



**MEMO is produced by the [Scottish Council of Jewish Communities \(SCoJeC\)](#) in partnership with [BEMIS - empowering Scotland's ethnic and cultural minority communities](#). It provides an overview of information of interest to minority ethnic communities in Scotland, including parliamentary activity at Holyrood and Westminster, new publications, consultations, forthcoming conferences, and news reports.**

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**Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month, and that the Scottish and UK Parliament and Government websites have been redesigned, so that links published in previous 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

### UK Parliament, Home Affairs Committee

**Inquiry into Modern Slavery: evidence session**

<http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/home-affairs-committee/modern-slavery/oral/92346.html>

### UK Parliament, Joint Committee on Human Rights

**Inquiry into Immigration detention: evidence session**

<http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/human-rights-committee/immigration-detention/oral/92251.html>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Delegated Legislation Committee

### Draft Immigration (Health Charge) (Amendment) Order 2018

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-11-13/debates/01b84bae-9729-400a-8f81-c54109844670/DraftImmigration\(HealthCharge\)\(Amendment\)Order2018](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-11-13/debates/01b84bae-9729-400a-8f81-c54109844670/DraftImmigration(HealthCharge)(Amendment)Order2018)

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

### UK Visas and Immigration: Fees and Charges

**Aliston Thewliss (SNP)** [188143] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much it will cost to users to use the enhanced user-pay service in 50 local libraries as part of the new UK Visa and Citizenship Application Services.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The price of the enhanced service package will be £60. Customers who choose the enhanced service can make use of pre-appointment checks and dedicated support and feedback in a local library during their appointment.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-05/188143/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### Migrant Workers: Fees and Charges

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [189676] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, pursuant to the Answer of 1 November 2018 to Question 185043, for what reasons the income from the Immigration Skills Charge was not presented to Parliament as detailed in the Explanatory Memorandum to the Immigration Skills Charge Regulations 2017.

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [189677] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, pursuant to the Answer of 1 November 2018 to Question 185043, what review has taken place of the Immigration Skills Charge, as is set out in the Explanatory Memorandum to the Immigration Skills Charge Regulations 2017.

**Reply from Anne Milton:** Information on income received from the immigration skills charge (ISC) payments for 2017/18 will be available once the Home Office Trust Statement has been audited by the National Audit Office and published.

An internal review of the ISC was undertaken in Quarter 2 2018, based on Home Office data.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-09/189676/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-09/189677/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/185043/>

### Immigration: Reviews

**Steve Reed (Labour Co-op)** [189694] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when the review into the use of paragraph 322(5) to refuse applications for leave to remain is planned to be completed.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** I refer the Hon. Member to the answer I gave to the Hon. Member for Brentford and Isleworth, UIN 176334 on 16 October 2018, and to the letter I sent to the Chair of the Home Affairs Select Committee on 9 October 2018.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-09/189694/>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-08/176334/>

The letter referred to above can be read at

[https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/home-affairs/Correspondence-17-19/181009-Immigration-Minister-Tier-1-322\(5\)-Update.pdf](https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/home-affairs/Correspondence-17-19/181009-Immigration-Minister-Tier-1-322(5)-Update.pdf)

### **Immigrants: Personal Records**

**David Lammy (Labour)** [185478] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 29 October 2018 to Question 181534 on Immigrants: Personal Records, how many immigration status records were lost in the roll-out of (a) Case Information Database, (b) Access UK and (c) ATLAS.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Further to the previous answer to Question 181534 which was as follows; CID was delivered through a phased rollout that was initiated with Asylum cases and was then subsequently rolled out to cater for settlement, enforcement and nationality case working processes as well as assisting Borders. CID has been the source immigration case working system for UKVI since 1998, over this time however the department has digitised application routes through a web-based service called Access UK and are in the process of replacing CID functionality with a new product named ATLAS. Please note that paper files are used alongside these systems to aid case working processes. The Home Office treats information management and data security with upmost sensitivity. Whilst there have been no systematic loss of immigration status records in the roll-outs of the aforementioned systems, as with the migration of any large data mass, occasional discrepancies may occur. Where any cases are identified or raised as having incorrect or incomplete records, these are treated as an absolute priority.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-30/185478/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-19/181534/>

### **Entry Clearances: Migrant Workers**

**Angus Brendan MacNeil (SNP)** [187313] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the potential merits of the re-introduction of a Tier 3 visa category to support domestic food and meat production after the UK leaves the EU.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The Government recognises the valuable contribution that overseas workers make to the UK economy and to our society. We are currently developing options for the future system which will be designed to work in the national interest.

On the 18 September, the Migration Advisory Committee published their final report on the current patterns of EEA migration into the UK. We are carefully considering their fourteen recommendations. We plan to publish a White Paper setting out more detail on the future arrangements later in the Autumn.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-02/187313/>

The report referred to above can be read at

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/741926/Final\\_EEA\\_report.PDF](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/741926/Final_EEA_report.PDF)

### **Veterinary Medicine: Migrant Workers**

**Luke Pollard (Labour Co-op)** [188242] To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, whether he plans to ask the Secretary of State for the Home

Department to include vets on the shortage occupation list.

**Reply from David Rutley:** On the 15th June the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) accepted a commission from the Home Secretary to review the full composition of the Shortage Occupation List (SOL) for the first time since 2013. The SOL covers non-EEA migration for highly skilled roles. The MAC will report in spring 2019.

In the meantime Defra continues to work closely with other Government Departments, including the Home Office, to ensure a long term strategy for the food and farming workforce, including veterinarians, as part of the future immigration policy.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-05/188242/>

### **Migrant Workers: Veterinary Medicine**

**Luke Pollard (Labour Co-op)** [188243] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he plans to include vets on the shortage occupation list.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The Shortage Occupation List is set on advice from the independent Migration Advisory Committee (MAC). We have commissioned the MAC to undertake a full review of the composition of the Shortage Occupation List. This review will enable the MAC to look at which posts are in national shortage and should be given priority within the Tier 2 cap in future. That review will conclude in Spring 2019.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-05/188243/>

### **Visas: Overseas Students**

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [189679] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many international students obtained a Tier 4 visa in (a) 2017-18, (b) 2016-17, (c) 2015-16, (d) 2014-15 and (e) 2013-14 academic years; and how many of those students came from a nation registered in Appendix H of the Immigration Rules.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Information on grants of Tier 4 entry clearance visas, by nationality, is published in the quarterly Immigration Statistics, Visas data tables volume 3, table vi\_06\_q\_s, latest edition at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-year-ending-june-2018/list-of-tables#visas>

Information relating to July to September (Q3) 2018 is planned to be published on 29 November.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-09/189679/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Visas: Overseas Students**

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [189682] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether his Department recognises any categories beyond compliant and non-compliant in relation to higher education institutions and Tier 4 student immigration.

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [189683] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether the revocation of a Tier 4 licence from a higher education institution effects any other immigration licence that institution may hold.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** To obtain and maintain a Tier 4 sponsor licence, institutions must show that all their sites meet acceptable educational quality standards, including both the quality of teaching and the management of the institution. An educational oversight body, which is independent from the Home Office, makes this assessment.

A sponsor which fails an educational oversight inspection will not be permitted to sponsor any further Tier 4 students until it achieves a satisfactory rating in a

subsequent inspection, but will not have its licence revoked. It will be permitted to continue teaching its current Tier 4 students.

Tier 4 sponsors must also pass a Basic Compliance Assessment, which is a mandatory annual check on the compliance rate of a sponsor's students. If a sponsor fails this check, it will normally have its licence revoked and will therefore not be able to sponsor any further Tier 4 students. There are no other compliance factors relating to Tier 4 sponsors which affect the consideration of Tier 4 immigration applications other than whether the sponsor continues to hold a valid tier 4 licence.

If a sponsor's Tier 4 licence is revoked, the Home Office will consider whether the reasons that led to the revocation affect any other sponsor licence that it holds. Any action taken against the other licence depends on the nature of the compliance issues identified. Such actions may include imposing an action plan to assist the sponsor improve its compliance, or revocation of the licence in serious cases of non-compliance.

Each application is assessed on its own merits against the relevant immigration rules and policy.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-09/189682/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-09/189683/>

#### **Immigrants: EU Nationals**

**Martyn Day (SNP)** [177354] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether his Department plans to contact an applicant's landlord to terminate a rental agreement in the event that an application for (a) settled and (b) temporary status is rejected.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** EU nationals currently have an automatic right to rent by reason of their nationality under section 21 of the Immigration Act 2014. Any changes to this position, including to bring EU nationals within scope of the Immigration Act 2016 powers of eviction, will be considered as part of the design of the new global immigration system to be introduced after the EU-exit implementation period. The powers in the 2016 Act enable landlords to evict an individual where the Home Office has served a notice that they are letting to a disqualified person. These notices will only be served where an individual has failed to regularise their stay, leave the UK or comply with directions, and only after a careful examination of the individual's circumstances and where there are no genuine obstacles to them leaving the UK.

The EU Settlement Scheme has been designed to make it easy for EU citizens to get the status they need and to evidence it digitally when accessing work, housing, benefits and services.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-09/177354/>

#### **Immigrants: EU Nationals**

**Jo Stevens (Labour)** [188216] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate his Department has made of the total staff hours it will take to process all of the applications for settled status from EU citizens living in the UK.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The EU Settlement Scheme will make it easy for EU citizens to get the status they need. They will only need to complete three key steps - prove their identity, show that they live in the UK, and declare any criminal convictions. We will have circa 1,500 UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) European Casework staff in post before the end of the year to process applications.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-05/188216/>

### **Immigrants: EU Nationals**

**Jo Stevens (Labour)** [188218] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether his Department is planning for an increase in enforcement activity against EU citizens after the UK leaves the EU.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Once the UK has left the EU, we will put in place a new single, skills-based immigration system, which will apply to citizens from both EU and non-EU countries. We have always been clear that we want decisions about the future immigration system to be based on evidence and we are carefully considering the Migration Advisory Committee's recommendations in its recent report, published 18 September, before setting out our plans.

