the Immigration Act, in the coming months. The Government will specify the number to be transferred, the process, and the criteria for further transfers under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 in due course.

The Government will continue to meet our obligations under the Dublin Regulation. We are not required to publish eligibility criteria for transfers under the Dublin Regulation, as these are set out within the Regulation.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-23/61210/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-23/61273/>

Refugees: Children

Mike Wood [61245] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent progress the Government has made in accepting into the UK from other EU countries unaccompanied children claiming asylum from Syria.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: In 2016, we transferred over 900 unaccompanied children to the UK from Europe, including more than 750 from France. Approximately 200 of these children met the criteria for section 67 of the Immigration Act.

Under section 67 of the Immigration Act in France, we considered all those aged 12 and under, all children referred to us by the French authorities assessed as being at a high risk of sexual exploitation, and those nationalities most likely to qualify for refugee status in the UK, aged 15 or below, including Syrian nationals. All children, including Syrian nationals, who have close family in the UK were considered for transfer under the Dublin Regulation, regardless of age or nationality.

More eligible children will be transferred from Europe, in line with the terms of the Immigration Act, in the coming months and we will continue to meet our obligations under the Dublin Regulation. The process and criteria for the transfer of children from Europe under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 will be published in due course.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-23/61245/>

Refugees: Children

Hywel Williams [908297] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what progress her Department has made on bringing vulnerable refugee children to the UK.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: In 2016, we transferred over 900 unaccompanied asylum-seeking children to the UK from Europe. More children will be transferred under the Immigration Act and we will continue to meet our obligations under the Dublin Regulation.

Outside of Europe, approximately half of the 4,400 Syrians resettled under the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement scheme are children, and we will resettle up to 3,000 vulnerable children and their families to the UK by the end of this Parliament.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-17/908297/>

Asylum

Caroline Lucas [60384] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department,

pursuant to the Answer of 16 January 2017 to Question 59797, if she will make it her policy to publish data on cases covered by the Dublin Regulation.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: We are currently considering options for the publication of data related to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children transferred to the UK under the Dublin Regulation and the criteria for section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016, in line with the Immigration Minister and Minister for Vulnerable Children and Families' Written Ministerial Statement (WMS) dated the 1 November 2016.

The WMS can be found here:

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Lords/2016-11-01/HLWS231/>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-17/60384/>

The answer referred to in the above question can be read at

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-12/59797/>

Asylum

Roger Godsiff [60854] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, which Minister in which Department has principal responsibility for (a) refugees outside and (b) asylum seekers inside the UK.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: I am responsible for the policy and operations related to asylum seekers and refugees inside the UK.

The primary responsibility for refugees outside the UK rests with the host country within which they are residing. UNHCR is mandated to lead and co-ordinate international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Home Office and Department for International Development work closely on matters affecting refugees outside the UK. UNHCR received a total of £168m from the Department for International Development during 2015/16. The UK has pledged £2.3 billion in humanitarian aid to Syria and neighbouring countries to further support vulnerable people and refugees. We are also providing £70 million in response to the Mediterranean migration crisis, and delivering a number of resettlement schemes.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-19/60854/>

Asylum: Finance

Shabana Mahmood [59326] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many asylum seekers in receipt of section 95 support there were in the third quarter of 2016 in (a) each nation, (b) each region in England, (c) each local authority area and (d) Birmingham, Ladywood constituency.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Home Office publishes quarterly figures on the number of asylum seekers housed in dispersed accommodation, including under Section 95, by local authority in the Immigration Statistics release, in table as_16q and 17q in volume 4 of the Asylum data tables. These are available at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-july-to-september-2016/list-of-tables#asylum>.

Figures on the number of those accommodated under Section 95 by constituency could only be provided at disproportionate cost.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-10/59326/>

Asylum: Females

Kirsten Oswald [60513] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the level of gender-based and sexual violence experienced

by women and girls held in transit on journeys to seek asylum in the UK.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: We recognise that those who travel illegally to seek asylum in the UK are vulnerable to exploitation and at risk of harm in transit, including from gender-based and sexual violence.

That is why those who need protection should claim asylum in the first safe country they reach – as that is the fastest route to safety. We provide safe and legal routes to the UK through our resettlement schemes and family reunion provisions.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-18/60513/>

Undocumented Migrants

Stuart McDonald [60411] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what information her Department holds on the number of undocumented migrants who have (a) left the UK voluntarily, (b) been made homeless and (c) occupied unsuitable or dangerous accommodation as a result of their being unable to access the private rented sector due to the provisions of the right to rent scheme.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: As with right to work checks, the Right to Rent scheme is predicated on checks being carried out by third parties (in this case landlords and lettings agents). This means that the majority of illegal migrant prospective tenants will be denied access to the private rented sector as a result of these checks with no intervention by enforcement officers or reference to the Home Office.

Monitoring of the effects of the Right to Rent scheme on landlords and tenants is ongoing through the expert Landlords Consultative Panel, co-chaired by the Immigration Minister and Lord Best, an acknowledged expert in the fields of housing and planning. The Panel comprises bodies representing landlords, lettings agents, housing charities, local authorities and the Equality and Human Rights Commission amongst others. The Panel meets periodically, and communication channels outside these meetings allow for reporting by private rented sector and third sector groups of the experience of those they represent.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-17/60411/>

Human Trafficking

Edward Garnier [58541] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many compensation awards of what amount were made to victims related to each of the 30 convictions for human trafficking recorded in 2015.

Reply from Phillip Lee: Data relating to compensation awarded in respect of convictions for human trafficking in 2015 can be found in the “outcomes by offence” data tool table contained in the annual Criminal Justice Statistics publication, linked below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/criminal-justice-system-statistics-quarterly-december-2015>

No defendants convicted in 2015 were ordered by the court to pay compensation for the offences of human trafficking for non-sexual exploitation and human trafficking for sexual exploitation.

Under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme 2012, compensation may be paid to victims of violent crime. However, these payments are on the basis of injury sustained and not related to criminal proceedings: the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority which administers the scheme does not keep records based on convictions, and so cannot provide figures for the number of compensation payments made to victims of human trafficking.

The Government has introduced provisions for bespoke Slavery and Trafficking Reparation Orders in the Modern Slavery Act 2015. These orders are designed to

ensure that more money confiscated from convicted traffickers goes directly to their victims.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-12-20/58541/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

Child Migrants: Italy

The Lord Bishop of Durham: To ask Her Majesty's Government, in the light of recent analysis by UNICEF of the growth in the number of unaccompanied child migrants to Italy, what measures they are taking under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 to relocate child refugees from Italy to the United Kingdom.

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Williams of Trafford): My Lords, in 2016 we transferred more than 900 unaccompanied asylum-seeking children to the UK from Europe. More children will be transferred under the Immigration Act and we will continue to meet our obligations under the Dublin regulation. We have a long-standing secondee in Italy, who is based in the Italian Dublin unit. We will announce in due course the process and criteria for transferring more children to the UK from Europe.

The Lord Bishop of Durham: ... During 2016, 25,800 unaccompanied and separated children arrived in Italy. The UK took only three from Italy during 2016. Would the Minister confirm that, in future, the vulnerability of the child, and in particular the danger of exploitation and trafficking, will continue to be the central criteria, and that there will be a strong enough team in both Italy and Greece for future transfers?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, the right reverend Prelate is absolutely right to raise the issue of vulnerability, which has always been paramount in the Government's consideration of children, particularly unaccompanied children, who are travelling to this country—and not only that but their vulnerability when they arrive here. As he will know, the Government, through a Written Ministerial Statement, are committed to publishing a strategy for safeguarding unaccompanied asylum-seeking and refugee children in England.

On the capacity in Italy that the right reverend Prelate asked about, yes, we have a long-standing secondee there—and NGOs such as the UNHCR and IOM are present there. In addition to that, they are part of the EU relocation scheme.

Lord Alton of Liverpool: My Lords, given that the Minister has said that vulnerability is the paramount question in the Government's mind, what progress has been made on the 10,000 children that Europol said had disappeared on the continent and the reports in the British press that some 360 children had disappeared here—as the right reverend Prelate said, almost certainly into the hands of traffickers and people who will use them for the purposes of exploitation?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, the question of children who have disappeared here has been brought up previously in your Lordships' House and, if we ever get any information or reports of such things, obviously we will follow them up. To date we have not had representation from local authorities or the police that this is the case. As for intervening in other countries where children may have disappeared, as I have said before at this Dispatch Box, while a child is in another country they are the responsibility of that jurisdiction. We are there to help and we will help when asked, but we cannot unilaterally take these things into our hands. ...

To read the full question and answer session see

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2017-01-25/debates/EA195F28-3E16-4D71-985F-F761E4E706BA/ChildMigrantsItaly>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Pupils: English Language

Baroness Afshar [HL4587] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the answer by Lord Nash on 11 January about the risk to children in unrecognised school settings or receiving home education, what specific measures are taken to help children who come from households where English is not spoken.

Reply from Lord Nash: The Government supports children from homes where English is not spoken in a number of ways. At present, it is up to local authorities to decide whether to include English as an Additional Language (EAL) as a factor in the local formulae for funding schools. 136 used an EAL factor in the current year, with per pupil values ranging from below £100 to over £3000. However, in our proposals for the National Funding Formula, currently under consultation, we have proposed that all children with EAL will attract an additional £515 (primary) or £1385 (secondary) to their school, for the first 3 years after they enter the state system, wherever they are in the country. This is proposed to come in from 2018-19.

