



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.

Contents

[Immigration and Asylum](#)

[Community Relations](#)

[Equality](#)

[Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination](#)

[Other Scottish Parliament and Government](#)

[Other UK Parliament and Government](#)

[Bills in Progress](#)

[Consultations](#)

[Job Opportunities](#)

[Events, Conferences, and Training](#)

[Useful Links](#)

Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month, and that the Scottish and UK Parliament and Government websites 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.

Please send information for inclusion in MEMO to MEMO@scojec.org and [click here](#) to be added to the mailing list.

The Scottish Parliament is in recess until 22 April 2019, and the UK Parliament until 23 April 2019. The next issue of MEMO will be on 29 April 2019.

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee

Immigration Inquiry: evidence session

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12047>

UK Parliament, Ministerial Statements

Windrush Compensation Scheme

The Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes) [HCWS1496] Yesterday the Home

Secretary announced the launch of the Windrush Compensation Scheme. The Government deeply regret what has happened to some members of the Windrush generation and the launch of the compensation scheme marks a key milestone in righting the wrongs they have experienced. Detailed information about the compensation scheme, including the rules that govern the scheme, with the forms and guidance that people need to make a claim, are available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/windrush-compensation-scheme>. Our helpline is also open now on: 0800 678 1925 for those wishing to receive printed copies of the claim form or for any other queries, this is free if calling from within the UK. Those calling from outside the UK will be called back.

I would like to clarify, further to questions raised with the Home Secretary on the Floor of the House, three issues in relation to eligibility to apply for compensation. The first is in relation to those who are not resident in the UK. A Commonwealth citizen outside the UK, who was settled in the UK before 1 January 1973, who has settled status, right of abode or is now a British citizen, or whose settled status has lapsed due to being absent from the UK for a period of two or more years is eligible to apply for compensation.

Secondly, the definition of a close family member for the purpose of the compensation scheme is a spouse or civil partner living with the claimant, cohabitee for continuous period of two years or more, a parent, a child or a sibling. Close family members are entitled to claim regardless of whether a primary claimant chooses to make an application and whether said claimant is deceased.

Thirdly, the definition of serious criminality for the purposes of the compensation scheme is defined as a conviction that received a sentence of imprisonment of four years or more, and that the offending was of such a nature that makes it inappropriate to make an award in whole or part. This provision does not apply to a conviction and sentence outside of the UK for conduct which on the date of the conviction was not an offence in the UK.

The Home Office is committed to raising awareness of the scheme, and to encouraging eligible people of all nationalities to submit a claim. Eligibility for compensation goes beyond members of the Caribbean Commonwealth, and we are putting in place a programme of events with key stakeholders, faith and community organisations to promote both the scheme and the wider work of the Commonwealth citizens taskforce. ... full details are available via the gov.uk page.

Regrettably, in promoting the scheme via email to interested parties, an administrative error was made which has meant data protection requirements have not been met, for which the Home Office apologises unreservedly.

This occurred in emails sent to some of the individuals and organisations who had registered an interest in being kept informed about the launch of the compensation scheme, which included other recipients' email addresses. Five batches of emails, each with 100 recipients, were affected. No other personal data was included.

A recall was commenced as soon as the problem had been identified. The departmental data protection officer has been informed and an internal review will be conducted to ensure this cannot happen again. The Department has voluntarily notified the Information Commissioner's Office of the incident.

I am firmly committed to doing right by the Windrush generation. The compensation scheme is an important step towards that and I will ensure that action is taken to ensure the highest standards are met not only in the processing of cases, but also in continued efforts to publicise the scheme and ensure those entitled to redress receive it.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-04-08/debates/1904087000009/WindrushCompensationScheme>

EU Settlement Scheme: Emails

The Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes) [HCWS1508] The EU settlement scheme is an integral part of protecting the rights of EU citizens who have made their homes here in the UK, giving them an easy way of demonstrating their status in this country so that in

years to come we do not find ourselves in a position where people have issues making clear the rights that they have. The scheme, which is free of charge, is performing well and over 400,000 EU citizens have already applied, with over 50,000 applications received on the opening weekend.

The Home Office receives a large number of enquiries in relation to the scheme. When responding to generic enquiries, responses are sent in batches. The process for this is such that recipients would not normally be able to see the other email addresses. Regrettably, it has come to my attention that on Sunday 7 April three emails were sent that did not follow the appropriate procedure and 240 email addresses were made visible to other recipients. No other personal data was included in the communication.

We have written to all individuals who received this email to apologise. The departmental data protection officer has been informed and the Department has voluntarily notified the Information Commissioner's Office of the incident. An internal review is also underway to determine the details of what happened and the lessons that need to be learned.

The Home Office takes its data protection responsibilities very seriously and is committed to the continued improvement of its performance against the UK's high data protection standards. As a Department we have been taking steps to ensure we have the culture, processes and systems in place to treat the public's personal data appropriately.

As a further immediate step we have put in place strict controls on the use of bulk emails when communicating with members of the public to ensure this does not happen again as lessons are learned. An independent review of the Department's compliance with its data protection obligations has also been commissioned which will be led by non-executive director Sue Langley and will report in due course.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-04-11/debates/19041126000017/EUSettlementSchemeEmails>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

Windrush Compensation Scheme

David Lammy (Labour): To ask the Home Secretary if he will make a statement on the Windrush compensation scheme.

Reply from the Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes): Righting the wrongs done to the Windrush generation has been at the forefront of my right hon. Friend the Home Secretary's priorities. Last week, on 3 April, she made a statement to this House setting out the detail of the compensation scheme and announcing that it is now open to claims.

The Government deeply regret what has happened to some members of the Windrush generation and the launch of the compensation scheme marks a key milestone in righting the wrongs they have experienced. The scheme will provide payments to eligible individuals who did not have the right documentation to prove their status in the UK and suffered adverse effects on their life as a result. These could range from a loss of employment or access to housing, education or NHS healthcare, to emotional distress or a deterioration in mental and physical health. Information on the scheme is now available. The claim forms and guidance notes can be found on the gov.uk website or requested from the freephone helpline. The scheme rules and caseworker guidance were also published online on 3 April. The helpline is already receiving calls and claim forms are being sent out. The Home Office has also started a series of engagement events. ...

In due course, we will publish information on the scheme through our existing monthly reports to the Home Affairs Committee, including information on the number of claims submitted, the number of claims paid and the overall amount paid out by the scheme.

David Lammy: I should not need to remind anyone in this House that the Windrush scandal is a national disgrace. At least 11 people who were wrongly deported from the UK by their own Government have died. At least 164 British citizens were wrongly deported or detained. Home Office officials have told the media that 15,000 individuals may have been harmed by the contempt that their Department showed.

Last week, one year since the scandal broke, the Home Secretary finally announced the compensation scheme, to begin the process of reconciliation for the Government's grievous errors. The Home Secretary apologised again, on behalf of the Government, for the failings and repeated his promise to do right by the Windrush generation. Crucially, he told members of this House: "There is no cap on the scheme" and "it will be based on people's needs".—[[Official Report, 3 April 2019; Vol. 657, c. 1048.](#)]

His words seem to have provided false reassurance.