We will publish a White Paper which will set out this future system later in the autumn. This will include information on our approach to enforcement.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-05/188218/>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/741926/Final\\_EEA\\_report.PDF](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/741926/Final_EEA_report.PDF)

### **Immigrants: EU Nationals**

**Jo Stevens (Labour)** [188866] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how he plans to manage the difference in status between EU citizens who arrive in the UK pre-March 2019 and have a right to work and those who arrive post-March 2019 and do not in the event that the UK leaves the EU without an agreement.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Employers already need to carry out right to work checks on EU citizens, as they do with all prospective employees to prevent illegal working. The statutory code of practice and published guidance for employers are clear that EU citizens can evidence their right to work by showing a passport or national identity card, and employers should continue to refer to these documents. EU nationals may also use Home Office residence documentation as evidence of their right to work, but they are not currently required to do so. Even in the unlikely event of a no deal situation, this position will not change next March. We will publish a White Paper on the future immigration system later in the autumn.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-06/188866/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Immigrants: EU Nationals**

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [188816] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether a person will be refused settled status on grounds of suitability if they (a) have criminal convictions (b) are the subject of an extant deportation order or of a decision to make a deportation order (c) are the subject of an extant exclusion order or exclusion decision and (d) are subject to a removal decision under the EEA Regulations on the grounds of their non-exercise or misuse of rights under Directive 2004/38/EC.

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [188817] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether it is his Department's policy that people subject to removal orders for non-exercise of Treaty rights between now and the end of the implementation period under the EU Withdrawal Agreement are to be excluded from Settled Status; and if he will make a statement.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** In line with the draft Withdrawal Agreement with the European Union published on 19 March 2018, criminality and security checks will be carried out on applications for status under the EU Settlement Scheme and conduct (including any criminal convictions relating to it) before the end of the

planned implementation period on 31 December 2020 will be assessed according to the current EU public policy and security tests for deportation. These are set out in the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2016.

Consistent with the draft Withdrawal Agreement, an applicant will be refused settled status under the scheme on the grounds of suitability where, at the date of decision, any of the criteria set out in paragraph EU15 of Appendix EU to the Immigration Rules applies.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-06/188816/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-06/188817/>

### **Immigrants: EU Nationals**

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [188818] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to his Department's announcement of 25 October 2018, New fund to support vulnerable EU citizens apply for settled status, whether he has received advice from the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC) (a) that organisations operating under that fund need to be registered with the OISC to assist with applications in relation to the EU Settlement Scheme unless otherwise exempt or regulated to provide immigration advice and (b) on what levels of competence organisations operating under that fund should have.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** We are working very closely with The Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC) to make this work for genuine voluntary organisations and community groups that want to help EU citizens and their family members.

All organisations placing bids will need to be aware of the level of OISC registration that they may require in line with the services they are proposing to provide in supporting vulnerable persons applying under the EU Settlement Scheme.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-06/188818/>

*The announcement referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-fund-to-support-vulnerable-eu-citizens-apply-for-settled-status>

### **Immigration: EU Nationals**

**Paul Blomfield (Labour)** [190453] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, with reference to the Home Office's news story entitled New fund to support vulnerable EU citizens apply for settled status, published on 25 October 2018, for what reasons that fund has been set up rather than his Department extending provision of legal aid to cover vulnerable EU citizens applying for pre-settled and settled status.

**Reply from Lucy Frazer:** The EU Settlement Scheme will provide a streamlined, user-friendly process, in line with the draft Withdrawal Agreement with the European Union published on 19 March 2018. This scheme will allow resident EU citizens and their family members to apply to obtain the UK immigration status which they will require in order to remain in the UK beyond the end of the planned implementation period on 31 December 2020.

For those EU citizens who might need additional help when applying under the scheme, the Home Office have announced a grant scheme for the voluntary and community sector which will help ensure support is available.

Legal aid may be available through Exceptional Case Funding, where there is a breach, or risk of a breach, of enforceable EU law or ECHR rights.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-12/190453/>

The news story referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-fund-to-support-vulnerable-eu-citizens-apply-for-settled-status>

### **Immigrants: EU Nationals**

**Jo Stevens (Labour)** [190491] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he has made an assessment of the effect of including non-UK EU citizens within the scope of the compliant environment policy immediately after the UK leaves the EU on the ability of those citizens to (a) access rental accommodation and (b) find employment in the period before the settled status scheme has concluded.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Landlords and employers already need to carry out document checks on EU citizens, as they do with all prospective tenants and employees.

The current arrangements will not change immediately after the UK leaves the EU. EU citizens, including those applying to the EU Settlement Scheme, will continue to be able to evidence their right to rent or work by showing a passport or national identity card. Landlords and employers will not be expected to differentiate between resident EU citizens and those arriving after exit.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-12/190491/>

### **Legal Costs: Refugees**

**Jim Shannon (DUP)** [188827] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what assessment he has made of the ability of sponsors to meet legal costs related to applications for refugee family reunion.

**Reply from Lucy Frazer:** The Government does not collect data on the private legal costs of individuals to assist with a refugee family reunion application.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-06/188827/>

### **Legal Opinion: Refugees**

**Bambos Charalambous (Labour)** [189787] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what assessment has been made of the ability of sponsors to meet the costs of legal advice on completing refugee family reunion applications.

**Reply from Lucy Frazer:** The Government does not collect data on the private legal costs of individuals to assist with a refugee family reunion application.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-09/189787/>

### **Refugees: Children**

**Matthew Offord (Conservative)** [187347] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what support his Department provides for unaccompanied child refugees when they arrive in the UK.

**Reply from Nadhim Zahawi:** Local authorities are under a statutory obligation to provide accommodation for unaccompanied children who arrive in their area. This means that they become looked after children and should be safeguarded and have their welfare promoted in the same way as any other looked after child. To help support this, the government has revised the 'Statutory guidance on the care of unaccompanied migrant children and child victims of modern slavery', which was published 1 November 2017:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-of-unaccompanied-and-trafficked-children>.

The government recognises that unaccompanied asylum seeking and refugee children can be some of the most vulnerable in our society. The government's vision and additional commitment to caring for these children is set out in the

strategy for 'Safeguarding unaccompanied asylum seeking and refugee children', published 1 November 2017:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-unaccompanied-asylum-seeking-and-refugee-children>.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-02/187347/>

*The Strategy referred to above can be read at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/656425/UASC\\_Safeguarding\\_Strategy\\_2017.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/656425/UASC_Safeguarding_Strategy_2017.pdf)

### Asylum

**Ian Murray (Labour)** [189650] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to (a) the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund and (b) other sources of funding available to his Department, what recent steps his Department has taken to develop and implement new guidance on the conduct of asylum interviews, and how the effectiveness of that guidance is being monitored and evaluated; and if he will make a statement.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The UK has a proud history of providing protection to those who need it and this Government is committed to delivering a fair and humane asylum system.

We recognise that asylum interviews are a vital part of the asylum process, ensuring that decision makers have available all relevant evidence so that they can make an informed decision. To that end, we have published detailed Home Office policy guidance setting out how caseworkers are expected to conduct asylum interviews, which was developed in collaboration with external partners, including the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). We are currently reviewing this policy and intend to publish a revised version by the end of the year.

We systematically assess the quality of asylum decisions against a detailed audit framework drawn up in consultation with external partners, including the UNHCR, which includes checks on compliance with existing asylum policies and relevant case law.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-09/189650/>

### Asylum

**Alex Cunningham (Labour)** [190457] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will publish the total number of asylum seekers accommodated in each local authority area in England, Scotland and Wales through the asylum dispersal programme in each of the last three years.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** 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-2017/list-of-tables#asylum>

This does not include those asylum seekers who are accommodated with friends and family, and who are not in receipt of support.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-12/190457/>

### Asylum: Pregnancy

**Alison Thewliss (SNPP)** [189729] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether the (a) Asylum Accommodation and Support Services contract (AASC) and (b) Advice, Issue Reporting and Eligibility (AIRE) contract include reference

to the Home Office pregnancy and dispersal guidance.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The AASC Provider is obligated to comply with the Authority's [Home Office] The AASC Provider is obligated to comply with the Authority's rules, guidance, instructions and policies. The Statement of Requirements contains reference to Authority dispersal guidance and explicitly references requirements related to pregnant Service Users.

The aim of the AIRE Service is to provide impartial and independent information, advice, guidance and assistance to help Service Users to understand and navigate the Asylum Support System effectively. The AIRE Provider is obligated to comply with the Authority's policies and guidelines.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-09/189729/>

### **Asylum: Employment**

**Janet Daby (Labour)** [188238] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the potential merits of giving asylum seekers the right to work after six months.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The UK has a proud history of providing protection to those who need it and this Government is committed to delivering a fair and humane asylum system. Our current policy is consistent with EU law and permits asylum seekers to work, in jobs on the Shortage Occupation List, if they have been waiting for a decision on their claim for 12 months or more and the delay is through no fault of their own. We are tackling delays in decision-making and have plans in place to improve the speed at which outstanding claims are decided.

The Government is considering recent calls to change the current policy. However, the current approach aims to protect the resident labour market so that any employment meets our needs for skilled labour and to maintain the distinction between those who need protection and those who want to work in the UK, who can apply for a work visa under the Immigration Rules. We need to avoid creating further incentives for migrants to come here illegally, risking their lives in the process, instead of claiming asylum in the first safe country they reach.