Where children are educating at home instead of in school, parents who educate a child at home must provide a full-time education suitable to the child's age, ability and aptitudes, and it is likely that such an education would need to include lessons in English to meet that requirement.

The Government also supports training for adults in English for Speakers of Other Language (ESOL): to enable unemployed people on benefits to get the skills they need to get into and stay in work; to support the integration of long-standing migrant communities and particularly those individuals most at risk of isolation from services and wider society; and to support refugees, especially Syrians, to resettle in the UK. DfE funds ESOL training through the Adult Education Budget, which is allocated to providers annually by the Skills Funding Agency. In 2015-16 just under £100m was devoted to ESOL provision.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-11/HL4587/>

Migration Impacts Fund

Lord Hylton [HL4660] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will organise a national evaluation of the work of the Migration Impact Fund from 2009 to 2011, and publish lessons learned from that evaluation, with particular reference to their proposed Controlling Migration Fund.

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: The Controlling Migration Fund is a new fund focussing on delivering a benefit to the local population. Local authorities know their areas best, and the Controlling Migration Fund is designed to allow them to identify where migration is causing pressures, and to come forward with effective solutions. We are committed to reviewing the local services element of the Controlling Migration Fund in 2017/18. There are no plans to evaluate the Migration Impacts Fund, a separate Fund which closed in October 2010 beyond the assessment made at the time that it was ineffective and inefficient.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-16/HL4660/>

Immigration

The following four questions all received the same answer

Baroness Hayter of Kentish Town [HL4395] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they plan to review the application form, and process, for applying for UK residency status.

Baroness Hayter of Kentish Town [HL4396] To ask Her Majesty's Government how

many applications for UK residency status were (1) received, and (2) granted, in (a) 2014, (b) 2015, and (c) 2016.

Baroness Hayter of Kentish Town [HL4397] To ask Her Majesty's Government what is the breakdown by nationality of the people (1) applying for, and (2) granted, UK residency status in (a) 2014, (b) 2015, and (c) 2016.

Baroness Hayter of Kentish Town [HL4398] To ask Her Majesty's Government what were the main categories of reason for rejecting applications for UK residency in (1) 2014, (2) 2015, and (3) 2016.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: UK Visas & Immigration have introduced online application forms for EEA nationals applying for registration certificates and documents certifying permanent residence. There has been no change to the rights and status of EU nationals in the UK as a result of the referendum. As such there is no requirement to register for documentation to confirm their status.

The relevant figures for the number of applications received decided by EEA nationals and their family members seeking confirmation of a right of residence in the UK under the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2006 between 2014 and September 2016 are shown on Table 1 in the attached table. As yet, there are no published figures for October to December 2016.

[Residency Applications Table](#)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-09/HL4395/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-09/HL4396/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-09/HL4397/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-09/HL4398/>

Overseas Students: Boarding Schools

Lord Lansley [HL4785] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether a child attending a UK boarding school from overseas is regarded as habitually resident in the UK if they return home outside term-time.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Whether a child has habitual residence in the UK is a question of fact to be determined depending on the child's individual circumstances. While the arrangements for a child at a UK boarding school both during term time and during holiday periods will be relevant to the assessment, it is not possible to determine from this alone where the child's habitual residence lies. A decision must be made on a case by case basis.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-18/HL4785/>

Entry Clearances

Lord Laird [HL4561] To ask Her Majesty's Government why the decision has been taken not to publish the annual number of immigration entry clearance visas granted to (1) licensed sponsoring employers, and (2) educational establishments, in the UK.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I am sorry but we cannot publish the annual number of immigration entry clearance visas granted to licensed sponsors and educational establishments in the UK due to commercial sensitivity, data protection and costs.

Entry clearance visas are not granted to sponsoring employers or sponsoring educational establishments, but to individuals. Information relating to individual

sponsors would be commercially sensitive and could inadvertently disclose individuals. Further, releasing such information could cause commercial damage to the sponsoring organisation.

Matching data between licensed organisations and individuals recorded on case working systems overseas and in the UK is not automatic and would incur disproportionate cost. However total numbers of entry clearance visas granted under Tiers 2, 4 and 5 are already published as part of the regular quarterly Immigration statistics available from the .GOV.UK website.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-10/HL4561/>

Entry Clearances: Overseas Students

Lord Lansley [HL4784] To ask Her Majesty's Government what is the average time taken to process an application for a Tier 4 child visa.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The global average processing time for Tier 4 child visas for the last three years is set out in the table below:

| Year Resolved | Avg Processing Time (in working days) |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| January – December 2014 | 8.24 |
| January – December 2015 | 7.41 |
| January – September 2016 | 6.45 |

These statistics have been taken from a live operational database. As such, numbers may change as information on that system is updated.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-18/HL4784/>

Visas

The following two questions both received the same answer

Lord Wallace of Saltaire [HL4438] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many Tier 1 (Investor) visa applications were rejected between 2008 and 2015.

Lord Wallace of Saltaire [HL4439] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many Tier 1 (Investor) visa applications have been rejected since the tightening of conditions for acceptance in 2014–15.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Information on the numbers of grants, refusals, withdrawals and lapsed cases for Tier 1 (Investor) visa applications is published quarterly, latest data in the Home Office's 'Immigration Statistics, July – September 2016', table vi_01_q (visa data tables volume 1), available from the GOV.UK website and attached to this answer.

[Entry Clearance Visa Applications](#)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-09/HL4438/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-09/HL4439/>

Visas

Lord Hylton [HL4716] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many visas for family reunion in the UK were issued in 2016 for (1) children, and (2) adult women; and how many such applications were rejected in that year.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Home Office regularly publishes statistics on family reunion applications (the latest of which as published in December 2016 and can be found:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-july-to-september-2016>

Beyond this, we are unable to provide a breakdown of the statistics by age/gender in the manner requested. In order to do so, the department would have to

interrogate individual case records, at disproportionate cost.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-17/HL4716/>

Refugees: Syria

Lord Roberts of Llandudno [HL4677] To ask Her Majesty's Government which department has overall responsibility for ensuring that 20,000 refugees from Syria are accepted into the UK by May 2020.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Refugee Resettlement Programme is responsible for ensuring that 20,000 refugees from Syria are resettled in the UK by 2020. The programme is the joint responsibility of the Home Office, the Department for Communities and Local Government and the Department for International Development.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-16/HL4677/>

Refugees: Syria

Lord Pearson of Rannoch [HL4764] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 29 November 2016 (HL2733), why they will not be publishing the religious and ethnic breakdown of those resettled under the Syrian vulnerable person resettlement programme.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The refugees that we are bringing to the United Kingdom are very vulnerable people. Our prime concern is their safety and protection as they arrive in this country. We believe that one way to protect their privacy and ensure their recovery and integration is to limit the amount of information about them that we make publicly available.

In resettlement the UK works according to the humanitarian principles of impartiality and neutrality - which means that we do not take into consideration the ethno-religious origins of people requiring assistance as we resettle solely on the basis of needs, identified by UNHCR. We therefore do not believe it is appropriate to publish a religious and ethnic breakdown of those who have been resettled.

Notwithstanding this the Home Office is committed to publishing data on arrivals in an orderly way as part of the regular quarterly Immigration Statistics, in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-18/HL4764/>

Refugees: English Language

Lord Hylton [HL4506] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they intend to increase the £10 million allotted to teaching English to Syrian refugees in Britain; and whether they will extend the scope of the programme to include resettled refugees of all origins.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The £10 million funding being rolled out to provide additional ESOL lessons to Syrians on the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement (VPR) scheme is also intended to help those who arrive in the UK under the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement (VCR) scheme which is for children and their families from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. English language tuition also forms part of the support package provided to beneficiaries of the Gateway Protection Programme.

Other adults who are granted refugee status or humanitarian protection become eligible for government skills funding as any other UK resident and are not subject to the normal 3 year qualifying period.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-10/HL4506/>

Refugees: Employment

Lord Hylton [HL4507] To ask Her Majesty's Government what conclusions they have drawn from the pilot schemes to enable resettled refugees to obtain employment; and whether they will publicise best practice from the pilot schemes and other work by non-governmental organisations relating to the integration of refugees into British society.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: A pilot project to support those resettled under the VPRS and VCRS into employment is being established in Yorkshire and Humber. This pilot is based on a small private project that has been running, entirely independent of Government funding, in Bradford. A further pilot project to support those wishing to start their own small businesses is also underway: a number of families have been helped in Scotland, and preparations are in place for a second location in England. Any learning from the experience of the VPRS or the VCRS would be considered to inform our approach to the integration for refugees who arrive in the UK by other means.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-10/HL4507/>

Refugees: Children

Lord Hylton [HL4400] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the recommendations in December 2016 by Save the Children and UNICEF concerning the situation of child refugees in France, Italy and Greece, and, in particular, the case for improving family reunion rules.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: We welcome the recognition from Save the Children and UNICEF that the Government has made progress in facilitating the transfer of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children to the UK, and we will consider the recommendations made when developing future policy in this area.