In the response to the Windrush compensation scheme document that the Home Secretary brought to this House, there was no detail of caps. Instead, that was quietly published online in a separate compensation scheme rules document, slipped out later on 3 April. MPs therefore had no chance to scrutinise or question the truth that his Department had set out incredibly strict caps to be awarded for different losses—a £500 payment for legal costs incurred; £500 for people who had been denied the chance to go to university; £1,000 for those wrongly obliged to leave the country under a so-called voluntary return scheme; and a mere £10,000 for people who were wrongly deported. Victims have correctly described these payments as "peanuts" and "insultingly low".

I say to the Minister: £10,000 is less than one Secretary of State's gross salary per month. Is that all that a person will have lost if they have been locked up, if they have been deported, if they have been made homeless, because £10,000 is all that they would get from her Department? Is this all it costs someone to be denied access to their family and friends for years or decades—to their own country? Is this the price that you put on my constituents being deported for no wrongdoing and nothing that they have themselves done? Is this how this Government value the lives of black Britons? I say to the Minister: you promised to do right by the Windrush generation, but quite rightly many of them think that they have been misled.

Let this be the final betrayal of the Windrush generation. Scrap the caps, and compensate them properly for the wrongs that have been done to them.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: I thank the right hon. Gentleman for his question. He is of course right to emphasise how important it is that we right these wrongs. I would like to give some further explanation. It is important to reflect that while we have worked very closely with Martin Forde to establish both the tariff-based scheme and actuals, so where people could evidence specific losses, they would be reimbursed for those losses, actually these different heads of claim, which can be claimed for, need not be in the singular but can be cumulative. There is also a discretionary category, which will enable people to claim for other losses, not necessarily identified within the scheme, which is uncapped. [*Interruption.*] The detail is provided in the scheme online, but it is important to reflect that while there is a tariff set at £10,000 for somebody who was wrongly deported, of course that could be in conjunction with other parts of the claim, which could add up to significant sums in addition to that.

Henry Smith (Conservative): In addition to the Windrush compensation, can my right hon. Friend say when we will see pay-outs for the Chagos compensation scheme, which was set several years ago at £40 million to that exiled community over 10 years?

Reply from Caroline Nokes: ... last week, when I met high commissioners from across the Commonwealth, that issue was raised with me, and I will be working closely with Home Office officials to update him on that. ...

Diane Abbott (Labour): ... The whole House knows that the Windrush generation was let down by successive Governments, Labour and Conservative, but with this derisory

compensation scheme, the Windrush generation has been let down once again. ... This scheme compares very unfavourably with the criminal injuries compensation scheme, whose awards are aligned with compensation for loss under common law. Claimants are also allowed a statutory right of appeal of awards. They are also allowed legal aid for those appeals. None of that is true in any meaningful sense in the case of the Windrush victims. How can the Minister possibly justify that?

The Opposition believe that the Home Office must pay for losses actually incurred. For instance, claimants will be paid just £1,264 for denial of access to child benefit. It is easy to quantify what people would have lost altogether. Why cannot they get that exact sum of money back, plus interest? There is only £500 for denial of access to free healthcare. It is easy to quantify how much people had to spend when they had to access private healthcare. Why cannot they get that money back? ...

The amounts offered for wrongful denial of access to higher education are pitiful. The scheme offers just £500, but all the research shows that the lifetime benefit of access to higher education is counted in tens of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands, of pounds. This scheme is shoddy, unfair and unjust. ... Above all, the Home Secretary said there was no cap. These tariffs are a cap. We are asking Ministers, even at this late stage, to review these unfair tariffs, remove the cap, and give this generation the justice they deserve.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: ... With regard to caps on payments, this scheme is both tariff and actuals-based. The right hon. Lady raised the issue of those who might have been denied NHS care, where the tariff scheme involves an award of £500. However, if an individual incurred private healthcare costs, the actuals will of course be repaid. The Home Office is determined to work with its own information and with data held by other Departments and indeed by individuals more widely, so that we help claimants to establish their actual level of loss, where that is the most appropriate route. ...

To read this very lengthy question and answer session in full see

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-04-09/debates/17C7E50D-BF1E-4612-A954-074B9E295613/WindrushCompensationScheme>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

British Nationality: Children

Jim Cunningham (Labour) [242012] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate his Department has made of the amount of money received by the Government from applications for citizenship for children in 2018-19.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office does not record fees received from applications by British-born children separately to a unique account code within our accounting software, and therefore does not have sufficiently detailed management information to breakdown income into any component categories, for example by spouse/partner/child applications

Amounts received from Visa/Citizenship applications are not differentiated between the various categories in which they are received. We do not have a separate code or field for children's nationality applications. Our ledger will not allow us to provide this level of detail.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-08/242012/>

The following three questions all received the same answer

Immigrants: Children

Steve Reed (Labour Co-op) [241043] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home

Department, what assessment he has made of the effect on the well-being of children of their parents being subject to no recourse to public funds.

Immigrants: Croydon

Steve Reed (Labour Co-op) [241042] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people living in (a) Croydon North constituency and (b) the London borough of Croydon are designated as having no recourse to public funds.

Children: Croydon

Steve Reed (Labour Co-op) [241044] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many British children living in (a) Croydon North constituency and (b) the London Borough of Croydon are looked after by parents who are designated as having no recourse to public funds.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The no recourse to public funds (NRPF) condition is applied to the leave of most migrants in the UK as a legitimate means of maintaining and protecting our economic resources.

In those cases where leave has been, or is being, granted for family or private life reasons the NRPF condition can be lifted on application to the Home Office if that is necessary to meet the welfare needs of children. In addition, immigration legislation specifically provides for children to remain eligible for support from a local authority under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, and an assessment of welfare needs will be part of providing that support. Information about NRPF is held on individual case files for applications, which do not indicate whether an individual is part of the UK's resident population. Wider population data, such as that requested in relation to the London Borough of Croydon, and that requested for all households nationally, is not held by the Home Office.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-04/241043/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-04/241042/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-04/241044/>

Migrant Workers: Clergy

Mike Gapes (Independent) [240468] To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland, what discussions he has had with the Roman Catholic hierarchy in Scotland about their ability to host for indefinite periods seconded clergy from (a) Poland and (b) other EU Member States after the UK leaves the EU; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from David Mundell: Under the current Immigration Rules there are two routes available for non-EU nationals. The first, Tier 2 Ministers of Religion, is for those playing a leading role as faith leaders in our religious institutions. The second route, Tier 5 Religious Workers, is for those undertaking non-pastoral roles supporting the activities of these institutions. Our intention is to continue to attract those who bring a range of skills, including those who make valuable contributions to the enjoyment of faith and community across the UK.

Late last year I met Archbishop Philip Tartaglia, the Metropolitan Archbishop of Glasgow and President of the Bishops' Conference, and discussed a number of issues with him, including the UK's forthcoming exit from the European Union. Since then the Government has published its White Paper on the future immigration system, and I fully expect the Roman Catholic Church in Scotland will wish to engage with the Home Office on its particular circumstances and requirements.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-03/240468/>

The White Paper referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/766465/The-UKs-future-skills-based-immigration-system-print-ready.pdf

Migrant Workers: Clergy

Mike Gapes (Independent) [240469] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions he has had with the Roman Catholic hierarchy in England and Wales about their ability to host for indefinite periods seconded clergy from (a) Poland and (b) other EU Member States after the UK leaves the EU; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The recently published White Paper on the future immigration system, sets out our intention to continue to attract those who bring a range of skills, including those who make valuable contributions to the enjoyment of faith and community across the UK.