It is also important to focus on providing support for those who are recognised as refugees, to help them to integrate and find employment, so that they can rebuild their lives here.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-05/188238/>

### **Asylum: Housing**

**Alex Cunningham (Labour)** [184991] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when the Government will place the (a) asylum accommodation and support services contract, (b) advice, issue, reporting and eligibility contract and (c) associated (i) statements of requirements, (ii) performance management regimes, (iii) key performance indicators, (iv) equality impact assessments and (v) other relevant information on those contracts in the Library.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** I am attaching a copy of The Asylum Accommodation and Support Services Statement of Requirements to this response, and will place a copy in the House Library. In line with the Government's commitment to transparency the remaining contract documentation, redacted for commercially or operationally sensitive information, will be published online soon after the contracts have been awarded and will be available here: <https://data.gov.uk/data/contracts-finder-archive>

[AASC Sch 2 - Statement of Req HOC Published](#)

[AIRE Contract Sch 2 SOR - HOC - Published](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-29/184991/>

### **Refugees: Sri Lanka**

**Joan Ryan (Labour)** [190330] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Sri Lankan nationals have been granted refugee status after having previously been removed to Sri Lanka following a refused application for asylum since 18 May 2009.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Specific information relating exclusively to Sri Lankan nationals is not available in the requested format, however information generally on Asylum applicants granted Asylum, after previously having been refused asylum and removed, is published in the Home Office's asylum transparency data table ASY\_09\_q at;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/asylum-transparency-data-august-2018>  
<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-12/190330/>

### **Deportation: Sri Lanka**

**Joan Ryan (Labour)** [190331] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Sri Lankan nationals have been (a) removed to Sri Lanka and (b) removed to Sri Lanka following a refused application for asylum since 26 October 2018.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Information on the number of Sri Lankan nationals that have been returned from the UK to Sri Lanka, is available in table rt\_04 (returns data tables, volume 4) in 'Immigration Statistics, year ending June 2018', available from the GOV.uk website at:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/734184/returns4-jun-2018-tables.ods](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/734184/returns4-jun-2018-tables.ods)

The data can be broken down by asylum and non-asylum related returns. Asylum-related returns relate to cases where there has been an asylum claim at some stage prior to the return. This will include asylum seekers whose asylum claims have been refused, and who have exhausted any rights of appeal, those returned under third country provisions, as well as those granted asylum/protection, but removed for other reasons (such as criminality).

Information for October to December 2018 will be available in February 2019.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-12/190331/>

### **Deportation: Charter Flights**

**Caroline Lucas (Green)** [188081] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Home Office immigration removal charter flights have departed from Royal Air Force bases in the UK since June 2018; and what the (a) date of departure (b) name of the air base (c) (i) country or (ii) countries of destination (d) operational name of and (e) number of (i) removal directions issued for (ii) people removed on (iii) removal directions withdrawn from and (iv) criminal deportees on the flight was in each case.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** No Home Office charter flights have departed from Royal Air Force bases since June 2018.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-05/188081/>

### **Deportation: Charter Flights**

**Caroline Lucas (Green)** [188082] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the cost to the public purse has been of immigration removal charter flights departing from Royal Air Force bases in the UK since May 2017.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** Five Home Office charter flights have departed from RAF Brize Norton since May 2017.

The total cost of operating these flights was £2,201,269.50. This includes the costs of escorts, coaches, chartering aircraft, air passenger duty and

administrative costs associated with operating the flights.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-05/188082/>

### **Legal Aid Scheme: Human Trafficking**

**Paul Sweeney (Labor Co-op)** [188251] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what assessment he has made of the potential merits of providing legal aid support to potentially trafficked people to ensure that they are able to make an informed decision on whether to enter the National Referral Mechanism.

**Reply from Lucy Frazer:** The Government has always been clear that publicly-funded immigration legal advice is available for individuals identified as potential victims of trafficking or modern slavery.

There is specific legal aid provision for victims of modern slavery and human trafficking for immigration advice and representation, including assistance with applications for leave to enter or remain, subject to means and merits.

However, advice on whether to enter the National Referral Mechanism, such as that provided by a first responder or local authority, would not be within the scope of legal aid funding.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-05/188251/>

### **Immigrants: Slavery**

**Frank Field (Independent)** [188736] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many victims of modern slavery received a positive conclusive grounds decision but then did not receive discretionary leave to remain or a positive asylum claim in the most recent year for which data is available.

**Reply from Caroline Nokes:** The most recent information on the issue was set out in a letter of 17 February 2017 and relates to the year 2015. This was sent to the Rt Honourable member in his capacity as Chair of Work and Pensions Select Committee.

As set out in that letter, 1,043 people were confirmed as victims of modern slavery in 2015. Of these individuals, 379 had applied for asylum at the time the information was collected and 216 had been granted asylum. A further 123 of the individuals had been granted some other form of leave to remain.

Some of the individuals may have been granted asylum or leave to remain for another reason since the data was collected but that data is not available.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-06/188736/>

*The letter referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/work-and-pensions/Letter-from-Sarah-Newton-MP-to-Chair-re-modern-slavery-session-17-2-2017.pdf>

## **UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers**

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Passports**

**Lord Forsyth of Drumlean (Conservative)** [HL11239] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether an Irish citizen born in Ireland with an English mother is entitled to apply for a British passport.

**Lord Forsyth of Drumlean (Conservative)** [HL11240] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether an Irish citizen born in Ireland with an English father is entitled to apply for a British passport.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** To apply for a British passport, a person must first hold a form of British nationality. Irish nationals born after 1949

can generally become British citizens if one of their parents held British citizenship at the time of their birth and was able to pass that status on. Mothers could only pass on British nationality from 1 January 1983.

Where they do not hold British nationality, Irish nationals with a British citizen parent are able to apply for naturalisation or registration as a British citizen provided they meet the statutory requirements.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-05/HL11239/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-05/HL11240/>

### **British Nationality: Children**

**Lord Bradley (Labour)** [HL11310] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many applications for children to register their entitlement to British citizenship there have been in each of the last three years; and of those, how many have received a waiver of the fee.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The available published information on the total number of citizenship applications and grants is published as part of the quarterly Immigration Statistics, Citizenship tables, latest edition available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-year-ending-june-2018/list-of-tables#citizenship>

The table below provides figures for all registration applications (entitlement and discretionary) in the last 3 calendar years.

<b>British citizenship applications by broad type</b>		
Year	Applications for British citizenship	Of which: Applications for registration
2015	150,767	42,968
2016	130,995	41,158
2017	141,794	41,905

Source: Home Office, Migration Border Analysis.  
Immigration Statistics year to June 2018 - table cz\_01\_q.

Applications for British citizenship by the applicant's age are not routinely published.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-06/HL11310/>

*The following four questions all received the same answer*

### **Immigrants: Health Services**

**Lord Jones of Cheltenham (Liberal Democrat)** [HL11197] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they plan to respond to concerns raised by the Immigration Law Practitioners' Association in their briefing published on 26 October on the draft Immigration (Health Charge) (Amendment) Order 2018, and its conclusion that the Order will (1) be detrimental to the NHS, and (2) constitute a discriminatory form of repeated taxation on migrants.

**Lord Jones of Cheltenham (Liberal Democrat)** [HL11198] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they plan to abolish the immigration health surcharge for partners of British or settled citizens who have successfully renewed their spouse visas and shown a commitment to becoming permanent residents in the UK.

**Lord Jones of Cheltenham (Liberal Democrat)** [HL11199] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they plan to respond to the campaign by the Royal College of Nursing for abolition of the immigration health surcharge for nursing staff and their dependants.

**Lord Jones of Cheltenham (Liberal Democrat)** [HL11200] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they intend to abolish the immigration health surcharge for all NHS employees recruited from overseas.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Government does not agree with conclusions set out in the Immigration Law Practitioners Association (ILPA) briefing document of 26 October and has published a full impact assessment on the potential impact of increasing the immigration health surcharge.

The impact assessment can be read at this link:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2018/978011172995/impacts>

The surcharge is intended to represent a fair and proportionate financial contribution to the NHS by migrants, commensurate with their temporary immigration status.

Temporary migrants will not have built up the long-term relationship and contribution to the UK that a permanent resident has built up, and will build up, over the course of their lifetime. It is, therefore, the migrant's immigration status that determines whether they pay the surcharge, not their tax contributions or their profession. The Government recognises however that temporary migrants contribute to the UK economy in a number of ways, including paying income tax and national insurance; these contributions are reflected in the surcharge levels, which are below the average per capita cost to the NHS of treating temporary migrants.

The Government has no plans to abolish the surcharge for foreign spouses or partners. Surcharge policy already reflects the special position of those becoming permanent residents of the UK, as the surcharge does not apply to those applying for indefinite leave to remain.

The Government values very highly the contribution NHS employees recruited from overseas make to the health system. NHS workers are, however, in no different position to other providers of essential public services. The Government therefore has no plans to exempt them from the surcharge. All NHS nurses will however benefit from a pay increase as set out in the Agenda for Change framework

The surcharge has delivered over £600 million in additional funding to the NHS since its introduction in 2015. It enables migrants to access the NHS on the same terms as someone who is ordinarily resident in the UK, from the point of their arrival. We believe it offers access to health care services that are far more comprehensive and at a lower cost than many other countries.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-01/HL11197/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-01/HL11198/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-01/HL11199/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-01/HL11200/>

*The briefing referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.ilpa.org.uk/data/resources/34766/ILPA-JCWI-Joint-IHS-Briefing.pdf>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

#### **NHS: Migrant Workers**

**Lord Davies of Stamford (Labour)** [HL11121] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many EU citizens have (1) left employment in the NHS, and (2) started employment in the NHS over the last 12 months for which figures are available.