In 2016, we welcomed over 900 unaccompanied asylum-seeking children to the UK, including more than 750 from France as part of the UK's support for the Calais camp clearance - almost half of the unaccompanied children who were in the camp at the time of the clearance.

We continue to work closely with partners across Europe to ensure the timely and efficient operation of the Dublin Regulation, including the family reunification provisions. We have seconded experts to France and Greece, and we have a long-standing secondee in Italy to support the work on unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in Europe.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-09/HL4400/>

Refugees: Children

Lord Hylton [HL4504] To ask Her Majesty's Government what action they intend to take following the message by His Holiness Pope Francis on 8 September 2016 for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees on 15 January, in particular for the benefit of children.

Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government acknowledges the importance of the message of His Holiness Pope Francis and the UK remains fully committed to playing our part in supporting refugees and tackling the migration crisis.

From the outset of the crisis the UK has pushed for a comprehensive approach that focuses on the root causes of migration and has called for more action in source and transit countries to disrupt the smuggling networks, to improve local capacity to control borders, and to support sustainable livelihoods, both for people living there and for refugees. It is essential that we take action to support individuals affected by conflict in their region of origin, and do not encourage people to risk their lives by making dangerous journeys to Europe. This is why the Government has established the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme, which will resettle up to 3,000 individuals from the Middle East and North Africa

region by the end of this Parliament. This is in addition to our commitment to resettle 20,000 Syrians to the UK over the same time period. So far over 4,400 have arrived in the UK, around half of whom are children.

The Government has committed £2.3 billion to the Syria crisis, over £70 million in response to the wider Mediterranean migration crisis, and we have established a £10 million Refugee Children Fund for Europe to support the needs of vulnerable refugee and migrant children arriving in Europe. In 2016, we also transferred over 900 unaccompanied asylum seeking children from within Europe to the UK. The Government recognises the particular vulnerabilities of child migrants and victims of modern slavery. This is why the Home Secretary launched in October 2016 a £3 million Child Trafficking Protection Fund aimed at reducing vulnerability to exploitation and victim support and recovery.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-10/HL4504/>

Refugees: Children

The following two questions both received the same answer

Lord Dubs [HL4612] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will extend the eligibility criteria to enter the UK for child refugees in France to those child refugees currently in Greece and Italy.

Lord Dubs [HL4613] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many child refugees have come to the UK under (1) the Dublin III Regulation, and (2) section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: In 2016, we welcomed over 900 unaccompanied asylum-seeking children to the UK, including more than 750 from France as part of the UK's support for the Calais camp clearance - almost half of the unaccompanied children who were in the camp at the time of the clearance. Approximately 200 of these children met the criteria for section 67 of the Immigration Act.

More eligible children will be transferred from Europe, in line with the terms of the Immigration Act, in the coming months and we will continue to meet our obligations under the Dublin Regulation. The process and criteria for the transfer of children from Europe under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 will be published in due course.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-12/HL4612/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-12/HL4613/>

Refugees: Children

Lord Hylton [HL4719] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 10 January (HL4174), whether they will publish responses to the reports by (1) Help Refugees, *Life for the Children of the Calais Jungle Post Eviction – An Uncertain Future*, published on 15 December 2016, and (2) the Oasis Foundation, *A Moral Imperative: The UK's Response to Unaccompanied Child Refugees*.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: There are no plans to publish responses to these reports. The primary responsibility for unaccompanied children in Europe lies with the authorities in the country in which children are present. However, we continue to work with European and international partners to reach a solution to the migration crisis and the UK has contributed significantly to hosting, supporting and protecting the most vulnerable children.

The Government has established a £10 million Refugee Children Fund to support the needs of vulnerable refugee and migrant children arriving in Europe and in the year ending September 2016, we granted asylum or another form of leave to over

8,000 children in the UK. In 2016 as a whole, we transferred over 900 unaccompanied asylum seeking children from within Europe to the UK. More eligible children will be transferred from Europe under the Immigration Act 2016 in the coming months and we will continue to meet our obligations under the Dublin Regulation to reunite asylum seeking children with their close families.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-17/HL4719/>

The answer referred to in the above question can be read at

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-12-15/HL4174/>

The reports referred to in the above question can be read at

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/mc1qtfz8h2wx561/AAAof4FQGk50uEF9p6labj3Ha?dl=0&preview=Uncertain+Future+Report.pdf>

and

[https://oasis.foundation/sites/foundation.dd/files/Oasis%20Foundation%20Child%20Refugees%20Report%20\(003\).pdf](https://oasis.foundation/sites/foundation.dd/files/Oasis%20Foundation%20Child%20Refugees%20Report%20(003).pdf)

Refugees: Children

Lord Roberts of Llandudno [HL4862] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 17 January (HL4525), whether the 200 children referred to were not eligible to be transferred to the UK under the Dublin Regulation.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: In 2016, we transferred over 900 unaccompanied children to the UK from Europe, including more than 750 from France. Approximately 200 of these children met the criteria for section 67 of the Immigration Act.

Based on the assessments undertaken by Home Office teams working in France, these cases were not eligible for transfer to the UK under the Dublin Regulation.

Transfers under the Dublin Regulation will not form part of the overall number to be transferred under section 67 of the Immigration Act.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-23/HL4862/>

The answer referred to in the above question can be read at

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-10/HL4525/>

Asylum: Children in Care

Lord Porter of Spalding [HL4519] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the special thematic report by the Association of Directors of Children's Services' *Safeguarding Pressures Phase 5*, on unaccompanied asylum seeking and refugee children published on 3 November 2016, and of its finding that the higher funding rates available from 1 July 2016 are not sufficient to meet the full costs of caring for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government significantly increased the funding provided to local authorities looking after Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) in July 2016. These rates are based on a detailed analysis of financial information sent to the Home Office by local authorities about their actual cost of caring for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children. That analysis showed the average cost across all local authorities of looking after an Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Child aged under 16 was approximately £41,610 per annum and the average cost of supporting those aged 16 and 17 was approximately £33,215 per annum. The Government has made additional funding available for local authorities through the Controlling Migration Fund.

We have committed to regularly review the rates and will work with the Local Government Association, the Association of Directors of Children's Services and local authorities to ensure their views form part of that review.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-10/HL4519/>

The report referred to in the answer above can be read at

http://adcs.org.uk/assets/documentation/ADCS_Safeguarding_Pressures_P5_REPORT_Web_FINAL.pdf

Asylum: Children in Care

Lord Roberts of Llandudno [HL4526] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many local authorities have participated in the National Transfer Scheme; and how many unaccompanied asylum-seeking children have been transferred under the scheme since it began on 1 July 2016.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The National Transfer Scheme (NTS) was launched to ensure a more equitable distribution of unaccompanied asylum seeking children, and all regions of England are now participating. The response from local authorities has been positive so far and we continue to engage with local authorities across the UK to encourage more to participate so that the scheme can continue to achieve its aims of transferring unaccompanied children away from local authorities who are caring for a disproportionate number.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-10/HL4526/>

Asylum: Children in Care

Lord Roberts of Llandudno [HL4584] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the Home Office funding to local authorities in respect of the costs of supporting unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASCs) is available irrespective of whether a UASC is housed in local authority or private accommodation.

Baroness Williams of Trafford: Home Office funding is available for unaccompanied asylum seeking children who are being looked after by local authorities because there is not a suitable adult to care for them.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-11/HL4584/>

Human Trafficking

Lord Smith of Hindhead [HL4963] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many people were identified as potentially trafficked through the National Referral Mechanism in each year between 2010 and 2015.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The table below shows the number of individuals referred to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) in the UK as potential victims of modern slavery and human trafficking, between 2010 and 2015. The NRM is the UK's identification and support mechanism for potential victims of modern slavery.

| Year | Number of potential victims referred to NRM |
|-------------|--|
| 2010 | 714 |
| 2011 | 946 |
| 2012 | 1,186 |
| 2013 | 1,746 |
| 2014 | 2,340 |
| 2015 | 3,266 |

A breakdown of referrals is available from published NRM statistics on the National Crime Agency website and can be found here:

www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/national-referral-mechanism-statistics

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-24/HL4963/>

Press Releases

MSPs investigate destitution amongst asylum seekers

<http://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/103223.aspx>

Tighten fingerprinting safeguards for migrant children, suggests FRA

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2017/tighten-fingerprinting-safeguards-migrant-children-suggests-fra>

New Publications

Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) report: assessing labour market shortages – a methodology update

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/586110/2017_01_26_MAC_report_Assessing_Labour_Market_Shortages.pdf

Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) report: Partial review of the Shortage Occupation List Migration Advisory Committee January 2017 – Review of teachers

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/585998/2017_01_26_MAC_report_teachers_SOL.pdf

Independent Family Returns Panel report 2014-16

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/583790/Independent_Family_Returns_Panel_report_2014-16.pdf

The Home Office response to the Independent Family Returns Panel 2014-16 report

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/583791/Home_Office_response_to_the_Independent_Family_Returns_Panel_report_2014-16.pdf

Amid hate speech, negative media spin ‘real stories’ of refugees and migrants must be told

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=56047#.Wls7ArZ96nY>

The impact of the proposal for a revised Eurodac Regulation on fundamental rights: Opinion of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2016-opinion-06-2016-eurodac-0_en.pdf

News

MSPs keen to hear from asylum seekers on struggles faced

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/scotland/356204/msps-keen-to-hear-from-asylum-seekers-on-struggles-faced/>