In the future, there will be a single skills-based system. Under current arrangements, which we will look to build on, there are two routes available for non-EU nationals. The first, Tier 2 Ministers of Religion is for those playing a leading role as faith leaders in our religious institutions. The second route, Tier 5 Religious Workers is for those undertaking non-pastoral roles supporting the activities of these institutions. We are embarking on an extensive programme of engagement and will be talking to representatives of a range of faith and community groups, including from the Catholic Church.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-03/240469/>

The White Paper referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/766465/The-UKs-future-skills-based-immigration-system-print-ready.pdf

Migrant Workers: Clergy

Mike Gapes (Independent) [240470] To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, what discussions she has had with the Roman Catholic hierarchy in Ireland about its ability to host for indefinite periods seconded clergy from (a) Poland and (b) other EU Member States after the UK leaves the EU; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from John Penrose: The Home Office is the lead Department in relation to these issues. I understand that the Minister of State for Immigration wrote to faith leaders in mid-December, setting out both the detail and rationale for the changes and guidance is currently being prepared.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-03/240470/>

Visas

Daniel Kawczynski (Conservative) [240538] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent assessment his Department has made of the tied visa system and whether it is fit for purpose.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: As set out in the UK's Future Skills-Based Immigration System White Paper, published on 19 December, the skilled worker route will continue to require individuals to be sponsored by an employer.

In line with the recommendations made by the Migration Advisory Committee, we will consider how the future system can reduce bureaucracy for employers.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-03/240538/>

The White Paper referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/766465/The-UKs-future-skills-based-immigration-system-print-ready.pdf

Visas: Skilled Workers

Adam Afriyie (Conservative) [242081] To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether he has made an assessment of the net fiscal effect on the public purse of the Government's decision to increase the number of Tier 5 Exceptional Talent visas from 1,000 to 2,000.

Reply from John Glen: The Treasury has not made an assessment of the net fiscal impact of increasing the number of Tier 1 Exceptional Talent visas available. In 2018, the number of Exceptional Talent Visas granted was within the previous quota.

The increase in quota ensures that we have sufficient headroom in the Exceptional Talent route to continue to attract highly skilled people from across the globe; and is a demonstration of the Government's commitment to ensuring that the UK remains a world-leader in the digital technology, science, arts and the creative sectors.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-08/242081/>

The following five questions all received the same answer

Visas: Innovation

Tulip Siddiq (Labour) [242208] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Innovator Visa applicants were granted endorsements by official endorsing bodies since the introduction of the Innovator Visa.

Tulip Siddiq (Labour) [242209] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will publish the names of endorsing bodies for applications to the Innovator Visa programme.

Tulip Siddiq (Labour) [242210] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps he has taken to ensure that all endorsing bodies for the Innovator Visa have published guidance that informs applicants of how to apply for an endorsement required for the Visa.

Tulip Siddiq (Labour) [242211] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether applicants to the Innovator Visa programme will be required to apply for the existing accelerator programmes of the listed endorsing bodies.

Tulip Siddiq (Labour) [242212] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Innovator Visas have been granted since the launch of the programme in March 2019.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Tier 1 Innovator visa was launched on 29th March 2019. It has not yet been in operation for a long enough time period for any meaningful data to be collected.

A full list of authorised endorsing bodies is published on gov.uk at the following location:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/endorsing-bodies-innovator>

It is a matter for endorsing bodies to decide if they will only endorse applicants to their own programmes and how to publicise their processes for obtaining Innovator visa endorsement. The Home Office has published guidance for endorsing bodies on how to assess applications at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/start-up-and-innovator-endorsing-bodies-guidance>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-08/242208/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-08/242209/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-08/242210/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-08/242211/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-08/242212/>

Visas: Afghanistan

Kevan Jones (Labour) [242047] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many visa applications his Department has received from Afghan interpreters since the Government's commitment to grant 50 such visas ten months ago.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office does not publish the information requested. Published data available regarding visa applications by category and nationality as well as asylum and those to whom the UK provides protection can be found at the link below. However, the data does not break down as far as Afghan interpreters:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-december-2018>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-08/242047/>

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Afzal Khan (Labour) [240650] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will publish all responses to the Windrush compensation scheme consultation.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government's response to the Windrush compensation scheme consultation is available on the government website at:

www.gov.uk/government/consultations/windrush-compensation-scheme

The response document includes a summary and analysis of the 1435 responses to the consultation received from individuals and organisations. Given the nature and number of responses to the consultation, we do not plan to publish all the responses.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-03/240650/>

Information about the Windrush compensation scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/windrush-compensation-scheme>

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Afzal Khan (Labour) [240649] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether people who have applied more than once for citizenship will be refunded fees for all applications through the Windrush compensation scheme.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Windrush Compensation Scheme rules are available on the government website at www.gov.uk/windrush-compensation Annex B of the rules sets out the immigration application fees for which reimbursement may be claimed under the scheme, where an application has been unsuccessful where the applicant was not able to provide sufficient evidence of their lawful status.

Since it was first published on 3 April, annex B of the rules has been amended to

clarify that this category includes an application for British citizenship and an application for a certificate of entitlement to a right of abode.

Where an individual has made more than one relevant unsuccessful application and they meet the criteria for an award, reimbursement of fees for each application will be considered.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-03/240649/>

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Afzal Khan (Labour) [240651] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how he plans to define serious criminality when determining whether to reduce or withhold an award under the Windrush compensation scheme.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Windrush Compensation Scheme rules are available on the government website at www.gov.uk/windrush-compensation. Paragraphs 4.5 and 4.6 of the rules set out the provisions around criminality. This provides that the Home Office may reduce or decline to make an award under the scheme to a claimant who has been convicted of an offence in respect of which they have received a sentence of imprisonment of four years or more and their offending was of such a nature that it makes it inappropriate to make an award in whole or in part. This provision does not apply to a conviction and sentence outside of the UK for conduct which on the date of the conviction was not an offence in the UK.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-03/240651/>

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Afzal Khan (Labour) [240652] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether each apology issued under the Windrush compensation scheme will be accompanied by a payment.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Windrush Compensation Scheme rules are available on the government website at www.gov.uk/windrush-compensation. Paragraph 3.1 of the rules sets out the circumstances under which an apology will be made under the Windrush compensation scheme. The Home Office will first consider whether a claimant is eligible to claim for, and entitled to receive, an award. All claimants who receive an award of compensation will receive an apology from the Home Office.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-03/240652/>

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Afzal Khan (Labour) [240653] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether (a) claimants will be charged for calls to the Windrush compensation scheme helpline and (b) Home Office employees will staff that phone line.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Windrush Helpline can be contacted for free in the UK on 0800 678 1925. Claimants from overseas can call the helpline, or email WindrushCompensationScheme@homeoffice.gov.uk, and request to be called back. All calls are dealt with by Home Office employees.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-03/240653/>

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Afzal Khan (Labour) [240654] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, which independent third party organisation will provide assistance to claimants of the

Windrush compensation scheme.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Claimants requiring assistance who meet the compensation scheme eligibility criteria will be referred by the Windrush Helpline to Citizens Advice, which has been contracted to assist claimants with completion of the form and gathering evidence. After referral the claimant will be contacted to arrange an appointment in person or over the phone, where the claimant is in the UK. Claimants overseas may be referred for an appointment over the phone, which will be at no cost to the claimant.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-03/240654/>

Information about the Windrush compensation scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/windrush-compensation-scheme>

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Afzal Khan (Labour) [240655] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what mechanism he is putting in place for reviewing decisions on applications to the Windrush compensation scheme; and whether claimants will have a legal route of appeal against a decision.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Windrush Compensation Scheme rules are available on the government website at www.gov.uk/windrush-compensation.