**Lord Davies of Stamford (Labour)** [HL11122] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many non-EU citizens have (1) left employment in the NHS, and (2) started employment in the NHS over the last 12 months for which figures are available.

**Reply from Lord O’Shaughnessy:** NHS Digital publishes Hospital and Community Health Services (HCHS) workforce statistics. These include staff working in hospital trusts and clinical commissioning groups (CCGs), but not staff working in primary care or in general practitioner surgeries, local authorities or other providers.

The following table shows those who have joined and those who have left National Health Service trusts and CCGs in England, by nationality, between 30 June 2017 and 30 June 2018, which is latest data available.

	Joiners	Leavers
All nationalities	154,458	137,161
of which:		
United Kingdom	120,965	110,446
European Union (excluding UK)	11,384	10,487
Other European Economic Area countries	122	93
Rest of the World	15,094	8,288
Unknown	6,893	7,847

Source: NHS HCHS quarterly workforce statistics, NHS Digital

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-30/HL11121/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-30/HL11122/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

#### **Immigration: EU Nationals**

**Lord Turnbull (Crossbench)** [HL11301] To ask Her Majesty's Government what is the immigration status of EU nationals who are recruited by a Government department, serve for a time in the UK, and are then posted to serve in an overseas office of that department.

**Lord Turnbull (Crossbench)** [HL11302] To ask Her Majesty's Government what guidance they have given to departments on the advice they should give to EU nationals they have recruited and who serve initially in an office located in the UK and are then posted to an overseas office of the department.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** EU citizens and their family members resident in the UK by 31 December 2020 will be able to apply for UK immigration status under the EU Settlement Scheme, in line with the draft Withdrawal Agreement with the European Union published on 19 March 2018.

As set out in paragraph 3.4 of the Statement of Intent on the scheme published on 21 June 2018, 'resident in the UK' will include those who are outside the UK on 31 December 2020 but who have maintained continuity of residence here, generally as set out in current free movement rules for those who have not already acquired EU permanent residence rights, and up to five years' absence for those who have. Once granted, settled status under the scheme will not lapse unless the holder is then absent from the UK for more than five consecutive years.

We are considering carefully how we can ensure that EU citizen Crown servants and their family members, the EU citizen family members of British citizen Crown servants and EU citizen family members of HM Forces personnel, are not unfairly disadvantaged under the scheme by absences from the UK as a result of overseas postings. We are working closely with other departments on this issue and will set out further details in due course.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-05/HL11301/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-05/HL11302/>

The Statement of Intent referred to above can be read at [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/718237/EU Settlement Scheme SOI June 2018.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/718237/EU_Settlement_Scheme_SOI_June_2018.pdf)

### Asylum: Expenditure

**Lord Hylton (Crossbench)** [HL11255] To ask Her Majesty's Government how much of the £3.6 million development fund for claims under the Dublin Regulation and for family reunion has so far been spent; and whether such expenditure has increased and accelerated the approval of cases.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Following the Sandhurst Treaty in January 2018, officials within the French and British Governments have been working collaboratively to understand how the Dublin Development Fund can be used most effectively. Under the terms of the Sandhurst Treaty, an Asylum Liaison Officer has been deployed in Paris to facilitate this cooperation.

We are confident that the agreed programme of work will improve access to the Dublin process and ensure comprehensive support and accurate information is provided to vulnerable migrants. We are in the process of transferring these funds and will continue to work with the French Government to implement this work.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-05/HL11255/>

The Sandhurst Treaty, referred to above, can be read at [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/674885/Treaty Concerning the Reinforcement Of Cooperation For The Coordinated Management Of Their Shared Border.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/674885/Treaty_Concerning_the_Reinforcement_Of_Cooperation_For_The_Coordinated_Management_Of_Their_Shared_Border.pdf)

### Asylum: Deportation

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat)** [HL11327] To ask Her Majesty's Government further to the Written Answer by Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon on 25 October (HL10690), why they deport failed asylum seekers to Somalia, Afghanistan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which they have advised are too dangerous for "all travel" by British citizens.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** As Lord Ahmad explained in his response of 25 October, the FCO's advice is aimed at British nationals who may be planning to travel to particular countries. In the case of asylum seekers, the Home Office considers whether it would be a breach of our international obligations to require a national of, or a person entitled to reside in, one of those countries to return there.

We would only seek to return someone if the Home Office and the courts had considered the individual facts of a case and concluded that it would not be a breach of those obligations.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-11-06/HL11327/>

The answer referred to above can be read at <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-10-15/HL10690/>

## UK Parliament Early Day Motion

**Hywel Williams (Plaid Cymru) (1844) Treatment of EU citizens since the EU referendum** – That this House expresses its concern for the status and identity of EU citizens living in the UK; notes that since the referendum on the UK leaving the EU, many EU citizens in the UK have felt increasingly unwelcome; further notes worrying reports of increased harassment; is concerned at figures from the Office for National Statistics showing that more than 120,000 EU citizens left the UK after the referendum and that

that trend has continued; notes the Home Office's reluctance to provide answers to those whose standing in the UK remains unclear; notes the corrosive effect of the continuing ambiguity surrounding the status of EU citizens; and calls on the Government to confirm and uphold the rights of EU citizens living here in the UK.

<https://www.parliament.uk/edm/2017-19/1844>

## Press Release

**Improved coordination between immigration liaison officers: Council agrees its position**

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/11/14/improved-coordination-between-immigration-liaison-officers-council-agrees-its-position/>

## New Publications

**A Guide to Your Rights For EEA/EU Citizens in Scotland**

<https://hrcscotland.files.wordpress.com/2018/10/guide-to-eu-citizen-rights-full-web-ready.pdf>

**Letter from Home Secretary Sajid Javid to Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP, Chair of the Home Affairs Select Committee (HASC)**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/755624/20181112\\_-\\_HASC\\_-\\_Windrush.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/755624/20181112_-_HASC_-_Windrush.pdf)

**Welsh Government: Nation of Sanctuary – Refugee and Asylum; summary of consultation responses**

<https://beta.gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2018-11/181116-nation-of-sanctuary-responses.pdf>

**Supreme Court judgement concerning leave to remain in the UK**

**Press release**

<https://www.supremecourt.uk/cases/docs/uksc-2017-0075-press-summary.pdf>

**Full judgement**

<https://www.supremecourt.uk/cases/docs/uksc-2017-0075-judgment.pdf>

**The Home Office response to the Independent Chief Inspector's report: An Inspection of Border Force Operations at South Coast Seaports**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/755319/Formal\\_Response\\_SCP.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/755319/Formal_Response_SCP.pdf)

## News

**Home Office scraps scheme that used NHS data to track migrants**

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/nov/12/home-office-scraps-scheme-that-used-nhs-data-to-track-migrants>

**Windrush: Home Office may revise up number of people affected by scandal**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/windrush-home-office-sajid-javid-increase-migration-detained-commons-a8630871.html>

**Windrush: 11 people wrongly deported from UK have died – Javid**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/nov/12/windrush-11-people-wrongly-deported-from-uk-have-died-sajid-javid>

**Windrush victims criticise complexity of compensation form**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/nov/13/windrush-victims-criticise-complexity-compensation-form>

**Windrush victims classed as criminals in government blunder**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/nov/15/windrush-victims-classed-as-criminals-in-government-blunder>

**'A race to save lives': calls for action after deaths of homeless Indians in UK**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/nov/15/a-race-to-save-lives-calls-for-action-after-deaths-of-homeless-indians-in-uk>

**'Brexodus': Number of EU migrants working in UK falls by biggest amount since records began**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2018/11/13/brexodus-number-eu-migrants-working-uk-falls-biggest-amount/>

**Sadiq Khan warns £30k salary cap on foreign workers would cause 'scary' shortages in London**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/brexit-latest-sadiq-khan-salary-cap-eu-workers-foreign-london-mayor-employment-a8630111.html>

**Firms 'struggling to recruit as overseas staff stay away'**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-46169131>

**Skills shortages harming UK business, employers warn**

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2018/nov/13/workers-eastern-europe-uk-eu-employment-pay-growth>

**European doctor exodus looms as Brexit sparks medical exit strategy**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/european-doctor-exodus-looms-as-brexit-sparks-medical-exit-strategy-1-4830697>

**Third of EU doctors look at moving out due to Brexit**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17227574.third-of-eu-doctors-look-at-moving-out-due-to-brexit/>

**NHS at risk as a third of European doctors consider moving abroad**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/nhs-at-risk-as-a-third-of-european-doctors-consider-moving-abroad-9gtqwqf7t>

**Asylum seekers forced to make weekly five-hour journey to reporting sessions after Home Office policy change**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/asylum-seekers-uk-home-office-policy-change-reporting-sessions-immigration-a8625866.html>

**Vermin, overcrowding and perpetual fear: The reality of housing for asylum seeking women and children in UK**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/asylum-seekers-housing-g4s-birmingham-home-office-a8633626.html>

**Migrants pile into dinghies to cross Channel to Dover as 'panic setting in' before Brexit deadline hits**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/11/16/migrants-pile-dinghies-cross-channel-dover-panic-sets-brexit/>

**Former home secretary admits to ‘upping removals’ in direct response to anti-immigration press coverage**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/home-secretary-lord-blunkett-removals-immigration-windrush-human-rights-committee-a8633891.html>

**Dog patrol at Dungavel House immigration removal centre criticised**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/dungavel-inspectors-praise-staff-gkl726zxt>

**No one benefits when refugees are barred from work**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-11-12/news/after-fleeing-war-persecution-and-torture-refugees-should-be-able-to-work-6x5x2q636>

**Supreme Court rules that immigrants without indefinite leave have “precarious” status in UK**

<https://ukhumanrightsblog.com/2018/11/16/supreme-court-rules-that-an-immigrant-without-indefinite-leave-has-precarious-status-in-uk/>