Holyrood will fight £1,000 levy on EU workers

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/holyrood-will-fight-1-000-levy-on-eu-workers-sxmknjdl6>

EU workers feel more welcome in Scotland

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-01-27/scotland/eu-workers-feel-more-welcome-in-scotland-9k7fshxxq>

First Minister launches campaign to welcome international students to Scotland

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/education/15047142.First_Minister_launches_campaign_to_welcome_international_students_to_Scotland/

Councils tell Home Office to pay up before sending refugees

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-01-23/scotland/councils-tell-home-office-to-pay-up-before-sending-refugees-nz297spq7>

Plight of EU nationals seeking UK residency to be investigated

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2017/jan/25/plight-of-eu-nationals-seeking-uk-residency-to-be-investigated-brexit-vote>

EU applications for UK university places down 7%, MPs told

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2017/jan/25/eu-applications-for-uk-university-places-is-down-7-mps-told>

NHS patient data handed to Home Office in immigration crackdown

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/nhs-patient-data-home-office-immigration-crackdown-illegal-diane-abbott-information-records-a7544591.html>

NHS hands over patient records to Home Office for immigration crackdown

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/jan/24/nhs-hands-over-patient-records-to-home-office-for-immigration-crackdown>

NHS gives patients' details to immigration control

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-01-25/news/nhs-gives-patients-details-to-immigration-control-hd9wlfsgz>

G4S to limit filming asylum seekers in their homes without consent

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2017/jan/24/g4s-limit-filming-asylum-seekers-in-homes-without-consent>

G4S filmed asylum seekers in their own homes without consent

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2017/jan/24/g4s-filmed-asylum-seekers-in-their-own-homes-without-consent>

Scots help provide crucial access to education for child refugees

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/15041396.Scots_help_provide_crucial_access_to_education_for_child_refugees/

Police: Human trafficking cases 'could rise' with new laws

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/police-human-trafficking-cases-could-rise-with-new-laws-1-4345894>

Migrants drive 50% rise in rough sleeping

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/migrants-drive-50-rise-in-rough-sleeping-ftxchhjq>

The Glasgow Girls made politics personal for Iraqi asylum seeker hoping to be elected as an SNP councillor

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/glasgow-girls-made-politics-personal-9685475>

Iraqi refugee stands for Glasgow council elections to repay Scottish neighbours for their kindness

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/iraqi-refugee-roza-salih-glasgow-election-snp-council-elections-repay-scotland-locals-neighbours-a7543871.html>

How the British public are now banned from knowing the identity of asylum seekers - even when their stories are patently bogus

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4166050/Public-banned-knowing-identity-asylum-seekers.html>

Expatexit: One entrepreneur is helping foreigners leave the UK because of Brexit and find jobs elsewhere

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/news/brexit-latest-news-expatexit-marcin-czyza-help-foreigners-leave-uk-britain-find-jobs-abroad-a7550001.html>

[TOP](#)

Community Relations

Scottish Parliament Motions

S5M-03592 Sandra White: Ahmadiyya Muslim Community – That the Parliament acknowledges what it sees as the right, as guaranteed by Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community to practise, preach and profess its religion, and congratulates the community on its significant contribution to Scottish society in applying its philosophy, Love for All, Hatred to None.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-03592>

S5M-03627 Alison Harris: Chinese New Year – That the Parliament sends its good wishes to Scotland's Chinese community on the occasion of the Chinese New Year on 28 January 2017; recognises the contribution that Chinese culture and cuisine, as well as increasing trade links with China, make to Scotland, and hopes that the year of the rooster will bring the Chinese community health, prosperity and good fortune.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-03627>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Opportunity and Integration Review

Lord Hylton [HL4659] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the *Casey Review: A review into opportunity and integration*.

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: We are currently considering the Casey Review's findings and recommendations very carefully as we prepare the Government's new integration strategy, which we plan to publish in the Spring. As my Right Honourable Friend the Secretary of State for Communities said in his statement to Parliament before Christmas:

"For too long, too many people in this country have been living parallel lives, refusing to integrate and failing to embrace the shared values that make Britain great. We will not allow that to continue, we have a moral responsibility to deal with that situation, and Dame Louise's report is a crucial step in that process".

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-16/HL4659/>

The Casey Review, referred to above, can be read at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/575973/The_Casey_Review_Report.pdf

Press Release

Visit My Mosque Day is Back!

<http://www.mcb.org.uk/visit-my-mosque-day-is-back/>

New Publication

Visit My Mosque 2017 - Welcome!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W0mTNSF1AJQ>

News

Academics claim Muslim population in Scotland is set to double

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15051496.Academics_claim_Muslim_population_in_Scotland_is_set_to_double/?ref=mr&lp=10

[TOP](#)

Equality

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-03607 Clare Haughey: Police Scotland's Diversity Initiative – That the Parliament commends Police Scotland on its new initiative to recruit more officers from minority racial and ethnic backgrounds; understands that the four-week programme is the first of its kind in Scotland and will make information about the application and selection process more readily available, help prospective recruits to gauge their physical fitness and enable them to develop their understanding of policing practices; believes that this will result in the recruitment a broader range of people that is more representative of Scotland's various communities, and welcomes what it sees as this essential step in making Police Scotland a more diverse and open institution.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-03607>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Public Sector: Ethnic Groups

The following four questions all received the same answer

Dan Jarvis [61291] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, whether a dedicated unit has been established to undertake the audit of public services to reveal racial disparities.

Dan Jarvis [61292] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, on what date the Government plans to publish its audit of public services to reveal racial disparities.

Dan Jarvis [61293] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how many full-time equivalent staff the Government has employed to work on the audit of public services to reveal racial disparities.

Dan Jarvis [61294] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, whether the Government

plans to publish the metrics which are being used in its audit of public services to reveal racial disparities.

Reply from Ben Gummer: The purpose of the Race Disparity Audit is to reveal, for the first time, comprehensive information on the disparate outcomes people of different racial groups experience when accessing public services. We will make public the outcome of the Audit clearly and openly for every citizen in Summer 2017. This will include clear and accessible data on a digital platform, following extensive data assurance and user testing. The methodology followed will be published on the platform.

A dedicated unit to undertake the Audit was established jointly by the Cabinet Office and the Department for Communities and Local Government in September 2016. The unit currently has 11 full-time equivalent staff, though it is supported by staff in every Government department and by the Office for National Statistics.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-23/61291/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-23/61292/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-23/61293/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-23/61294/>

News

Muslim mother and daughter to be first hijab wearing police officers in Scotland

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15040147.Muslim_mother_and_daughter_to_be_first_hijab_wearing_police_officers_in_Scotland/?ref=mr&lp=13

Muslim mum and daughter apply for special constable posts after introduction of hijab

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/muslim-mum-daughter-apply-special-9679113>

Roma graduate plea to Glasgow residents: 'We must do more for Glasgow's young Roma'

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/15040692.Roma_graduate_plea_to_Glasgow_residents_We_must_do_more_for_Glasgow_s_young_Roma/

School bans Muslim girl, 4, from wearing headscarf

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-01-25/news/school-bans-muslim-girl-4-from-wearing-headscarf-33z7w3wpf>

Muslim women's campaigner says making young children wear the hijab is as bad as them having spray tans and pole dancing lessons following a headscarf row at Catholic primary school

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4155116/Wearing-hijab-bad-kids-having-spray-tans.html>

[TOP](#)

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Debate

Holocaust Memorial Day 2017

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10752&i=98647#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Ministerial Statement and Q&A

Hate Crime

The Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs (Annabelle Ewing):

Recent news coverage of events around the globe has starkly demonstrated that hatred and prejudice continue to have very serious consequences for people and communities across society. In recent times, we have seen racism and religious bigotry on the rise around the world. Those reports, and the subsequent and increasingly frequent online furore that they generate, can lead to increased attacks on everyone, from people from ethnic minority communities to people with disabilities and every other vulnerable community that is easy prey for bigots and bullies. ...

Scotland is an open and inclusive nation, but we are not immune from such hateful behaviour. Our communities sometimes face prejudice and abuse through direct physical confrontation and through cowardly online hate abuse. ...

Prejudice and hate have huge impacts on the quality of life of individuals and the communities to which they belong. Trust becomes more difficult and whole families and groups withdraw into smaller circles of safety, with significant consequences for the overall levels of trust and social capital across the whole of society. ...

... I am announcing today that the Scottish Government has commissioned an independent review of hate crime legislation. The review will be led by one of the most senior members of the Scottish judiciary—Lord Bracadale. He will make recommendations on how we can ensure that the hate crime legislation that is applied to protect Scottish communities is fit for purpose in the 21st century. ...

The current legislation that relates to hate crime has developed piecemeal over decades. The review presents us with an opportunity to take stock and to look at all the legislation holistically. That means that the review will consider the wide range of legislation that has an impact on tackling hate crime ...

To read the full statement and subsequent Q&A see

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10752&i=98648#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Time for Reflection

Callum Docherty (Braes High School, Falkirk): ... In November, we participated in the lessons from Auschwitz project. It was one of the most significant experiences of my life. We heard the testimony of Holocaust survivor Eva Clarke, who was born, against all odds, on the steps of Mauthausen concentration camp. It was such a personal story. I learned a great deal from Eva about the impact of the Holocaust on real people—a type of understanding you cannot get from a textbook.