Part 10 of the rules sets out the provisions in the event that a claimant wishes to seek a review of a decision under the scheme.

In the first instance an internal review is carried out by a senior reviewer who has not been involved in the original decision. If the claimant does not agree with the outcome of the internal review, they can request that their claim is reviewed by an independent person from outside the Home Office.

These provisions for review do not preclude access to existing routes of legal challenge or review available in respect of decisions made by a public authority.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-03/240655/>

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Afzal Khan (Labour) [240656] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have contacted the (a) helpline number and (b) email address provided for people requiring assistance when completing responses to the consultation on the Windrush compensation scheme.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office helpline received 236 enquiries about the consultation on the Windrush compensation scheme during the consultation period, between 19 July and 16 November 2018. These included requests for further information or paper copies of consultation documents, questions about the consultation or about the compensation scheme. There were no specific requests for assistance in completing a consultation response.

Now the scheme is open for claims, the Home Office intends to publish in due course information on the number of claims submitted, the number of claims decided, and the overall amount paid out by the scheme.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-03/240656/>

Information about the Windrush compensation scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/windrush-compensation-scheme>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Helen Hayes (Labour) [242203] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department,

what plans his Department has to guarantee the (a) residency and (b) other associated rights to public services of EU nationals in the event that the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: In the event that the UK leaves the European Union without a deal, the Government will continue to operate the EU Settlement Scheme for European Economic Area (EEA) and Swiss citizens resident in the UK by exit day and their family members, enabling them to obtain the UK immigration status which they will need in order to reside here permanently. This reflects the policy paper “Citizens’ Rights – EU citizens in the UK and UK nationals in the EU” published by the Department for Exiting the European Union on 6 December 2018 and updated on 28 March 2019.

In a ‘no deal’ scenario, EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members lawfully residing in the UK by exit day will continue to be able to access in-country benefits and public services on broadly the same terms as now. This means that they will retain their entitlement to healthcare, education, benefits and social housing on the same basis as now, and that these entitlements will be subject to any future domestic policy changes which apply to UK nationals. Further information is in the policy paper “EU exit: eligibility arrangements to access public funds after free movement ends if there is no deal” published by the Department for Exiting the European Union on 26 March 2019.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-08/242203/>

Information about the EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families?step-by-step-nav=0c79b832-75de4854-8154-d62774a8dfb8>

The policy papers referred to above can be read at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/790570/Policy_Paper_on_citizens_rights_in_the_event_of_a_no_deal_Brexit.pdf and https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/789384/EU_exit_eligibility_arrangements_to_access_public_funds_after_free_movement_ends_if_there_is_no_deal.pdf

Immigration: EU Nationals

Angela Crawley (SNP) [241459] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what information will be passed to third party organisations from EU settlement applications.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The process for information handling under the EU Settlement Scheme is set out in the Borders, Immigration and Citizenship System privacy information notice:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/personal-information-use-in-borders-immigration-and-citizenship/borders-immigration-and-citizenship-privacy-information-notice>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-05/241459/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Angela Crawley (SNP) [241461] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how long will data gathered from EU settlement scheme applications be held by his Department.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office stores information in line with its data protection duties and guidance. Further information is set out in the Borders,

Immigration and Citizenship privacy information notice:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/personal-information-use-in-borders-immigration-and-citizenship/borders-immigration-and-citizenship-privacy-information-notice>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-05/241461/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Angela Crawley (SNP) [241460] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how long will an unsuccessful applicant to the EU settlement scheme have to leave the UK.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Resident EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members have until at least 31 December 2020 to make an application to the EU Settlement Scheme. Where an application is unsuccessful, the applicant will not generally be required to leave the UK and can make further applications to the scheme at any time before the deadline, unless their application has been refused for serious and persistent criminality or they have no lawful basis to remain in the UK (for example, because they are not an EEA or Swiss citizen or a family member of an EEA or Swiss citizen).

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-05/241460/>

Information about the EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families?step-by-step-nav=0c79b832-75de4854-8154-d62774a8dfb8>

The following two questions both received the same answer

EU Nationals: Private Rented Housing

Afzal Khan (Labour) [240647] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he plans guidance for landlords on the implications for right to rent of the UK leaving the EU.

EU Nationals: Employment

Afzal Khan (Labour) [240648] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether he plans guidance for employers on the implications for the right to work of the UK leaving the EU.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government's White Paper on the future skills-based immigration system makes clear that the system of checks undertaken by landlords and employers will not change prior to introduction of the new immigration system. On 1 April, guidance for employers was published on Gov.uk

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/employing-eu-eea-and-swiss-citizens-and-their-family-members-after-brexit> .

Updated guidance for landlords will be published shortly.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-03/240647/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-03/240648/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Lilian Greenwood (Labour) [239938] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 31 January 2019 to Question 213386 on Immigration: Computer Software, what progress his Department has made on providing access to the EU settlement scheme for people using Apple devices.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: EU citizens make a huge contribution to our economy and society, and we want them to stay. The EU Settlement Scheme enables them to do so. The application process is short and user-friendly, and is accessible on any smartphone, tablet or computer with an internet browser, including Apple devices.

The 'EU Exit: Identity Document Check' app is an optional aspect of the service which allows applicants to prove their identity remotely.

The Home Secretary confirmed over the weekend, that Apple will be making the necessary changes and the EU Exit: Identity Document Check' app will be working on their devices by the end of the year

Applicants can also post their document and have it returned immediately upon inspection or visit one of 50 locations to have their document checked.

If a person wishes to use a family, friend or employer's Android device until the app is available on Apple then it is perfectly safe and secure for them to do so.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-02/239938/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-01-28/213386/>

Information about the EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families?step-by-step-nav=0c79b832-75de4854-8154-d62774a8dfb8>

Refugees: Syria

Andrew Rosindell (Conservative) [242059] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what progress the Government has made on integrating vulnerable refugee Syrian families into society.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: This Government is committed to ensuring that refugees can take positive steps towards integration as they rebuild their lives in the UK. All refugees in the UK have access to mainstream benefits and services to enable their integration; and we are working across Government to ensure services meet the needs of refugees.

Local authorities resettling Syrian and other refugee families through the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS) are provided with funding from the Government to support integration, including to enable access to additional language tuition. The VPRS is being evaluated through a programme of quantitative data work and qualitative research with refugees and key delivery partners. A key focus of this work is examining integration progress to learn what works.