**Church leaders in Asia Bibi asylum offer call**

[http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/news/2018/church\\_leaders\\_in\\_asia\\_bibi\\_asylum\\_offer\\_call](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news_and_events/news/2018/church_leaders_in_asia_bibi_asylum_offer_call)

**The British Home Office invited me to the UK – I then embarked on a nightmare that nearly cost me my future**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/migration-visa-cap-home-office-skilled-workers-sajid-javid-government-a8631196.html>

**Ex-UBS trader Kweku Adoboli has been deported**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-46209149>

**Former UBS trader Kweku Adoboli who lost £1.4bn 'in 'inhumane deportation' back to Ghana from Scotland**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17223505.former-ubs-trader-kweku-adoboli-who-lost-14bn-in-inhumane-deportation-back-to-ghana-from-scotland/>

**Kweku Adoboli deported to Ghana on flight from Heathrow**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/nov/14/kweku-adoboli-rogue-trader-ubs-deported-ghana-heathrow>

**Kweku Adoboli: Former UBS rogue trader deported to Ghana**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/kweku-adoboli-rogue-trader-deported-ubs-bank-fraud-ghana-home-office-a8634921.html>

**Rogue UBS trader is deported from UK**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/rogue-ubs-trader-is-deported-from-uk-twlm153sh>

**Kweku Adoboli had served his time. Deporting him was unspeakably cruel**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/nov/16/kweku-adoboli-deporting-cruel-city-trader-ghana>

**Exiled: the disturbing story of a citizen made unBritish**

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2018/nov/17/unbecoming-british-kamila-shamsie-citizens-exile>

## Community Relations

### Scottish Parliament Motion

**S5M-14793 Joan McAlpine (SNP): BEMIS International Cultural Award** – That the Parliament warmly congratulates BEMIS Scotland on receiving an International Fair Saturday Award in the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao on 5 November 2018, alongside other international examples of best practice, for its work in utilising the diverse cultural characteristics of Scotland's communities to help build a dynamic, diverse and inclusive national identity; recognises that the BEMIS Multicultural programme of events from 2014 to 2018, underpinned by the 298 local community events attended by over 100,000 people, has been acknowledged as an international example of best practice in community integration; notes that these events have been led by Scotland's diverse communities, including over 30 self-identified, ethnic and cultural minority communities in Scotland, and involved the incorporation of international human rights practice into the domestic work of BEMIS, and commends the approach of the institutions in Scotland that received international recognition for their support of the many examples of intangible cultural heritage in Scotland, including the SFA, Celtic Connections International Music Festival and the Fair Saturday Movement (Bilbao), which have worked with BEMIS to host unique one-off multicultural events that showcase the best of all of Scotland's people and bring communities together to champion Scotland's inclusive national identity.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-14793>

### Press Release

**Faith Minister calls on religious communities to bridge divides**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/faith-minister-calls-on-religious-communities-to-bridge-divides>

### New Publication

**Belief in communities: bridging the divide**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/756211/Faith\\_in\\_Communities\\_-\\_Bridging\\_the\\_Divide.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/756211/Faith_in_Communities_-_Bridging_the_Divide.pdf)

### News

**Interfaith Week: a chance to come together**

[http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/news/2018/interfaith\\_week\\_a\\_chance\\_to\\_come\\_together](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news_and_events/news/2018/interfaith_week_a_chance_to_come_together)

## Equality

### Scottish Parliament Written Answer

#### Social Security Scotland's Executive Advisory Body

**S5W-19666 Mark Griffin (Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government how many people applied to be on Social Security Scotland's Executive Advisory Body, and how many had a protected characteristic, broken down by characteristic.

**Reply from Shirley-Anne Somerville:** Social Security Scotland received 41 applications for positions on its Executive Advisory Body. The following tables reflect what candidates have declared in our Equalities Monitoring forms in relation to protected characteristics.

Please note that counts of less than 5 have been suppressed and shown as \* to prevent the possible disclosure of information about individuals. Secondary data suppression has also been necessary to prevent the calculation of the suppressed values by differencing (also shown as \*)

Age Group:

16-29	30-39	40-49	50-54	55-59	60+	Prefer not to Say
0	*	8	*	12	12	1

Disability Statistics:

Yes	No	Unknown
16	19	6

Ethnic Group:

White	Ethnic Minority	Prefer not to say
*	*	1

'White' group includes Scottish; Other British; Irish; Gypsy/Traveller; Polish; Other White. 'Ethnic Minority' group includes Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Groups; Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British; African, Caribbean or Black; Other Ethnic Group.

Religion:

None	Christian	Other	Prefer not to say	Unknown
17	17	*	1	*

'Christian' includes Church of Scotland; Roman Catholic; Other Christian. 'Other' includes Muslim; Buddhist; Sikh; Jewish; Hindu; Another religion.

Gender Statistics:

Female	Male	Prefer not to say
20	20	1

Sexual Orientation:

LGBTI	Heterosexual	Prefer not to say	Unknown
*	36	*	*

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-19666>

## Press Releases

### Improving diversity in education

<https://www.gov.scot/news/improving-diversity-in-education/>

### Human Rights sacred

<https://www.gov.scot/news/human-rights-sacred/>

### MEPs call for EU rules to better protect minorities' rights

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181106IPR18321/meps-call-for-eu-rules-to-better-protect-minorities-rights>

## New Publications

### Teaching in a diverse Scotland: increasing and retaining minority ethnic teachers

<https://tinyurl.com/yanozx3d>

### Working with Roma: Participation and empowerment of local communities

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra\\_uploads/fra-2018-working-with-roma\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2018-working-with-roma_en.pdf)

## News

### Scottish initiative to boost female black, minority and ethnic workers to launch

<https://www.scotsman.com/business/companies/scottish-initiative-to-boost-female-black-minority-and-ethnic-workers-to-launch-1-4828568>

### Action vowed to increase minority ethnic teachers in Scottish schools

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/action-vowed-to-increase-minority-ethnic-teachers-in-scottish-schools-1-4829849>

### 'Worrying' lack of diversity in Britain's tech sector, report finds

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2018/nov/14/worrying-lack-of-diversity-in-britains-technology-sector-race-gender-report-finds>

### 4 keys to successful Roma inclusion

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/press-release/2018/4-keys-successful-roma-inclusion>

TOP

## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### Scottish Parliament Written Answers

#### Hate Crime

**S5W-19910 George Adam (SNP):** To ask the Scottish Government what its plans are for taking forward the development of a Hate Crime Bill, and how people can take part in the process.

**Reply from Humza Yousaf:** A consultation document based on Lord Bracadale's recommendations from his independent review of Hate Crime Legislation will be available to the public via Citizen Space from 14 November until 24 February 2019. In parallel we will be undertaking a series of consultation events across Scotland from December until early February to increase the opportunity

for stakeholders and the public to respond to the consultation in part or in whole. The consultation will also explore the findings of the Working Group on Defining Sectarianism in Scots Law, and the Working Group's report will also be published on 14 November. The findings from the consultation exercise will inform the content of consolidated and modernised Hate Crime legislation.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-19910>

The consultation referred to above can be read at

<https://consult.gov.scot/hate-crime/consultation-on-scottish-hate-crime-legislation/>

Information about the consultation events referred to above can be found in the "[Events, Conferences, and Training](#)" section below.

The report referred to above can be read at

<https://tinyurl.com/ycllav6m>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

#### **Safer communities and anti-sectarianism funding**

**S5W-19827 James Kelly (Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government how it will structure safer communities and anti-sectarianism funding in the 2019-20 budget.

**S5W-19828 James Kelly (Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government what funding it will allocate in 2019-20 to projects that tackle sectarianism.

**Reply from Humza Yousaf:** We are committed to the creation of a sectarian-free Scotland - a modern Scotland which is not weighed down by the prejudices of the past.

I can confirm that we will be presenting our spending plans for 2019-20 in due course.

Since 2012 we have invested an unprecedented total of £13.5 million in delivering a wide range of activities across a variety of formal and informal settings. This has included the development of Scotland's first national education resource on tackling sectarianism.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-19827>

and

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-19828>

## **UK Parliament Debate**

### **Anti-bullying Week**

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-11-15/debates/D91220AD-5515-4B98-AB4B-DDF9E8EC003B/Anti-BullyingWeek>

## **UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers**

### **Appointment of Sir Roger Scruton**

**Andrew Gwynne (Labour):** To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government if he will make a statement on the appointment of Sir Roger Scruton as the chair of the Building Better, Building Beautiful Commission. ...

When was the Secretary of State made aware of Sir Roger's links to far-right organisations, and his propagation of their antisemitic conspiracy theories? Was he aware that his new chair spoke out against the disbanding of Vlaams Blok by Belgian courts after it was found to have incited racial discrimination, dismissing it as a conspiracy by the "liberal establishment"? Is that acceptable, in the Secretary of State's

view?

When was the Secretary of State made aware that Sir Roger heaped praise on Hungary's Viktor Orbán at the height of his truly hateful, state-orchestrated, antisemitic campaign against George Soros, and that he stated in a lecture in Hungary that Jewish intelligentsia "form part of the...Soros empire"?

We also know from reports in the *Huffington Post* today that Sir Roger Scruton spoke favourably of the National Front, calling it an "egalitarian" movement. Is this acceptable in the Secretary of State's eyes? ...

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** I have to say that it saddens me that someone who has done so much to champion freedom of speech, freedom of expression and freedom of thought should be subject to the kind of misinformed, ill-judged and very personal attacks that we have seen over the last few days, some of which, sadly, the hon. Gentleman has just repeated. ...