Our visit began in the town of Oswiecim, which had a majority Jewish population before the Holocaust. Christians and Jews lived together in peace. Now not a single Jew lives there. A whole community was destroyed for ever.

What I saw at Auschwitz will stay with me for ever. I saw 2,000kg of human hair that had been taken from victims for use in the manufacture of clothing and bedding. I could not believe it. Jews had been persecuted to the point where they were not even viewed as human.

To see the horrors that mankind is capable of is often incomprehensible, but we must

always remember what happened in the past, so that we can learn from it.

Jessica Reid (Braes High School, Falkirk): We have discussed at length the individuals who were affected by, and the perpetrators of, the Holocaust. They were people like us with families, dreams and worries. So why did it happen? What made people think that it was acceptable? We must learn from history to ensure that it never happens again.

The importance of fighting prejudice is never more evident than when we consider those people who did nothing to speak out. In a world where racism and prejudice are still rising, it is vital to educate others to recognise the consequences of not fighting anti-Semitism, racism and hatred.

When I think about Holocaust memorial day's theme, "How can life go on?", I think about my generation. It is we who must tell people what happened 77 years ago. When survivors can no longer tell their stories, it is we who must ensure that they live on. We must spread the message of acceptance of all cultures, religions and races.

My generation can defy expectations and improve the world. I am an optimist; I am passionate. I do not want history to repeat itself. I hope that today members of the Scottish Parliament and people across Scotland will join us in remembering those murdered in Auschwitz. Together, let us ensure that the world never forgets the past and strives for a more positive future.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10747&i=98590&c=1967657#ScotParlOR>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

Hate crime

Craig Whittaker: During a recent delegation as part of the all-party parliamentary group against antisemitism, it became clear that international parliamentary colleagues are concerned about the rise of hate crime, and in particular anti-Semitism from the left in UK universities. Does my right hon. Friend agree with me, and indeed with Baroness Royall when she said that Labour does not take anti-Semitism seriously, as seen by the inaction against members of Oxford University who were accused of anti-Semitism, and that this has, of course, a wider impact on hate crime in general?

Reply from Amber Rudd: I thank my hon. Friend for raising this important matter, particularly during Holocaust Memorial Week. As he will know, the Government published a hate crime action plan to drive forward action to tackle all forms of hate crime, and to enable Departments across the Government to work with police and communities. However, I completely agree with him that all organisations, including universities and political parties, have an obligation to stamp out anti-Semitism wherever it is encountered.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-01-23/debates/9E068E8F-5009-4F91-A444-66205BF6D781/Migration#contribution-DCF0850A-0A8F-48A8-A7A0-2CC31946354F>

Hate Crime

John Mann: Waffle, Mr Speaker—waffle is all that we get in answer to questions about dealing with hate crime on Facebook and Twitter and on the internet. If Germany can fine these companies half a million pounds every time they fail to take down hate speech posts within 24 hours, why can we not also take practical action to hold them to account for their failure to deal with hate speech? [908323]

Reply from Sarah Newton: The hon. Gentleman has made a very important point. Hate crime has no place whatsoever in our society. It destroys communities and people's lives, and we are taking every possible action against it. We have the strongest legislative framework in the world, and that includes working with internet providers. I can absolutely assure the hon. Gentleman that we have

agreements with internet providers, and that when hate crime is identified, they will take the horrendous stuff down.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-01-23/debates/9E068E8F-5009-4F91-A444-66205BF6D781/Migration#contribution-69CA42E8-7473-4B9B-B21C-5AEABF729EB5>

Topical Questions: Home Secretary – Antisemitism

Joan Ryan: In the light of Holocaust Memorial Day this week, will the Minister join me in paying tribute to the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust and the Holocaust Educational Trust, which remind us of the worst example we have ever witnessed of where anti-Semitism can lead? In the light of the publication of the Community Security Trust 2016 anti-Semitic incident report next week, and bearing in mind the fact that last year saw the third highest annual level of anti-Semitic hate incidents in the UK, what are the Government doing to combat rising levels of anti-Semitism?

Reply from Amber Rudd: I thank the right hon. Lady for giving me this opportunity to join her in thanking the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust and the Holocaust Educational Trust for the extraordinary work that they do in reminding us all of what took place. I am one of the MPs—I am sure that there are many here—who took the opportunity to visit, and I will always remember the impact of that. I work closely with the Community Security Trust, and I made the hate crime action plan my priority. We will continue to work with the trust to ensure that we do what we can to stop any form of anti-Semitism.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-01-23/debates/9E068E8F-5009-4F91-A444-66205BF6D781/Migration#contribution-6905CA51-3E64-4076-9E57-B2C8D3BB47F0>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Hate Crime

Joan Ryan [908295] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of trends in the level of hate crime reporting.

Reply from Sarah Newton: There were 62,518 hate crimes recorded by the police in 2015/16, an increase of 19% over the previous year. There were increases in all five hate crime strands - race, religion, sexual orientation, disability and gender identity.

Improvements in recording by the police, a greater awareness of hate crime and improved willingness of victims to come forward are likely to have led to the increase in recorded crime.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-17/908295/>

Hate Crime

Lyn Brown [60301] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent assessment her Department has made of the extent of the under-reporting of hate crimes.

Reply from Sarah Newton: The Crime Survey of England and Wales estimated that there were 222,000 hate crimes on average each year from 2012/13 to 2014/15. This represents a decrease of 56,000 since the previous period covered by the survey. At the same time, the number of hate crimes recorded by the police rose from 44,471 in 2013/14 to 52,528 in 2014/15. This increase in recorded crime is welcome as it is likely to reflect improved police practice and victim confidence in coming forward to report crimes.

The difference between the crime survey figures and the police recorded figures shows that hate crimes continue to be significantly under-reported. The Hate

Crime Action Plan published on 26 July 2016 includes action to increase the reporting of hate crime, including making greater use of third party reporting centres.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-17/60301/>

Hate Crime

Matthew Offord [60575] To ask the Attorney General, what guidance his Department provides to ensure the consistent prosecution and assessment of hate crime by the regional Crown Prosecution Service offices.

Reply from Robert Buckland: Hate crime creates fear and can have a devastating impact on individuals and communities. The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) is committed to tackling hate crime in any form. In 2015-16, the CPS prosecuted 15,442 hate crime prosecutions, the highest number to date.

The CPS has published Public Policy Statements on all monitored strands of hate crime as a public consultation to demonstrate its understanding and commitment and to encourage public confidence. These statements were developed in partnership with community stakeholders, an approach which is being delivered nationally.

The CPS policy for dealing with hate crime cases is delivered by consistent application of national legal guidance. Legal guidance is available on all strands of monitored hate crime and incorporates relevant case law and good practice. It assists prosecutors to assess the issues in hate crime cases, make the right charging decisions and build robust prosecutions. The CPS ensures the policy and legal guidance is applied nationally by delivering national training to ensure effective application. The hate crime training is mandatory for all prosecutors.

There are Hate Crime Coordinators in every CPS Area and they meet twice a year to share best practice and inform national guidance. Since January 2015, the CPS has also operated a Hate Crime Assurance Scheme to ensure consistency in prosecuting cases. To assist the consistent prosecution and assessment of hate crime, the CPS nationally and locally, seeks the practical input of individuals with experience and expertise in supporting victims of hate crime.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-18/60575/>

Hate Crime

Craig Whittaker [61308] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what discussions he has had with (a) Cabinet colleagues, (b) non-governmental organisations and (c) other stakeholders on enforcement of hate crime legislation following the UK's exit of the EU.

Reply from Marcus Jones: The Department for Communities and Local Government hosts the Cross-Government Hate Crime Programme which it co-chairs, alongside the Home Office. The programme brings together representatives from relevant Government departments, criminal justice agencies, and an Independent Advisory Group comprising victims, advocates and academics. Since reported increases in hate crime in the summer of 2016, the programme has held many meetings with affected communities and European states to reassure citizens that the UK will do all in its power to protect them from hate crimes. We have increased the capacity to monitor any future raised levels of tension and will respond swiftly to any emerging challenges. The Minister for Faith and Integration meets regularly with the National Police Chiefs' Council Lead for Hate Crime to monitor progress, and has also discussed these matters with Ministers in the Devolved Administrations.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-24/61308/>

Hate Crime: Internet

Craig Whittaker [60863] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what discussions he has had with his international counterparts on tackling online hate crime.

Reply from Marcus Jones: Formal negotiation with the internet industry has been led by officials from across Government, primarily within the Cyber-Hate Working Group and latterly within the Internet Sub-Group of the European Commission High Level Group on Hate Crime. Both of these have led to voluntary agreements being drawn up concerning the code of conduct of industry bodies and their response to complaints from members of the public, for example:

http://ec.europa.eu/justice/fundamental-rights/files/hate_speech_code_of_conduct_en.pdf

The Government's Hate Crime Action Plan, published last July, includes a commitment to bring Ministers from across Whitehall together with industry bodies, victims and academics to discuss challenges and future opportunities to collaborate.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-19/60863/>

Internet: Hate Crime

Nusrat Ghani [61017] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what data his Department holds on the volume of anti-Semitic and other hate material available (a) online, (b) on Twitter and (c) on Facebook.