More broadly, the Government published the Integrated Communities Action plan in February 2019, which includes a commitment to increase integration support for all refugees in the UK. We will focus on supporting refugees with English language, employment, mental health, and cultural orientation to life in the UK.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-08/242059/>

The Action Plan referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/778045/Integrated_Communities_Strategy_Govt_Action_Plan.pdf

Refugees: Kuwait

Gareth Thomas (Labour Co-op) [242672] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate he has made of the number of Kuwaiti political refugees in the UK.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office is unable to report the estimate number of Kuwaiti political refugees in the UK.

However, the statistics for the number of asylum applications and initial decisions by country of nationality, including those from Kuwait (up to December 2018) are published in Immigration Statistics and can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-year-ending-september-2018/list-of-tables#asylum> , tab as_01 Volume 1.

Furthermore, the statistics for number of appeals allowed on the grounds of asylum by country of nationality are published in the Immigration Statistics and can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-year-ending-september-2018/list-of-tables#asylum> , tab as_14 volume 4.

The figures for the number of appeals allowed on the grounds of asylum may not be 100% accurate, due to the number of successful onward appeals from either the claimant or the Home Office.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-09/242672/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Legal Aid Scheme: Refugees

Robert Neill (Conservative) [241003] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what assessment his Department made in the Post-Implementation Review of Part 1 of LASPO of the potential merits of making legal aid available for refugee family reunion applications including for applications to bring adult dependent children to the UK.

Robert Neill (Conservative) [241004] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, if he will reintroduce legal aid for refugee family reunion cases.

Reply from Rory Stewart: We have committed to lay legislation to bring non-asylum immigration matters into the scope of legal aid for separated migrant children.

Legal aid for family reunion may be available under the Exceptional Case Funding (ECF) scheme, where there is a breach or risk of breach of ECHR rights, and subject to means and merits tests. We recently committed to work with the Legal Aid Agency, legal practitioners and others to review and simplify the ECF application process and ensure that funding is provided in as timely a manner as possible.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-04/241003/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-04/241004/>

Refugees: Families

Tim Farron (Liberal Democrat) [242083] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent assessment he has made of the effect of refugee family reunion on the integration of refugees in the UK.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The UK has a proud history of providing protection to those who need it – and this Government is committed to ensuring refugees can take positive steps towards integration as they rebuild their lives in the UK.

The Government provides a safe and legal route to bring families together through its family reunion policy. This allows a partner and children under 18 of those granted protection in the UK to join them here, if they formed part of the family unit before the sponsor fled their country. Under this policy, we have granted visas to over 26,000 partners and children of those granted protection in the UK in the last

five years – that is over 5,000 a year. In exceptional circumstances, our policy also makes clear there is discretion to grant visas outside the Immigration Rules, which caters for extended family members including young adult sons or daughters who are dependent on family here and living in dangerous situations.

Family connections are an important enabler of integration. However, we must also ensure we do not create incentives for more people, particularly children, to leave their homes and risk dangerous journeys hoping relatives can join them later. Those who need protection must claim in the first safe country they reach – that is the fastest route to safety.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-08/242083/>

Refugees: Children

Catherine West (Labour) [240605] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps he is taking to reduce the amount of time that child refugees have to wait for an initial decision on their application.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office takes seriously its safeguarding responsibilities under s55 of the Borders, Immigration and Citizen Act 2009, which requires us to act in a child's best interest. We acknowledge that there is no specified time limit in which Unaccompanied Children cases need to be decided and maintain that the responsibility to act in a child's best interests means more than simply speed.

To promote a greater understanding and transparency of the asylum system, we are prioritising deciding unaccompanied asylum-seeking child cases, whose claims are more complex, while we develop a new set of service standards for the overall asylum claim system. We are working closely with NGOs regarding the new service standards.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-03/240605/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Refugees: Children

Robert Neill (Conservative) [241005] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department is taking to facilitate refugee family reunion for unaccompanied child refugees.

Robert Neill (Conservative) [241006] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment has been made of the cost to local authorities of unaccompanied refugee children being unable to sponsor their parents to join them under part 11 of UK immigration rules.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: There is currently no provision in the Immigration Rules for children with refugee status in the UK to sponsor family members to join them. Allowing children to sponsor parents would create further incentives for more children to be encouraged, or even forced, to leave their family and risk hazardous journeys to the UK to sponsor relatives. This plays into the hands of criminal gangs who exploit vulnerable people and goes against our safeguarding responsibilities. The Government believes the best interests of children are met by remaining with their families, claiming asylum in the first safe country they reach and relying on resettlement schemes to travel safely.

To help them care for unaccompanied asylum seeking children, the Government provides local authorities with £41,000 per year for those under 16 and £33,000 per year for 16 and 17 year olds. The Home Office is currently reviewing funding arrangements. This is looking at a whole range of issues relating to unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in care, not just funding, so it is right that they take time to

look at this complex issue properly.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-04/241005/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-04/241006/>

Offenders: Deportation

Dominic Raab (Conservative) [241028] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many and what proportion of foreign national offenders have successfully appealed a deportation order under Article (a) 3, (b) 6 and (c) 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights, in each year since 2010.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Information on how many and what proportion of foreign national offenders have successfully appealed a deportation order under Article (a) 3, (b) 6 and (c) 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights, in each year since 2010 is not available and could only be obtained at disproportionate cost. Data on deportation appeal outcomes is published by HM Courts and Tribunals Service on a quarterly basis. A link to the latest published statistics is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/tribunals-and-gender-recognition-certificate-statistics-quarterly-october-to-december-2018>. The data in table FIA_3 of the Main Tables (October to December 2018) is the closest match to the requested information.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-04/241028/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Ellie Reeves (Labour) [241480] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 1 April 2019 to Question 235392, what estimate he has made of the number of homeless foreign nationals detained by Immigration Compliance and Enforcement teams in the last 12 months for which figures are available.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office does not hold the information requested in a reportable format. The data that is recorded on the housing conditions of migrants is largely volunteered by the migrants themselves, may not be reliable in all cases and does not allow for informed estimates of the numbers who are homeless. An attempt at an estimate requested could only be supplied at disproportionate cost.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-05/241480/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-03-21/235392/>

Deportation

Ian Lavery (Labour) [242845] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people deported in the last 12 months (a) had previously been a student in the UK, (b) were in the UK on a work visas and (c) were known to the Government.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The latest published statistics on returns can be found on-line at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-year-ending-december-2018>

Deportations are a subset of enforced returns. They may occur either following a

criminal conviction, or when it is judged that a person's removal from the UK is conducive to the public good. Information on those deported is not separately available. Published statistics refer to enforced returns, which include deportations, as well as cases where a person has breached UK immigration laws, and those removed under other administrative and illegal entry powers who have declined to leave voluntarily. Most illegal immigrants are removed from the UK under administrative or illegal entry powers and not deported.

The Home Office does not hold the information requested centrally. Providing the information requested would require a trawl through Immigration databases, which could only be done at disproportionate cost.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-09/242845/>

Deportation: West Africa

Caroline Lucas (Green) [241011] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 9 October 2018 to Question 174681 on Deportation: West Africa, how many of the 60 people on board the charter flight bound for Nigeria and Ghana on 28 March 2017 which was prevented by protesters from leaving Stansted airport have been granted the right to remain in the UK; how many of those granted leave to remain were referred under the National Referral Mechanism for the identification of victims of trafficking; how many people have contacted the Windrush taskforce; and of those granted leave to remain, on what basis was that immigration status granted.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Of the 60 people due to be removed on that flight, four have been granted the right to remain in the UK.