Sir Roger Scruton is a leading expert on aesthetics, who was asked to take on an unpaid role as chair of a commission looking into beauty in the built environment. He is one of the most qualified people in this particular field, so I am pleased that he has accepted that role. As a public intellectual of renown and author of over 50 books, as well as countless articles and public lectures, Sir Roger is engaged in a variety of topics, often expressing—yes—strong and controversial views.

**Andrew Gwynne:** Racist.

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** I am not going to repeat the word that the hon. Gentleman used and read it into the record, but I think he should consider his terms. As Sir Roger has made very clear, he has been offended and hurt by suggestions that he is in any way antisemitic or Islamophobic. Most of what has been reported is highly selected, taken completely out of context and distorted to paint an inaccurate picture. I do not have to agree with Sir Roger to acknowledge this, nor do I have to agree with his views on a number of different issues. However, we live in a free society where people can hold different opinions. I am proud that we do still live in a society where that remains possible. ...

I continue to believe that Sir Roger is the right person to lead this important work. ...

**Chi Onwurah (Labour):** Mr Speaker, you will not be surprised to hear that I disagree profoundly with many of the views of Sir Roger Scruton, which seem to be designed to bring the bigotry of the 19th century into the 21st. The Secretary of State implied that Sir Roger Scruton has been consistently taken out of context. Does he think that for a professional and public intellectual, as he describes him, to be so generally misrepresented shows a lack of professionalism and expertise, or does he think that offering Sir Roger Scruton a platform on the built environment of the communities of our country is in some way not connected with his views on race, multiculturalism, homophobia, sexual orientation and Islamophobia?

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** ... We live in a world where people communicate in 140 characters. We are talking about someone who delivers long lectures and has written extensively in many different books and some controversial articles. It is important to see that context. Sir Roger has accepted in the past that he has got it wrong—for example, he acknowledged in 2010 that he had changed his position on homophobia and was wrong. ...

**Edward Leigh (Conservative):** Is not the only truly illiberal thing to use student union smear tactics to deliberately attack a distinguished philosopher who has written hundreds of thousands of words and do what the Opposition spokesman has done today, which is to take one sentence and then claim that the philosopher is antisemitic? We should read the rest of the sentence, in which this philosopher says: "People in these networks include many who are rightly suspicious of nationalism, regard nationalism as the major cause of the tragedy of Central Europe". ...

**Clive Efford (Labour):** This is not about freedom of speech; it is about whether someone is suitable to be appointed to public office who holds extreme views. There is a

difference between dealing with controversial issues and expressing specific views on issues such as Islamophobia, antisemitism and racism in general, and links with right-wing organisations. ...

**James Gray (Conservative):** ... he is one of the most compassionate and even-handed men that I have ever met. He is my constituent and a good friend ... He is nothing like an antisemite, nor an Islamophobe. Nothing could be further from the truth, and it is an outrage to describe him as such. ...

**Reply from James Brokenshire:** Sir Roger is a leading philosopher, and his extensive work clearly provokes responses and debate, as it is intended to do. However, my focus is on the core skills that he brings to his work on beauty in the built environment, which is why he is so well placed to do this work. ...

**To read the full transcript see**

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-11-12/debates/0D489462-AA34-46B8-B30A-4A3ED4369039/AppointmentOfSirRogerScruton>

### Topical Questions: Ministry of Justice

**Virdendra Sharma (Labour)** [907533] Within the last week, two separate Hindu temples, the Shree Swaminarayan temple in Willesden and the Shree Kutch Satsang Swaminarayan temple in Kenton, have been broken into and religious icons have been stolen. Can the Minister confirm that these will be treated as hate crimes and not just ignored by the police, given that they targeted people of one faith?

**Reply from David Gauke:** Those specific cases will be a matter for the police and for the Crown Prosecution Service, but if activity of this sort is targeted on the basis of religious belief, that is completely unacceptable and I am sure that the whole House is united in condemning it.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-11-13/debates/AE5AB7A5-1CC2-4117-9746-8E59BD4E08A0/TopicalQuestions#contribution-FED4CF7C-43F0-46A4-8BE7-F9CA4D800664>

## Welsh Assembly Oral Answers

### Tackling Hate Crime

**Dawn Bowden (Labour)** [OAQ52912] Will the Leader of House provide an update on Welsh Government action to tackle hate crime?

**Reply from Julie James:** We are building on our tackling hate crime programme and expanding our community cohesion work across Wales to mitigate any rise in hate crime. Our hate crime criminal justice board is an effective forum, bringing together key partners to co-ordinate our work in this area.

**Dawn Bowden:** ... First of all, can I thank you and what the Welsh Government have been doing on this important issue? The scale of the programme was recently highlighted by the Equality and Human Rights Commission report that we debated last week, and it's an important question for all Assembly Members to consider, and even more for all of us to acknowledge that the language that we choose to use in the Senedd shapes the messages that we send to the people of Wales. So, would you agree with me that what we say and what we do in this place plays an important part in encouraging an atmosphere that can help to reduce the current levels of hate crime in Wales?

**Reply from Julie James:** I completely agree with Dawn Bowden when she raises this very important point. ...

Here in Wales, we want as leaders to represent all of the communities that we represent fairly, openly, with honesty and respect, because all of our communities deserve that. And it is a fundamental point in that that the way we talk about each other and to each other very much matters in the ethos that we set here in Wales.

**Mohammad Asghar (Conservative):** Leader of the house, incidents of anti-Semitism

have been on the rise across the United Kingdom. In the first six months of this year, 727 anti-Semitic incidents were recorded by the Community Security Trust. It has been reported by the *Jewish Chronicle* that one of your Welsh colleagues questioned whether anti-Semitic hate crime was real, and whether the threat is all in their own head. Leader of the house, will you take this opportunity to state clearly that anti-Semitism is a hate crime, and will you join me in condemning these comments, which totally fail to recognise the threat faced by our communities, especially Jewish communities in Wales?

**Reply from Julie James:** Yes. On 17 October, the First Minister issued a written statement to confirm that in adopting the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's working definition of anti-Semitism in May of last year, we included the 11 examples from the outset in full and without qualification. So, I am very happy to make it absolutely clear that anti-Semitism in any form will not be tolerated here in Wales—or any other form of racist language, action or attitudes. The Welsh Government is committed to encouraging victims of anti-Semitism to report it. We are working hard with our partners to protect and support victims of anti-Semitic abuse and violence and to hold perpetrators to account. We are determined to ensure that Wales continues to be a friendly and tolerant place in which to live, study and work, a country where anti-Semitism has no place in our society—or any other form of racist or intolerant language or abuse.

**Caroline Jones (Independent):** Leader of the house, I welcome the actions you are taking to tackle hate crime. However, this is a growing issue, particularly online. Many young people are subjected to a constant barrage of hate, hate speech and online bullying, from which there is no escape. Leader of the house, will you outline how you and the Cabinet Secretary for Education, in conjunction with the UK Government, are working with the technology sector to stop the spread of online hate speech and cyber bullying in Wales?

**Reply from Julie James:** Yes, it's a very important point that the Member raises. Obviously, social media is a growing part of our culture and language, and we ought to have the same standards of conduct and respect and tolerance and inclusion for each other in social media as we do everywhere else. It's particularly unfortunate that people feel that they can be anonymous there, and there's a piece of work for all of us, I think, to take forward in developing rules as the twenty-first century unfolds around anonymity in these sorts of forums. The Welsh Government provided £5,000 again this year to each of the four Welsh forces and Victim Support to actively support National Hate Crime Awareness Week in October and to raise awareness of hate crime throughout the year, and that includes in the digital space. I also work very closely with the Cabinet Secretary for Education in supporting be safe on the internet week, which was only very recently and in supporting our digital pioneers and young internet cadets right throughout Wales in both recognising bullying for what it is, whether it's online or not online, and actually in learning the skills and techniques to ensure that they and their colleagues are safe and that they learn how to look out for each other both in the physical space and in cyberspace.

<http://record.assembly.wales/Plenary/5364#C136783>

## Press Releases

### Modernising Hate Crime law

<https://www.gov.scot/news/modernising-hate-crime-law/>

### Trio guilty of membership of banned British neo-Nazi group

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/cps/news/trio-guilty-membership-banned-british-neo-nazi-group>

**On International Day for Tolerance, OSCE/ODIHR Director urges states to renew efforts to counter hate-motivated crime as new hate crime data published**

<https://www.osce.org/odhr/403199>

## New Publications

**Final Report of the Working Group on Defining Sectarianism in Scots Law**

<https://tinyurl.com/ycllav6m>

**Anti-bullying week 2018**

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CDP-2018-0243/CDP-2018-0243.pdf>

**OSCE/ODHIR: 2017 Hate Crime Data**

<http://hatecrime.osce.org/what-do-we-know>

**OSCE/ODHIR: 2017 Hate Crime Data: Key findings (infographic)**

<http://hatecrime.osce.org/sites/default/files/documents/Website/Infographics/2017-HC-Overview.png>

## News

**Scotland set to become first part of UK to define sectarianism in law**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/education/scotland-set-to-become-first-part-of-uk-to-define-sectarianism-in-law-1-4830078>

**Holyrood told sectarianism should be classified as a hate crime in Scotland**

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/crime/holyrood-told-sectarianism-should-classified-13591445>

**Police 'suffer most sectarian abuse'**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/police-suffer-most-sectarian-abuse-6mnlrxfdh>

**Labour AM Jenny Rathbone facing probe over Jewish comments**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-politics-46207105>

**National Action trial: Three guilty of neo-Nazi group membership**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-oxfordshire-46151838>

**National Action: The new parents and the neo-Nazi terror threat**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/stories-45919730>

**Parents who named their baby Adolf found guilty of being members of neo-Nazi terror group**

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/parents-who-named-baby-adolf-13578388>