Reply from Marcus Jones: Incidences of illegal hate crime online should be reported to the police who are supported by third party organisations such as the Community Security Trust. National statistics on hate crime are published annually. In addition, figures produced by the National Police Chiefs' Council provide a breakdown of police recorded religious hate crimes and show that in 2015/16, 786 anti-Semitic hate crimes were recorded by police forces in England, Wales and Northern Ireland:

http://www.report-it.org.uk/files/faith_hate_crime_true_vision_2015-16_v2.pdf

Data is not available to show how many of these offences were committed online. As part of the Government's Hate Crime Action Plan, officials from across Whitehall are working with academics who are analysing social media platforms to better understand the nature and extent of the harm caused by online hate crime and the effectiveness of counter-narrative measures.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-20/61017/>

Hate Crime: Internet

Nusrat Ghani [61166] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what discussions he has had with the (a) European Commission on whether social media companies should remove illegal hate speech online within 24 hours and (b) German government on its proposals to fine social media companies for failing to remove such speech within 24 hours.

Reply from Marcus Jones: Officials from the Department for Communities and Local Government sit on the Internet sub-group of the EU Commission's High-Level Hate Crime Group, which also includes civil society and industry representation. The Group oversees collaborative work including the agreed 'Code of Conduct on Countering Illegal Hate Speech Online':

http://ec.europa.eu/justice/fundamental-rights/files/hate_speech_code_of_conduct_en.pdf

This includes agreement by industry to remove illegal hate speech online within 24 hours.

This issue has also been discussed at the Ministerial meetings of the EU Justice

and Home Affairs Council. German officials and ministers have been involved in these discussions.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-23/61166/>

Hate Crime: Internet

Nusrat Ghani [61167] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what discussions his Department has had with EU officials on the implications for online hate crime regulation of the UK leaving the EU.

Reply from Marcus Jones: The UK legislation on hate crime is not European legislation and the UK is not subject to the EU Framework Decision on Racism and Xenophobia. The Internet sub-group of the EU Commission's High Level Hate Crime Working Group has worked with industry to find collaborative solutions. Officials will continue to engage with the industry through this Working Group and other forums.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-23/61167/>

Social Networking: Antisemitism

Nusrat Ghani [61016] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what recent discussions he has had with social media companies on anti-Semitic content on their platforms.

Reply from Marcus Jones: Formal negotiation with the internet industry to tackle online hate crime, including anti-Semitic content, has been led by officials from across government, primarily within the Cyber-Hate Working Group and latterly within the Internet Sub-Group of the European Commission High Level Group on Hate Crime. Both of these have led to voluntary agreements being drawn up concerning the code of conduct of industry bodies and their response to complaints from members of the public, for example:

http://ec.europa.eu/justice/fundamental-rights/files/hate_speech_code_of_conduct_en.pdf

The Government's Hate Crime Action Plan, published last July, includes a commitment to bring Ministers from across Whitehall together with industry bodies, victims and academics to discuss challenges and future opportunities to collaborate.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-20/61016/>

Antisemitism

Kirsten Oswald [60634] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what recent steps he has taken to tackle anti-Semitism; and if he will make a statement.

Marcus Jones: The Government recently published an update to the All-Party Parliamentary Group against Anti-Semitism detailing our progress in tackling anti-Semitism. Details can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/576563/161212_APPG_-_Progress_Update.pdf

The Government has recently adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of anti-Semitism which is an important tool for criminal justice agencies and other public bodies to understand how anti-Semitism manifests itself in the 21st century. In addition, representatives from Jewish community organisations sit on the cross-Government Working Group on anti-Semitism which ensures that we remain alive to any issues of concern.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-18/60634/>

Antisemitism

Kirsten Oswald [60505] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps her Department is taking to work with the devolved administrations to combat anti-Semitism and holocaust denial in schools, colleges and on university campuses.

Caroline Dinenage: The Department for Education takes antisemitism extremely seriously. There is no place in any education institution for hatred or any form of harassment, discrimination or racism, including antisemitism.

In particular, we believe that young people should be taught the history of the Holocaust and the lessons it teaches today. We are committed to supporting and funding Holocaust education in schools.

The department's responsibilities extend to England only.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-18/60505/>

Universities: Antisemitism

Graham Evans [59998] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps she is taking to tackle anti-Semitism and holocaust denial on university campuses.

Reply from Joseph Johnson: This Government takes anti-Semitism extremely seriously. There is no place in our society - including within higher education - for hatred or any form of harassment, discrimination or racism, including anti-Semitism.

The Government has recently adopted the non-legally binding definition of anti-Semitism, to help clarify how anti-Semitism can manifest itself in the 21st century. Universities have a responsibility to provide a safe and inclusive environment for all students. The legal obligation for ensuring that students do not face discrimination, harassment, abuse or violence rests with individual institutions. Universities should have robust policies and procedures in place to comply with the law, and to enable them to investigate and address swiftly any anti-Semitic incidents that are reported.

The Government asked Universities UK (UUK) to set up an Harassment Taskforce in 2015, to consider what more can be done to address harassment on campus, including on the basis of religion and belief. The Union of Jewish Students, Jewish Leadership Council, Board of Deputies of British Jews and the Community Security Trust were part of its wider advisory group. The taskforce published its report: 'Changing the Culture', on 21 October 2016.

The Government has asked UUK to monitor progress. UUK plan to establish more baseline evidence, and to assess institutions' progress in implementing the recommendations and report later this year.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-16/59998/>

Nazi War Crimes: Education

Graham Evans [60214] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, whether it remains her Department's policy to support the Holocaust Educational Trust's Lessons from Auschwitz Project.

Reply from Nick Gibb: The Department continues to believe that young people should be taught about the Holocaust and the lessons it teaches us today. We are committed to promoting, supporting and funding Holocaust Education.

Since the Holocaust Educational Trust's Lessons from Auschwitz project began in 1999, it has taken more than 31,000 students and teachers to visit the site of the [Auschwitz-Birkenau](#) concentration camp. The Government announced in April last year that we had renewed our grant for the project for a further three years.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-17/60214/>

Football: Racial Discrimination

Craig Whittaker [60970] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many incidents of racism in football were recorded or reported during 2016.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: The Home Office annually publishes statistics on football-related arrests and banning orders connected with regulated international and domestic football matches involving English and Welsh clubs and the national teams.

The 2015 to 2016 football season for football-related arrests covers the period 1 July 2015 to 10 July 2016. In this season there were 17 football-related arrests in connection with racist and indecent chanting.

The current football-related arrests and banning orders publication can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/football-related-arrests-and-banning-orders-england-and-wales-season-2015-to-2016>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-20/60970/>

Football: Discrimination

Nusrat Ghani [60966] To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, whether her Department supports projects in football to tackle anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, racism, homophobia and other forms of discrimination; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Tracey Crouch: There is no place for discrimination of any kind in sport, at any level. I receive regular updates on English football's Inclusion & Anti-Discrimination Action Plan, which details the work undertaken by the football authorities, clubs, County Football Associations and campaign groups to tackle all forms of discrimination and ensure the game is open and welcoming to everyone at all levels.

We are fully appreciative of the efforts football and other sports have made over a number of years to tackle discrimination. For example football and rugby union bodies, including the Premier League, the Football Association, the English Football League, the Professional Game Match Officials Limited, Premiership Rugby and the Rugby Football Union, all supported Stonewall's Rainbow Laces campaign to show support for lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, and transgender (LGB&T) players and fans, as part of which players and officials wore rainbow-coloured laces and armbands.

My Department is also supportive of the Home Office's recent work in partnership with Kick It Out to develop guidance on tackling anti-Muslim hatred and also on initiatives related to LGB&T hate crime. This was outlined in 'Action Against Hate', the government's plan for tackling hate crime, published in July 2016. It builds on Kick It Out's previous work with the Community Security Trust and Maccabi GB on reporting anti-Semitism in football through guidance to all professional clubs and managers of stadia.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-20/60966/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Hate Crime

Lord Hylton [HL4508] To ask Her Majesty's Government what actions they intend to take to increase the level of reporting of crimes inspired by racial or religious hatred; and what assessment they have made of whether a confidential telephone line would improve reporting rates.