Any individual who believes they are protected under the provisions of the 1971 Immigration Act is able to contact the Windrush Taskforce, which will help to identify their current status. None of the individuals have contacted the Taskforce.

Of the four people who have been granted the right to remain in the UK, two have been issued a residence card as a non-EEA national family member confirming a right to reside in accordance with EEA Treaty rights, one has been granted leave to remain on Human Rights grounds, and the other has been granted leave to remain following a conclusive grounds decision under the National Referral Mechanism for the identification of victims of trafficking.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-04/241011/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-09-13/174681/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

British Nationality: Electronic Government

Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour) [HL14965] To ask Her Majesty's Government under what powers they now require that specified nationality applications, including for registration of British citizenship, must be made online; and what representations they have received which question the introduction of such a requirement.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: UK Visas and Immigration does not require specified nationality applications, including citizenship applications, to be made online. It is still possible for customers to apply on the paper forms if they need to do so. However, customers are encouraged to use the intuitive online application service wherever possible and assisted digital support is made available

to those who would otherwise struggle to make an online application.
<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-04-01/HL14965/>

Nationality: Northern Ireland

Lady Hermon (Independent) [240974] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps he is taking to ensure that Irish citizens born in Northern Ireland are able to continue to exercise their EU rights after the UK leaves the EU; and if he will make an assessment of the compatibility of those steps with the identity rights guaranteed to Irish citizens by the Belfast Agreement.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Upholding the Belfast Agreement and its successors in all their parts, including the Agreement's citizenship and identity provisions, has been central to the Government's approach to the Exit negotiations. The Withdrawal Agreement with the EU recognises that the people of Northern Ireland who are Irish – and thus EU – citizens will continue to have access to rights, opportunities and benefits that come with EU citizenship. We are committed to working with our EU partners to put in place arrangements that will allow Irish citizens resident in Northern Ireland to enjoy the EU rights available to them.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-04/240974/>

EU Nationals: Republic of Ireland

Lady Hermon (Independent) [240975] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps he is taking to protect the rights of frontier workers who are citizens of EU countries but who are not Irish or UK citizens, who live in Ireland but travel to work in Northern Ireland each day; and if he will publish guidance on their rights in the event the UK leaves the EU (a) with a deal and (b) without a deal.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Whether the UK leaves the EU with or without a deal, the UK has committed to protect the position of EEA citizens (including Swiss citizens) who, at the specified date, work in the UK but live in another country ('frontier workers'). This includes EEA citizens who live in Ireland and work in Northern Ireland.

The draft Withdrawal Agreement with the EU protects the rights of those who are frontier workers at the end of the implementation period, for as long as they continue to be frontier workers in the host state. After the end of the implementation period, they will be subject to a requirement to obtain a document to evidence their right to enter and work in the UK as a frontier worker, in line with Article 26 of the draft Withdrawal Agreement.

If the UK leaves the EU without a deal, we will protect the position of those who are frontier workers at exit date. Until free movement is ended by the Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Bill, they will be able to enter the UK as now. Once free movement ends, they will be able to obtain a separate UK immigration status which will allow them to continue frontier working in the UK after exit. Further information about how frontier workers can apply for a frontier worker document in a deal scenario, or for frontier worker status in a no-deal scenario, will be published in due course.

In either a deal or no-deal scenario, frontier workers may be resident in the UK for sufficient periods during their work here to be eligible to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme if they wish to do so. However, they are not required to do so, as they will be able to apply for a frontier worker document or status if they wish to continue working in the UK but living in another country.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-04/240975/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Lord Greaves (Liberal Democrat) [HL14904] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the EU Settlement Scheme will be fully operational from 29 March; whether there is a system to appeal decisions on applications to that scheme; and if so, how such appeals will be dealt with.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The EU Settlement Scheme opened to all EU, EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members covered by the relevant draft withdrawal or separation agreements on 30 March. The scheme is also open to the family members of British citizens who were exercising their free movement rights under EU law before returning to the UK ('Surinder Singh' cases) and to those with a derivative right to reside ('Chen' and 'Ibrahim and Teixeira' cases) from 30 March. Applications can be made to the scheme from outside the UK from 9 April and the scheme will also open to those with a Zambrano right to reside (who are not covered by the draft withdrawal or separation agreements) from 1 May. If the draft Withdrawal Agreement is agreed, the Government will provide a right of appeal under the scheme through the Withdrawal Agreement Bill. If there is no deal, eligibility refusals under the scheme will continue to have a right to administrative review. All refusals will have a right to judicial review. Where a human rights claim is made outside the EU Settlement Scheme and that claim is refused, there is a right of appeal under existing legislation. This is in line with the remedies generally available to non-EEA nationals refused leave to remain in the UK. In either scenario, applicants will be able to reapply to the scheme free of charge if they do not agree with a decision.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-03-28/HL14904/>

Information about the EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families?step-by-step-nav=0c79b832-75de4854-8154-d62774a8dfb8>

Refugees: Social Security Benefits

Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour) [HL14964] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the reply by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 20 March (HL Deb, col 1426), which Government departments are responsible for sharing with the House of Commons Work and Pensions Select Committee and non-governmental organisations the results of the evaluation to which she referred; and what is the reason for the delay in the publication of those results given her Written Answer on 25 July 2016 (HL1295) in which she stated that it was intended to publish later that year the evaluation of work with the Department of Work and Pensions to ensure that newly recognised refugees receive their first benefit payment before their Home Office support ended.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Home Office and Department of Work and Pensions have worked together to establish and evaluate the success of the "Post Grant Appointment Service", which aims to ensure that newly recognised refugees are able to access mainstream benefits before any support they have been receiving from the Home Office ends 28 days after the grant of their status. The evaluation has undergone careful data checking and is expected to be shared shortly. DWP Ministers plan to write to the Work and Pensions Select Committee and the Home Office will write to non-governmental organisations.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-04-01/HL14964/>

The oral answer referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2019-03-20/debates/207980D9-3B31-4C4B-86B6-26F3539777EC/Refugees#contribution-9A8619DA-90B0-4AFD-B846-AAD95DD19A64>

The written answer referred to above can be read at <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-07-18/HL1295/>

Asylum

Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour) [HL15008] To ask Her Majesty's Government what consideration they have given to amending the saving provisions in Part 3 of the Immigration, Nationality and Asylum (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 so that the cut-off date for take charge requests under the Dublin III regulation is based on the date that the connected asylum claim was made rather than the date that the request was received.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The saving provisions in Part 3 of the Immigration, Nationality and Asylum (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 sets out that, should the UK leave the EU with no deal, all Dublin III Regulations take charge requests relating to family reunification that were made before we exited the EU, but are still pending resolution, will continue to be considered under the existing provisions. This provides certainty for all those in the Dublin system that the UK will continue to process their claims to be transferred here to have their asylum claim assessed.