**Adam Thomas: Neo-Nazi terrorist who named baby after Hitler 'moved to Israel and planned to convert to Judaism'**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/adam-thomas-national-action-neo-nazi-terror-israel-hitler-baby-judadism-a8630321.html>

**British Army Lance Corporal was recruiting soldiers for neo-Nazi terrorist group**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/british-army-officer-national-action-mikko-vehvilainen-neo-nazi-terrorist-group-recruitment-a8632331.html>

**Army veteran worked for neo-Nazi group recruiting active soldiers**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/11/12/serving-army-afghan-veteran-recruiter-neo-nazi-terrorists-targeting/>

**Neo-Nazi used army as recruiting ground**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-11-13/news/neo-nazi-couple-adam-thomas-and-claudia-patatas-who-planned-white-jihad-convicted-pkj2mxzww>

**Gypsy and traveller families 'hounded out' of areas in act of 'social cleansing' as councils impose sweeping bans**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/gypsy-traveller-families-people-sweeping-ban-land-social-cleansing-england-a8637741.html>

**Making this a black issue is racial bias, says Professor Green**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-11-13/news/making-this-a-black-issue-is-racial-bias-says-professor-green-s7l9625zl>

**Racism in Scottish schools hampering ethnic minority teachers**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17221302.racism-in-scottish-schools-hampering-ethnic-minority-teachers/>

**Let diversity be reflected in the staffroom**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/opinion/17222002.herald-view-let-diversity-be-reflected-in-the-staffroom/>

**Man jailed for church and temple fires in Edinburgh**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-46222968>

**Bigoted arsonist who set fire to Sikh temple and church jailed for four years**

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/bigoted-arsonist-who-set-fire-13594339>

**Man jailed for fire attacks on Edinburgh temple and church**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/nov/15/man-jailed-for-fire-attacks-on-edinburgh-temple-and-church>

**Man who set fire to Sikh temple and church in 'political statement' is jailed**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/paul-johnson-fire-sikh-temple-church-edinburgh-jail-latest-a8635981.html>

**Religion-hater jailed for fire attacks**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-11-16/scotland/religion-hater-jailed-for-fire-attacks-n698svtq8>

**Durham University drops academic Stephen Pax Leonard over 'antisemitic' tweet**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/durham-university-drops-academic-stephen-pax-leonard-over-antisemitic-tweet-7q75z78bv>

**Jewish history can be used as a weapon to fight antisemitism**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/nov/16/jewish-history-antisemitism-anniversary-kristallnacht>

**Ongoing Situation in the Middle East and Gaza is No Excuse for Antisemitism**

<https://tellmamauk.org/ongoing-situation-in-the-middle-east-and-gaza-is-no-excuse-for-antisemitism/>

## Islamophobic hate mail targets schools and mosques in London and Yorkshire

<https://tellmamauk.org/islamophobic-hate-mail-targets-schools-and-mosques-in-london-and-yorkshire/>

## Watch Scots racist launch tirade of abuse at terrified Asian couple on packed train

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/watch-scots-racist-launch-tirade-13602020>

## 'Human rights lawyer' arrested after racist tirade on aeroplane because she was denied wine

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/11/14/human-rights-lawyer-arrested-launching-racist-tirade-aeroplane/>

## Simone O'Broin: Lawyer in wine-rage rant arrested after plane lands

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/simone-o-broin-lawyer-in-wine-rage-rant-arrested-after-plane-lands-w9n2tc738>

## "I have a thing for mixed-race girls...": How modern dating encourages racial prejudice

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bbcthree/article/50bf662a-c48c-4201-b2de-c575b14f6645>

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## Other Scottish Parliament and Government

### Scottish Parliament Oral Answer

#### British Indian Army (Memorial)

**Anas Sarwar (Labour):** Today, the first multifaith remembrance service will be held in Kingussie for the soldiers of the British Indian Army whose graves have been discovered there and elsewhere in Scotland. These 13 young men came to Scotland having been evacuated from Dunkirk during the second world war and they are our forgotten heroes: Ali Bahadur, Bari Sher, Dadan Khan, Fazl Ali, Khan Muhammad, Khushi Muhammad, Muhammad, Muhammad Sadiq, Mushtaq Ahmad, Mir Zaman, Abdul Rakhman, Ghulam Nabi and Karam Dad.

Does the First Minister agree that their names should be forgotten no more and that there should be a permanent memorial in Scotland to commemorate their lives and the 161,000 soldiers of the British Indian Army who lost their lives in defence of our country, so that their contribution is remembered for generations to come? [*Applause.*]

**Reply from the First Minister:** I agree with Anas Sarwar. I thank him for raising the issue and for how he has done so. He is right to say that those men were forgotten heroes. Today, as a result of Anas Sarwar's question, their names are in the *Official Report* of the Scottish Parliament, so they will be forgotten no longer. I thank him for that.

I welcome the multifaith remembrance service that is taking place today. It is very fitting. It is an opportunity to remember with gratitude the contribution of the British Indian Army to the war effort. We have just passed armistice day, on which we commemorated the centenary of the end of the first world war and remembered all those who lost their lives in conflicts throughout the past century. When we do such things, we should ensure that we remember everyone.

I would be happy to take forward discussions about the possibility of a permanent memorial. I will ask the relevant minister to contact Anas Sarwar to kick-off those discussions as soon as possible.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11776&i=106592#ScotParlOR>

## Press Releases

### **Brexit deal**

<https://www.gov.scot/news/brexit-deal/>

### **Devolved power curb 'should be repealed'**

<https://www.gov.scot/news/devolved-power-curb-should-be-repealed/>

### **First Minister hosts Interfaith Summit**

<https://firstminister.gov.scot/first-minister-hosts-interfaith-summit/>

## New Publication

### **Animation: The Scottish Government**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wdSO0Ldx5R0>

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## Other UK Parliament and Government

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

#### **Government Departments: Sikhs**

**Preet Kaur Gill (Labour Co-op)** [184403] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, with reference to the judgment of Mandla (Sewa Singh) and another v Dowell Lee and others [1983] 2 AC 548, which Government Departments and agencies (a) do and (b) do not include Sikh as an ethnic group in their classifications.

**Reply from Oliver Dowden:** The Civil Service records data across a range of characteristics - at present, Sikh is recorded as a religion but not an ethnic group. Departments are advised to collect ethnicity, national identity and religion data in line with the GSS Harmonisation Principles to ensure consistency of workforce reporting across departments.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-10-26/184403/>

*The judgment referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.bailii.org/uk/cases/UKHL/1982/7.html>

#### **Places of Worship Security Funding Scheme**

**Andrew Gwynne (Labour)** [188021] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what meetings his Department has had with representatives of religious institutions on the places of worship security funding scheme in the last three years.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** The Places of Worship security funding scheme is a key Home Office commitment in the Hate Crime Action Plan.

Officials have actively promoted the scheme visiting mosques, gurdwaras, churches and temples, as well as attending faith-based roundtables. In addition, the scheme uses an Independent Advisory Panel, consisting of representatives from the Christian, Muslim, Sikh and Hindu faiths, to assess applications.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-02/188021/>

#### **Female Genital Mutilation**

**Anneliese Dodds (Labour Co-op)** [188271] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps he is taking to ensure that Primary Care practices have the

ability to submit securely information on patients that have been subjected to female genital mutilation to the statutory database.

**Reply from Jackie Doyle-Price:** The Female Genital Mutilation Enhanced Dataset is collected via the NHS Digital Clinical Audit Platform or CAP, which is an easy to use, intuitive, data submission tool that needs no specific training. NHS Digital has published clear guidance online to support National Health Service organisations, including primary care practices, to register to access CAP and to submit information on the system. In 2017, the process was simplified and streamlined to further support primary care practices to register on the CAP, and it was confirmed that the Senior Partner or Caldicott Guardian at a practice can submit the registration to access CAP.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-11-05/188271/>

## Press Releases

### **Prime Minister's statement on Brexit negotiations**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-statement-on-brexit-negotiations-15-november-2018>

### **Home Secretary opens conference to tackle FGM and forced marriage**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-opens-conference-to-tackle-fgm-and-forced-marriage>

## New Publications

### **"The settled will"? Devolution in Scotland, 1998-2018**

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-8441/CBP-8441.pdf>

### **Count of Traveller Caravans, July 2018 England**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/756234/TCC\\_Nov18\\_Stats\\_Release.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/756234/TCC_Nov18_Stats_Release.pdf)

### **Forced marriage - You have the right to choose: posters**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/755654/Forced\\_marriage\\_posters\\_1.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/755654/Forced_marriage_posters_1.pdf)

and

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/755655/Forced\\_marriage\\_posters\\_2.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/755655/Forced_marriage_posters_2.pdf)

and

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/755656/Forced\\_marriage\\_posters\\_3.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/755656/Forced_marriage_posters_3.pdf)

and

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/755658/Forced\\_marriage\\_posters\\_4.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/755658/Forced_marriage_posters_4.pdf)

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## Other News

**Muslim soldiers who served in Scotland “must be remembered”**

<https://www.scotsman.com/lifestyle/muslim-soldiers-who-served-in-scotland-must-be-remembered-1-4830628>

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## Bills in Progress    \*\* new or updated this week

### Scottish Parliament

**\*\* Human Tissue (Authorisation) (Scotland) Bill**

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/108681.aspx>

Health and Sport Committee: Stage 1 evidence sessions

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11764&i=106496#ScotParlOR>  
and

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11777&i=106599#ScotParlOR>

**Vulnerable Witnesses (Criminal Evidence) (Scotland) Bill**

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/108702.aspx>

### UK Parliament

**Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/immigrationcontrolgrosshumanrightsabuses.html>

**\*\* Children Act 1989 (Amendment) (Female Genital Mutilation) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/childrenact1989amendmentfemalegenitalmutilation.html>