Reply from Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: The Government's Hate Crime Action

Plan published last year outlined a range of activities to increase reporting across all hate crime strands. The National Police Chiefs' Council and officials from the cross-Government Hate Crime programme work closely with helpline providers such as Stop Hate UK to help improve the service they offer to victims and to share good practice.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-10/HL4508/>

The Hate Crime Action Plan referred to above can be read at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/543679/Action_Against_Hate_-_UK_Government_s_Plan_to_Tackle_Hate_Crime_2016.pdf

The website of the helpline referred to above is at

<https://www.stophateuk.org/>

Press Releases

Review of hate crime legislation

<http://news.gov.scot/news/hate-crime-legislation-review>

New hate crime package to target groups at need

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-hate-crime-package-to-target-groups-at-need>

Baroness Williams of Trafford speech to Tell MAMA conference

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/baroness-williams-of-trafford-speech-to-tell-mama-conference>

Holocaust Memorial Day

<https://firstminister.gov.scot/holocaust-memorial-day/>

Remembering the Holocaust

<http://news.gov.scot/news/remembering-the-holocaust-1>

Holocaust Memorial Day 2017

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/holocaust-memorial-day-2017>

"People are really good at heart": speech to the Anne Frank Trust

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/people-are-really-good-at-heart-speech-to-the-anne-frank-trust>

Foreign Secretary statement on Holocaust Memorial Day

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-statement-on-holocaust-memorial-day>

Baroness Anelay hosts Holocaust Memorial Day event

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/baroness-anelay-hosts-holocaust-memorial-day-event>

Baroness Anelay speech at Holocaust Memorial Day event

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/baroness-anelay-speech-at-holocaust-memorial-day-event>

UK Holocaust memorial design competition: tell us what you think

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-holocaust-memorial-design-competition-tell-us-what-you-think>

Drawing lessons from history: Parliament commemorates Holocaust victims

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/20170123STO59558/drawing-lessons-from-history-parliament-commemorates-holocaust-victims>

Message by President Jean-Claude Juncker on the occasion of Holocaust Remembrance Day 2017

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-17-148_en.htm?locale=en

Statement by the High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini ahead of the International Holocaust Remembrance Day, 27 January 2017

https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/19241/statement-high-representativevice-president-federica-mogherini-ahead-international-holocaust_en

Story of Japan's 'Schindler' offers lessons for tackling contemporary xenophobia

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=56052#.WIs7ubZ96nY>

Educating for the future through learning from the past

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2017/educating-future-through-learning-past>

International Holocaust Remembrance Day: EU must tackle contemporary Antisemitism and Antigypsyism

<http://www.enar-eu.org/Joint-statement-International-Holocaust-Remembrance-Day-EU-must-tackle>

News

Judge to examine Scotland's football law

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-38756144>

Football sectarian bill to be reviewed

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/football-sectarian-bill-to-be-reviewed-1-4349854>

Warning over Offensive Behaviour at Football Act repeal delay

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15051770.Warning_over_Offensive_Behaviour_at_Football_Act_repeal_delay/

Lord Bracadale to head independent review of hate crime regulations

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/scotland/357643/lord-bracadale-to-head-independent-review-of-hate-crime-regulations/>

SNP slammed over failure to scrap controversial football law as hate crime review announced

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/incoming/snp-slammed-over-failure-scrap-9699681>

Wolf whistling could become a hate crime in Scotland

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/scotland-wolf-whistling-cat-calling-hate-crime-gender-age-law-classify-a7549336.html>

Wolf-whistle could join category of hate crime

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-01-27/scotland/wolf-whistle-could-join-category-of-hate-crime-rf5h5xn7g>

Police force accused of spying on officers settles racism cases

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-01-23/news/police-force-that-spied-on-its-officers-settles-racism-cases-8ddz58vqk>

Cardiff University accepts race report after play row

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-south-east-wales-38739710>

Cardiff medical school 'blacking up' play 'led to feeling of segregation'

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/jan/25/cardiff-medical-school-blackening-up-play-led-to-feeling-of-segregation>

Student skit ridiculed black tutor

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/student-skit-ridiculed-black-tutor-zr3jmzls2>

Police investigating spate of 'hate' incidents targeting Jews in north London

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/uk-world/354408/police-investigating-spate-of-hate-incidents-targeting-jews-in-north-london/>

Manchester anti-Semitic football chants video probed

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-manchester-38750034>

Yobs are caught on video directing anti-Semitic chants including 'You're getting gassed in the morning' on tram ahead of Manchester City's match with Tottenham Hotspur

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4152528/Yobs-filmed-singing-anti-Semitic-chants-Tottenham.html>

Jewish students told they 'do not have the right to define anti-Semitism' at SU meeting

<http://www.independent.co.uk/student/news/jewish-students-no-right-define-anti-semitism-soas-student-union-london-university-school-oriental-a7548036.html>

Survey highlights targeting of Holocaust and genocide survivors

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/uk-world/357917/survey-highlights-targeting-of-holocaust-and-genocide-survivors/>

One in four genocide survivors in UK have faced abuse, poll finds

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/jan/27/uk-genocide-survivors-one-quarter-face-racial-religious-abuse-holocaust-memorial-day>

Beware hate speech, says Auschwitz Holocaust survivor

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-38745115>

Holocaust Memorial Day: Survivor recalls 'hell on Earth'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-suffolk-38730273>

Pupils bring moving story of Holocaust heroine to life

http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news_and_events/news/recent/pupils_bring_story_of_holocaust_heroine_to_life

I go into schools to discuss surviving the Holocaust with young people – their questions still surprise me

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/i-go-into-schools-to-discuss-surviving-the-holocaust-with-young-people-their-questions-still-a6836366.html>

Goths and travellers get government cash to fight hate crime

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/goths-and-travellers-get-government-cash-to-fight-hate-crime-pdzklcmkq>

CCTV released as police continue investigations into racial abuse of young boy in Edinburgh

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/cctv-released-police-continue-investigations-9699612>

Black students still struggle to win places at UK universities

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2017/jan/26/black-students-struggle-uk-university-places-ucas>

[TOP](#)

Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Scottish Parliament Ministerial Statement and Q&A

Supreme Court Judgment (Article 50)

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10749&i=98616#ScotParlOR>

Equality and Human Rights Committee

Scottish Human Rights Commission (Annual Report and Strategic Plan)

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10743&i=98563#ScotParlOR>

Press Release

Election payments to returning officers should end, says Holyrood Committee

<http://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/103186.aspx>

New Publication

Local Government and Communities Committee report: Payments to Returning Officers in Scotland

http://www.parliament.scot/S5_Local_Gov/Reports/LGCS052017R01.pdf

[TOP](#)

Other UK Parliament and Government

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

Forced Marriage

Mike Freer: What steps the Government are taking to ensure that people subjected to forced marriage are encouraged to report that crime to the police. [908290]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sarah Newton): ... We made forced marriage a criminal offence in

2014 to better protect victims and send a clear message that this abhorrent practice will not be tolerated in the UK. We want to see more victims having the confidence to come forward to report this often hidden crime, and that is why we are introducing lifelong anonymity for victims through the Policing and Crime Bill.

Mike Freer: I am glad that this country is leading the way on tackling violence against women and girls, but does the Minister agree that we need to keep up the pressure to eradicate child marriage, as it is a particularly pernicious form of violence?

Reply from Sarah Newton: I do indeed. The UK is a world leader in the fight to stamp out forced marriage, and I am clear that to end these crimes in the UK we must end them overseas, too. That is why we are pursuing an ambitious programme of work at an international level, including with the Department for International Development, through its £36 million programme to end child, early and forced marriage.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-01-23/debates/1CF6ECFB-6EE6-4C98-93BD-D74200C6A399/ForcedMarriage>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Forced Marriage

The following two questions both received the same answer

The Lord Bishop of St Albans [HL4466] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many cases the Forced Marriage Unit dealt with in 2015 and 2016 respectively, in which (1) British nationals under the age of 16, and (2) British nationals aged 16–17, were sent abroad in order to enter into a forced marriage.

The Lord Bishop of St Albans [HL4467] To ask Her Majesty's Government what estimate they have made of the total number of (1) British nationals under the age of 16, and (2) British nationals aged 16–17, sent abroad in 2016 in order to enter into a forced marriage.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The UK is a world-leader in the fight to stamp out the brutal practice of forced marriage, with our joint Home Office and Foreign and Commonwealth Office Forced Marriage Unit (FMU) which leads efforts to combat it both at home and abroad. We made forced marriage a criminal offence in 2014 to better protect victims and send a clear message that this abhorrent practice is totally unacceptable and will not be tolerated in the UK.

The FMU publishes statistics annually. The most recent statistics, published on 8 March 2016, show that the FMU gave advice or support related to a possible forced marriage in 1,220 cases. A breakdown shows that the FMU gave advice and support to 174 people between the ages of 1-15 and 155 people aged 16-17. A further breakdown of this information would incur a disproportionate cost.

Statistics for 2016 will be published in due course.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-09/HL4466/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-09/HL4467/>

Forced Marriage

The Lord Bishop of St Albans [HL4468] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they intend to revise their policy of not paying for the repatriation of British citizens forced to marry abroad, and whether they will provide the Forced Marriage Unit with the relevant funds.

Reply from Baroness Anelay of St Johns: The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) is not funded to provide financial assistance to British nationals overseas. However, we can provide emergency loans on a discretionary basis, in

very exceptional circumstances, when people want to return home from overseas and they are unable to do this via any other means. Emergency loans are from public funds and therefore we have an obligation to recover the money.

The Government recognises the risks that victims of forced marriage can face and the challenges that they may encounter on the return to the UK. This is why emergency loans are offered to assist British nationals in these circumstances. Through the joint FCO and Home Office Forced Marriage Unit, we work very closely with partner organisations in the UK, including the police, social services and healthcare professionals, to ensure that those at risk are appropriately protected.