Given that the UK will not be a part of the Dublin III Regulations following exit from the EU in the event that no deal is secured, we will need to rely on the cooperation of other Member States in order to fulfil this commitment. The UK cannot, through domestic law, create commitments for Member States in respect of individuals who are in their territories and who claim asylum.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-04-02/HL15008/>

Asylum

Lord Touhig (Labour) [HL15053] To ask Her Majesty's Government what information an asylum seeker needs to provide in order to make an application for asylum.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: In order for a claim for asylum to be registered, the claimant will need to express a fear of serious harm or persecution that means they cannot return to their own country.

They will be asked to provide, if available, documentation regarding their identity, age, nationality, countries and place(s) of previous residence, previous asylum applications, travel routes and travel documents for both themselves and their dependants. Additional information and documentation that are relevant to the circumstances of the individual may be requested to assist in the decision making process. Further information on claiming asylum in the UK can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/claim-asylum>.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-04-03/HL15053/>

Asylum

Lord Touhig (Labour) [HL15054] To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their process for considering an application for asylum.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Asylum decision-makers carefully consider protection needs by assessing all available evidence provided by the claimant in the context of published country information.

They receive extensive training on considering asylum claims and must follow published Home Office policy guidance. Protection is normally granted where a well-founded fear of persecution or serious harm in their country of origin is established.

Those who are found not to need protection are refused but have a right of appeal

to the independent courts. Once their appeals rights are exhausted they are required to leave the UK.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-04-03/HL15054/>

Asylum

Lord Touhig (Labour) [HL15055] To ask Her Majesty's Government what data is collected and recorded from an asylum seekers' application for asylum.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Home Office collects and records a broad range of personal and case specific information via electronic systems which varies on a case to case basis depending on which route the application takes.

For example, we collect information to help establish identity, including biometrics. Other non-electronic information may also be collected and stored by teams and this would be extremely difficult to quantify. For example, information about the reasons why the applicant is claiming asylum could be a record of oral testimony, written statements or other documentary they wish to submit in support of their claim.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-04-03/HL15055/>

Asylum: Religion

Lord Touhig (Labour) [HL15056] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 18 February (HL13432), whether they have plans to aggregate the number of people claiming asylum on the grounds of religious persecution.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The basis of a person's asylum claim is recorded on their individual Home Office file, but not in a way that can be easily aggregated. We do not have any plans to aggregate the number of people claiming asylum on the grounds of religious persecution.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-04-03/HL15056/>

The answer HL13432, referred to above, is not on this subject. The reference is probably intended to be to HL13421 which was published on the same date, and which can be read at <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-02-04/HL13421/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Detention Centres: Ministers of Religion

Lord Touhig (Labour) [HL15057] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many chaplains of each faith there are in immigration removal centres.

Immigrants: Detainees

Lord Touhig (Labour) [HL15058] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 18 February (HL13421), how many detainees of each recorded faith are held in immigration removal centres.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The current faith breakdown of full and part time chaplains in the immigration removal estate is 15 Christian (all denominations), 10 Muslim, 5 Hindu, 5 Sikh, 2 Jewish, 2 Jehovah's Witnesses and 2 Buddhists. Chaplains of other faiths are accessible to detainees across the estate on request.

Information on detainees' religious identification, where declared, is held by service providers on their own internal detainee management systems. Current data is

available for the following IRCs; Brook House, Tinsley House, Yarl's Wood and Morton Hall. This data shows that for those detainees who declared their religion, 233 identified as Christian (all denominations), 203 as Muslim, 83 as 'other religion', 33 as Buddhist, 29 as Sikh and 18 as Hindu. This is management information which has not been assured to the same standards as official statistics.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-04-03/HL15057/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-04-03/HL15058/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-02-04/HL13421/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Asylum: Religion

The Lord Bishop of Gloucester [HL14942] To ask Her Majesty's Government what consultation they have undertaken with religious communities to inform decision-making processes for asylum claims.

Asylum

The Lord Bishop of Gloucester [HL14943] To ask Her Majesty's Government what processes they operate for monitoring and reviewing decisions on asylum claims.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Asylum decision-makers are expected to carefully consider protection needs following an interview by assessing all available evidence provided by the claimant in context of published country information, which covers issues relating to freedom of religion and belief. They receive extensive training on considering asylum claims, which covers religious claims, and must follow published Home Office policy guidance.

We work closely with the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for International Freedom of Religion or Belief, the Asylum Advocacy Group (AAG) and have engaged a range of faith groups to help us improve our approach to religious based claims. We value their support in helping us to improve policy guidance and training for caseworkers in this important and complex area.

We have an internal audit process which assesses the quality of decisions, interviews and the application of Home Office policy. We have Senior Case Worker assessments as well as independent auditors from Central Operations who audit asylum cases and provide quarterly reports. The quality of asylum decisions is systematically assessed against a detailed audit framework drawn up in consultation with external partners, including the UNHCR, which includes checks on compliance with existing asylum polices, relevant case law and the appropriate country of origin information reports.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-04-01/HL14942/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-04-01/HL14943/>

Slavery

Baroness Hamwee (Liberal Democrat) [HL14851] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether a person who has been referred to the National Referral Mechanism as a potential victim of trafficking or modern slavery can be removed from the UK while awaiting (1) a reasonable grounds decision, and (2) a conclusive grounds decision.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: A person who has been referred to the National Referral Mechanism as a potential victim of trafficking or modern slavery cannot be removed while consideration is being given to whether there are reasonable grounds to believe they are a victim. If the reasonable grounds decision is positive, they cannot be removed during the period that further consideration is being given to whether there are conclusive grounds to believe they are a victim.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-03-27/HL14851/>

Human Trafficking

Baroness Hamwee (Liberal Democrat) [HL14853] To ask Her Majesty's Government what training is provided to Immigration Removal Centre medical staff in completing rule 35 reports for victims of trafficking in immigration detention; and whether those staff are made aware of the impact of rule 35 reports in National Referral Mechanism decision-making.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Training is provided to staff, including healthcare staff, in immigration removal centres (IRCs) following changes made to the adults at risk in immigration detention policy (AAR) in July 2018. Trafficking is one of the indicators of risk set out in the AAR. This training included training on Rule 35 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-03-27/HL14853/>

Human Trafficking

Baroness Stroud (Conservative) [HL14920] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many National Referral Mechanism referrals submitted to (1) the National Crime Agency, and (2) UK Visas and Immigration, are awaiting a conclusive grounds decision, broken down by year of submission.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The National Crime Agency regularly publishes National Referral Mechanism (NRM) data, including the "National Referral Mechanism Statistics Annual Report 2018" on 20th March 2019, available at:

<https://nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/who-we-are/publications/282-national-referral-mechanism-statistics-end-of-year-summary-2018>

These published statistics include a summary of current status for cases between 2013 and 2018, including numbers of cases pending a NRM decision (Reasonable Grounds and Conclusive Grounds combined).

The statistics also provide the decision status of 2018 cases, including those pending a Conclusive Grounds decision (as at 12 March 2019), split by grouped nationalities (UK, EU (non-UK), Other, and Not Known), and by claimed exploitation type.