Report Stage, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-11-12/debates/D4F6315B-C410-48DD-AE2B-302978E16597/ChildrenAct1989\(Amendment\)\(FemaleGenitalMutilation\)Bill\(HL\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-11-12/debates/D4F6315B-C410-48DD-AE2B-302978E16597/ChildrenAct1989(Amendment)(FemaleGenitalMutilation)Bill(HL))

**EEA Nationals (Indefinite Leave to Remain) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/eeanationalsindefiniteleavetoremain.html>

**\*\* Gypsy and Traveller Communities (Housing, Planning and Education)**

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/gypsyandtravellercommunitieshousingplanningandeducation.html>

First Reading, House of Commons

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-11-13/debates/403211A9-02B3-4CD0-96A7-4468A15E5951/GypsyAndTravellerCommunities\(HousingPlanningAndEducation\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-11-13/debates/403211A9-02B3-4CD0-96A7-4468A15E5951/GypsyAndTravellerCommunities(HousingPlanningAndEducation))

**Holocaust (Return of Cultural Objects) (Amendment) Bill**

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/holocaustreturnofculturalobjectsamendment.html>

**Human Trafficking (Child Protection) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/humantraffickingchildprotection.html>

## **Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/humantraffickingchildprotection.html>

## **Modern Slavery (Transparency in Supply Chains) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/modernslaverytransparencyinsupplychains.html>

## **Modern Slavery (Victim Support) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/modernslaveryvictimsupport.html>

## **Online Forums Bill**

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/onlineforums.html>

## **Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/refugeesfamilyreunionbill.html>

## **Refugees (Family Reunion) (No. 2) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/refugeesfamilyreunionno2.html>

## **Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (Legal Advice and Appeals) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/unaccompaniedasylumseekingchildrenlegaladviceandappeals.html>

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## **Consultations**

\*\* new or updated this week

**\*\* closes this week!**

**Census (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill** (closing date 23 November 2018)

<http://www.parliament.scot/gettinginvolved/109902.aspx>

**The future of civil partnership in Scotland** (closing date 21 December 2018)

<https://consult.gov.scot/family-law/the-future-of-civil-partnership-in-scotland/>

**Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Bill** (closing date 4 January 2018)

<https://consult.gov.scot/violence-against-women-team/female-genital-mutilation/>

**Shortage occupation list review 2018** (closing date 6 January 2019)

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/754865/SOL\\_call\\_for\\_evidence\\_Final\\_Version\\_for\\_publication.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/754865/SOL_call_for_evidence_Final_Version_for_publication.pdf)

**Equality and Human Rights Commission Draft Strategic Plan 2019 to 2022** (closing date 7 January 2019)

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work-have-your-say>

**Ethnicity pay reporting** (closing date 11 January 2019)

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/747546/ethnicity-pay-reporting-consultation.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/747546/ethnicity-pay-reporting-consultation.pdf)

**\*\* Preventing and tackling forced marriage** (closing date 23 January 2019)

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/756200/Forced\\_Marriage\\_Consultation.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/756200/Forced_Marriage_Consultation.pdf)

**\*\* One Scotland: Hate Has No Home Here** (closing date 24 February 2019)  
<https://consult.gov.scot/hate-crime/consultation-on-scottish-hate-crime-legislation/>

**Social inclusion, loneliness and belonging in society** (closing date not stated)  
<http://app.surveymethods.com/EndUser.aspx?B397FBE3BAF0E3E2B3>

**Teaching Migration & Empire Survey** (closing date not stated)  
<http://app.surveymethods.com/EndUser.aspx?88ACC0D881CBDDD882>

**Raising skills and standards of supporters of refugees and asylum seekers**  
(closing date not stated)  
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3R8SDYN>

**Police Scotland: Your view counts** (open all year)  
<http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/decision-making/public-consultation/local-policing-consultation>

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## Job Opportunities

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

[Click here](#) to find out about Graduate, Modern, and Foundation Apprenticeship opportunities.

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## Funding Opportunities

\*\* new or updated this week

### **Year of Young People**

There is no closing date – the fund will remain open until all money has been distributed. Year of Young People 2018 celebrates everything that makes Scotland's young people incredible. As a nation proud of our young people, the Year of Young People puts the spotlight on the contributions and achievements of eight to 26 year olds, while giving them a stronger voice on issues that matter to them, and aims to inspire Scotland through its young people, celebrating their achievements, valuing their contribution to communities and creating new opportunities for them to shine locally and on a global-stage.

BEMIS Scotland, in collaboration with the Scottish Government, is providing grants of between £250 and £1,000 for constituted charitable and non-profit organisations, and community groups.

For full information see <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/yoy-p-grant-guidelines.pdf> and to apply see <http://bemis.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/yoy-p-application-form.docx>

### **Cyber grants now available to Scottish charities** **Closing date for applications: 18 December 2018**

The cyber grants help charities to meet the costs of preparing for and receiving Cyber Essentials accreditation. Eligible organisations can receive up to £1,000 towards the costs of achieving Cyber Essentials accreditation. For information and to apply see

<https://scvo.org.uk/digital/evolution/cyber-resilience>

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**\*\* this week!**

**Scotland's Census 2021 Questions and Outputs**

22 November 2018 in Edinburgh (9.30-4.00)

29 November 2018 in Aberdeen (9.30-4.00)

5 December 2018 (9.30-4.00)

National Records of Scotland event to provide an update on the development of questions and outputs for the 2021 census, including the ethnicity, national identity, and religion questions. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/ydyh6778>

**\*\* this week!**

**Equalities and Hate Crime Public Awareness**

22 November 2018 in Kirkcaldy (6.00-8.00)

6 December 2018 in Cupar (6.00-8.00)

Fife Centre for Equalities sessions to find out about the Equality Act 2010, learn about how to report hate crime and how to get advice and support, and to share any concerns you may have about something that has happened to you or someone you know. For information about the Kirkcaldy event see <https://tinyurl.com/ybszq9wv> and about the Cupar event see <https://tinyurl.com/ydedubvb>

**\*\* this week!**

**Ethnic Minority Impact Awards 2018**

23 November 2018 in Glasgow (6.00-11.00pm)

CEMVO Ethnic Minority Impact Awards recognise individuals or organisations that have contributed to Scottish society or made a difference to their community locally or nationally. For information see <https://www.cemvoscotland.org.uk/event/ethnic-minority-impact-awards-2018/>

**\*\* Diversity Works - Inclusive Business Project**

26 November 2018 in Glasgow (9.30-1.30)

Adopt an Intern launch of a project providing an opportunity for Private, Public and Third Sector businesses to examine their current diversity recruitment practices in the context of the labour market in Scotland. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y7j3mkh3>

**Bullying – It's never acceptable**

28 November 2018 in Inverness (9.30-4.30)

RespectMe training on bullying behaviours and practical strategies which can be used to address bullying behaviour wherever it occurs. For information see <https://actiononprejudice.info/events/bullying-never-acceptable-multiple-dates-locations/>

**\*\* Defending Human Rights**

29 November 2018 in Edinburgh (2.00-4.00)

Human Rights Consortium Scotland round table to hear about what it means to defend human rights in Scotland and overseas. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/ya5oqk5y>

**\*\* One Scotland: Hate Has No Home Here**

4 December 2018 in Lockerbie (10.00-1.00)

6 December 2018 in Inverness (12.00-3.00)

16 January 2019 in Glasgow (10.00-1.00)

17 January 2019 in Stornaway (10.00-1.00)

22 January 2019 in Dundee (10.00-1.00)

24 January 2019 in Galashiels (10.00-1.00)

31 January 2019 in Edinburgh (10.00-1.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/y85utdlh>

<https://tinyurl.com/yc4q8k4h>

<https://tinyurl.com/y7aqqavn>

<https://tinyurl.com/yczkv4gm>

<https://tinyurl.com/y93w7aq4>

<https://tinyurl.com/y9jlfzds>

<https://tinyurl.com/y9rygo77>

6 February 2019 in Aberdeen (12.00-3.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/y9a9x6h8>

7 February 2019 in Shetland (10.00-1.00)

<https://tinyurl.com/yahlmwvm>

Scottish Government Hate Crime consultation meetings to provide information about the proposals, and enable individuals and communities to give their views. For information and to book a place, please click on the relevant link above.

**\*\* EU Citizens' Rights after Brexit**

5 December 2018 in Glasgow (2.00-4.00)

Scottish Government to provide an understanding of upcoming changes to EU citizen rights after Brexit, including what we know about applying for the new settled status. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y8po738g>

**\*\* Overcoming Unconscious Bias**

11 December 2018 in Kirkcaldy (9.30-4.00)

Fife Centre for Equalities training to help those in positions of leadership to understand hidden factors that contribute to the success or failure of organisational policy and strategy. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y97ofh8b>

**\*\* Discrimination Law in 2019**

21 January 2019 in Edinburgh (9.00-4.00)

Equality and Human rights Commission conference to provide authoritative guidance on important recent and proposed changes to discrimination legislation. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y775nbkz>

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## Useful Links

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

**Scottish Government** <https://www.gov.scot/>

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

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

**European Parliament** <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/portal/en>

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

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

**Interfaith Scotland** <https://interfaithscotland.org/>

**Equality and Human Rights Commission** <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en>

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

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

**ACAS** <http://www.acas.org.uk/>

**SCVO** <https://scvo.org.uk/>

**Volunteer Scotland** <https://www.volunteerscotland.net/>

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

**Scottish Fundraising Standards Panel** <https://www.goodfundraising.scot/>

**Disclosure Scotland** <https://www.mygov.scot/working-jobs/finding-a-job/disclosure/>

**Volunteer Scotland Disclosure Services** <https://www.volunteerscotland.net/for-organisations/disclosure-services/>

**BBC News** <https://www.bbc.com/news>

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

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