We regularly review all aspects of our consular policy and as such will be reviewing our policy on issuing emergency loans in early 2017.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-09/HL4468/>

Press Release

Chinese New Year 2017: Theresa May's message

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chinese-new-year-2017-theresa-mays-message>

New Publications

National female genital mutilation centre: evaluation

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/585158/National_female_genital_mutilation_centre_evaluation.pdf

Female genital mutilation early intervention model: evaluation

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/585172/Female_genital_mutilation_early_intervention_model_evaluation.pdf

[TOP](#)

Other News

FGM clinic hailed as 'life-changing' to close after losing funding

<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/health-news/fgm-clinic-closed-west-london-funding-cuts-loss-a7542356.html>

[TOP](#)

Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

UK Parliament

Ethnicity Pay Gap Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/ethnicitypaygap.html>

EU Citizens Resident in the United Kingdom (Right to Stay)

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/eucitizensresidentintheunitedkingdomrighttostay.html>

Modern Slavery (Transparency in Supply Chains) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/modernslaverytransparencyinsupplychains.html>

Student Support (Non-Interest-Bearing Finance) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/studentsupportnoninterestbearingfinance.html>

[TOP](#)

Consultations

** new or updated this week

Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership Communications (closing date 17 February 2017)

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

Racism at work (closing date 27 February 2017)

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

Destitution and asylum in Scotland (closing date 8 March 2017)

http://www.parliament.scot/S5_Equal_Opps/Inquiries/Destitution_and_Asylum_Call_for_Evidence_Final_20170125.pdf

Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation: increasing numbers of successful donations (closing date 14 March 2017)

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0051/00511160.pdf>

Draft Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Bill (closing date 17 March 2017)

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/equality-unit/draft-gender-representation-on-public-boards/>

Hate Crime and Prejudice Scotland Mapping Exercise (no closing date given)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BJPT5PL>

Police Scotland: Your view counts (open all year)

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/decision-making/public-consultation/local-policing-consultation>

[TOP](#)

Job Opportunities

[Click here](#) to find out about job opportunities

[TOP](#)

Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

Social Economy Growth Fund

closing date for applications: 17 February 2017

The Scottish Government Social Economy Growth Fund will enable the third sector/social economy to improve and increase services and support for people experiencing poverty and disadvantage. It will help organisations to increase their capacity to support disadvantaged people – for example by expanding existing services and employing

additional staff. The Fund will support organisations with a proven track record of working successfully with individuals and families who experience disadvantage, poverty and social exclusion. For more details, and an application form, see <https://beta.gov.scot/publications/social-economy-growth-fund-guidance/>

Social Innovation Fund

closing date for applications: 17 February 2017

The Scottish Government Social Innovation Fund enables social economy organisations to work in collaboration with research institutions, the public and private sector to develop, test and scale up new ideas and solutions to tackle poverty and disadvantage. For more details, and an application form, see <https://beta.gov.scot/publications/social-innovation-fund-guidance/>

Europe of Diversities

closing date for applications: 28 February 2016

European Union funding for projects to promote unity in diversity, support sharing of good practices in fighting discrimination and promoting diversity at local and regional level, and help to identify and target discriminatory practices at local and regional level and build understanding between majority and minority societies. For information see <https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/rec/topics/rec-rppi-eudi-ag-2016.html>

[TOP](#)

Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

**** *this week!***

The Holocaust: an Introduction - Part 1

Online – second of three sessions: 30 January; 6 February

Yad Vashem course about the Holocaust, an inconceivable historical event, an idea so inhumanly warped that spread like wildfire through an entire continent, instigating the systematic annihilation of millions of Jews. For information see <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/holocaust-part-1>

**** *this week!***

Cultural Competence

31 January 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

25 April 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course focusing on how culture affects all our lives, and examines the extent to which culture influences and governs our beliefs, attitudes, behaviours and decision-making. It explores our own practice and attitudes to cultural differences, and examines different worldviews, so that participants can confidently work with people no matter where they come from. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/jdfkz2> or contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

**** *this week!***

Zero Tolerance to FGM

4 February 2017 in Edinburgh (9.30-3.30)

African Women in Scotland against FGM conference to highlight that 'FGM is more than Cutting' and that leaders have a significant role in combating Harmful Traditional Practices'. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/hysoho8>

Scottish Health and Ethnicity Linkage Study

8 February 2017 in Edinburgh (1.00-3.30)

The Scottish Health and Ethnicity Linkage Study used the 2001 census findings and various health datasets to compare the health of ethnic groups in Scotland. For information see <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/shels-dissemination-seminar-2-tickets-29978191578> or contact Theresa Kirkpatrick Theresa.kirkpatrick@ed.ac.uk

Separated Children

9 February 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

11 May 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course about supporting separated child refugees. For information contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

**** Guide to the Disclosure Scotland PVG Process**

15 February 2017 in Glasgow (10.00-1.00)

Volunteer Scotland event to explain the purpose and requirements of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme for people working with children and vulnerable (“protected”) adults. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/h5efppz> or contact 0141 332 2444.

Evaluating Anti-Prejudice Projects

16 February 2017 in Glasgow (9.3—3.30)

Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights capacity building session on evaluating anti-prejudice projects. The session will focus on developing effective, proportionate approaches to evaluating anti-prejudice projects or interventions, and will be especially useful for organisations with more limited experience of evaluation. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/zlr3tot>

**** Aspiring Communities Fund information event**

16 February 2017 in Glasgow (2.00- 4.30) *advance registration required*

GCVS/GWSF event to provide information about new Scottish Government funding to support fragile and disadvantaged communities across Scotland to develop and deliver community-led solutions that tackle inequality and poverty. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/jcngqym> or contact 0141 332 2444.

Area Partnerships: Engaging BME Communities

17 February 2017 in Glasgow (9.30-1.30)

Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights workshop to explore why minority ethnic community groups are still under-represented in accessing Area Partnership funding, and how to engage better, and encourage participation and representation. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/zr6fsdc>

The Holocaust: an Introduction - Part 2

Online – three sessions: 20 and 28 February, and 6 March

Yad Vashem course about the Holocaust, an inconceivable historical event, an idea so inhumanly warped that spread like wildfire through an entire continent, instigating the systematic annihilation of millions of Jews. For information see <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/holocaust-part-2>

New Scots: Working with Asylum Seekers and Refugees

22 February 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

7 June 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine why people might need to flee their own country, how they seek asylum in the UK and what opportunities they have for rebuilding their lives here in Scotland. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/z68a5k8> or contact

Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

Working with Interpreters

1 March 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

31 May 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine the process of using an interpreter, where the responsibility lies for the success of the interpreted session, examines the pitfalls and their consequences, and sets out best practice for using interpreters. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/jt93fog> or contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

**** Introduction to Child Protection**

1 March 2017 in Glasgow (9.30-12.30)

GCVS session in partnership with Children in Scotland to discuss child protection, your individual and organisation's roles and responsibilities and the steps should you feel a child requires your support. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/zqw4ays> or contact 0141 332 2444.

Integration and Working with Syrian Families

2 March 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

1 June 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course to explore the issues facing Syrian refugees as they move from countries around Syria to the UK, and highlights the challenges and opportunities for them as they build a new life here in Scotland. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/zy436qr> or contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

**** Equality and Fair Work – Taking Action in your Workplace**

3 March 2017 (registration until 24 February) in Edinburgh (10.00-4.30)

Scottish Union Learning and the Equality and Human Rights Commission event to consider equality legislation such as the Equality Act 2010 and the Fair Work Framework, with an emphasis on how these can be used in the workplace to ensure fairer and more equal workplaces. For information contact Alan White awhite@stuc.org.uk / 0141 337 8153

Engaging hard to reach groups

8 March 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course about engaging with hard to reach groups. For information please contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

Honour-Based Violence: Who is Doing What to Whom, and Why?

14 March 2017 in Edinburgh (10.00-1.00)

Scottish Women's Aid workshop to discuss discuss the meaning of Honour in the context of Honour-based violence, the influence of family, community, faith, tradition, migration and gender in victims/survivors' experiences, links to domestic abuse and gender-based violence, the long term impact and consequences of Honour-based violence on minority ethnic women children and young people, and appropriate service responses to supporting survivors. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/hzeo96f>

Rights and entitlements of EEA nationals

21 March 2017 in Dumfries (9.30-12.30)

PAiH training on issues related to EEA nationals' access to services and important changes in regulations. For information see <http://www.paih.org/training/>

Rights of refugees and asylum seekers

21 March 2017 in Dumfries (1.15-4.15)

PAiH course to explore how the asylum system operates, and barriers faced by refugees and asylum seekers. For information see <http://www.paih.org/training/>

Talking to Young People about Equality

23 March 2017 in Fife (venue tbc) (6.00-9.00)

Youth 1st workshop to help Youth Workers to begin a dialogue about equality with young people and to understand that good knowledge of equality and inclusion will improve their employability. For information contact Gayle Brown 01592 645 355 / gayle@youth1st.co.uk or see <https://www.fivevoluntaryaction.org.uk/news.asp?id=8004>

Refugee Rights to Housing

30 March 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council Course about refugee housing rights. For information contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

[TOP](#)

Useful Links

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

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

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

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

UK Government Honours system <https://www.gov.uk/honours/overview>

European Parliament <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/>

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

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

Interfaith Scotland <http://www.interfaithscotland.org/>

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

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

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

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

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

Volunteer Development Scotland <http://www.volunteerscotland.net/>

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

Central Registered Body for Scotland (CRBS) www.volunteerscotland.net/disclosure-services



The **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC)** is the representative body of all the Jewish communities in Scotland. It advances public understanding about the Jewish religion, culture and community, and also works in partnership with other organisations to promote good relations and understanding among community groups and to promote equality. (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC029438) <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. (Scottish Charity, no. SC027692) <http://www.bemis.org.uk/>



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

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