The statistics also detail the number of cases allocated to each Competent Authority in 2018, however the published statistics do not provide breakdown of pending decisions by Competent Authority, i.e. National Crime Agency and UK Visas and Immigration.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-03-28/HL14920/>

New Publications

Guidance: EU Settlement Scheme: applying from outside the UK

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/eu-settlement-scheme-applying-from-outside-the-uk>

Guidance: Right to rent checks: long-resident non-EEA nationals and Windrush generation

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/right-to-rent-checks-long-resident-non-eea-nationals-and-windrush-generation/landlords-right-to-rent-checks-on-long-resident-non-eea-nationals-and-windrush-generation>

Guidance: Employers: right to work checks on long-resident non-EEA nationals and Windrush generation

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/right-to-work-checks-long-resident-non-eea-nationals-and-windrush-generation/employers-right-to-work-checks-on-long-resident-non-eea-nationals-and-windrush-generation>

Casework Guidance: Windrush Compensation Scheme

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/794158/windrush-compensation-case-work-guidance-v.2.0ext.pdf

Example case studies: EU Settlement Scheme

<https://www.gov.uk/government/case-studies/example-case-studies-eu-settlement-scheme>

Updated Guidance: EU Settlement Scheme: community leader toolkit

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/793394/EU_Settlement_Scheme_-_Community_group_introduction.pdf

Court of Session ruling on the legality of SERCO's lock change policy

<https://www.scotcourts.gov.uk/docs/default-source/cos-general-docs/pdf-docs-for-opinions/2019csoh34.pdf?sfvrsn=0>

News

MPs call for review of 'derisory' Windrush compensation scheme

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/apr/09/mps-call-for-review-of-windrush-scandal-compensation-scheme>

Windrush: Home Office admits data breach in compensation scheme

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-47855428>

Brexit: Home Office sorry for EU citizen data breach

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-47888214>

Home Office apologises to Windrush generation after wrongly sharing 500 email addresses

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/windrush-home-office-data-breach-email-addresses-caroline-nokes-compensation-scheme-a8860231.html>

Brexit data breach: Home Office admits sharing details of hundreds of EU citizens seeking settled status

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/brexit-data-breach-home-office-eu-citizens-settled-status-leak-a8864696.html>

Home Office apologises for sharing EU citizens' email addresses

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/apr/11/home-office-apologises-for-sharing-eu-citizens-email-addresses>

Windrush scandal: Caps on compensation are 'final betrayal' and should be scrapped, says David Lammy

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/windrush-generation-compensation-caps-lammy-a8861826.html>

Foster kids could be next Windrush generation

<http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/tfn-news/foster-kids-could-be-next-windrush-generation>

Dozens of immigration applicants forced to wait in cold for hours after Home Office subcontractor systems fail

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-immigration-croydon-queue-sopra-steria-a8867706.html>

Court defeat for Glasgow asylum seeker lock-change case

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-47908150>

Court of Session rules on lawfulness of Serco's pursuit of forced evictions

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3432_court_of_session_rules_on_lawfulness_of_sercos_pursuit_of_forced_evictions

Commissions disappointed with court view on Serco lock change policy

<http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/news/commissions-disappointed-with-court-view-on-serco-lock-change-policy/>

Campaigners raise fears over fresh Glasgow asylum seeker evictions after court ruling

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17571358.campaigners-raise-fears-over-fresh-glasgow-asylum-seeker-evictions-after-court-ruling/>

Failed asylum seekers lose eviction case

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-04-13/scotland/failed-asylum-seekers-can-be-evicted-without-court-order-sr3lq0qb9>

Court rules locking out Glasgow refugees from their homes was lawful

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/apr/12/court-rules-locking-out-glasgow-refugees-from-their-homes-was-lawful>

Hundreds of children seeking refuge in UK deported to 'unsafe' countries at age 18

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/asylum-seekers-children-uk-iraq-afghanistan-somalia-home-office-a8853866.html>

Call to improve lives of migrant workers

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17572460.call-to-improve-lives-of-migrant-workers/>

New migration policy stupid, says Labour

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-04-09/scotland/new-migration-policy-stupid-says-labour-pq5dj6mhk>

When is an immigrant not an immigrant? When they're rich

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/apr/10/immigrants-britain-poor-problem-expats-gulf-brunei>

Twenty-nine people in van on M5 in Devon 'are Vietnamese'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-cornwall-47921515>

Obfuscating the true level of migration only encourages public mistrust

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/04/10/obfuscating-true-level-migration-encourages-public-mistrust/>

Ryanair apologises after staff refuse to let legal refugee board

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/transport/ryanair-apologises-after-staff-refuse-to-let-legal-refugee-board-1-4905245>

Judge says foreign criminal should stay in UK as gang membership shows he has integrated into society

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/04/09/judge-claims-foreign-criminal-should-stay-uk-gang-membership/>

Ofsted director Daniel Muijs 'denied' settled status after Brexit

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/ofsted-brexit-daniel-muijs-settled-status-eu-immigration-a8861401.html>

Corrupt immigration officer jailed for trying to extort man facing deportation

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/corrupt-civil-servant-jailed-deportation-bribery-a8865536.html>

Man facing deportation from Britain to DRC wins another reprieve

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/apr/12/man-fled-uk-as-child-deportation-drc-halted-again-habib-bazaboko>

TOP

Community Relations

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-16844 John Finnie (Green): International Romani Day 2019 – That the Parliament recognises that 8 April 2019 is International Romani Day; understands that the event provides an opportunity to celebrate Roma culture and people in Scotland and across the world; notes that it was originally declared in 1990 to commemorate the first major meeting of Roma representatives in London in 1971, at which the Roma flag was created and the national anthem, *Gelem Gelem*, was adopted; welcomes the annual procession of Roma people through Govanhill, which took place on 6 April; notes that this was followed by a celebration, which included dancing, traditional food, speeches, and considers that this annual celebration is a significant part of the wider efforts to ensure the recognition and protection of Roma rights in Scotland and around the world.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-16844>

Press Releases

International Roma Day (8 April 2019)

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/international-roma-day-8-april-2019->

International Roma Day

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=24458&LangID=E>

News

Celebrities warn new single-faith schools will split society

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/celebrities-warn-new-single-faith-schools-will-split-society-rprgbfqpz>

Babita Sharma: pop to the corner shop to take the pulse of modern Britain

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news-review/babita-sharma-pop-to-the-corner-shop-to-take-the-pulse-of-modern-britain-lmgh35r20>

What's really behind the increasing segregation of British schools?

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2019/04/11/really-behind-increasing-segregation-british-schools/>

I was born black and working class. The identities need not be in opposition

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/apr/13/i-was-born-black-and-working-class-the-identities-need-not-be-in-opposition>

Smooth, angry, cool, powerful: how we talk about blackness

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2019/apr/13/smooth-angry-cool-powerful-how-we-talk-about-blackness>

TOP

Equality

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Apprentices: Ethnic Groups

John Hayes (Conservative) [240958] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps his Department are taking to encourage the uptake of apprenticeships amongst ethnic minorities.

Reply from Anne Milton: We have set an ambitious target to increase the proportion of apprenticeships started by people of black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) backgrounds by 20% by 2020 (up from a baseline average of 10% in the 2010-15 Parliament to 11.9% by 2020). 11.2% (42,200) of total starts in 2017/18 were by people of BAME backgrounds. This is the highest proportion reported over the past 8 years.

The Five Cities Project, launched in February 2018, is promoting the take up of apprenticeships by BAME individuals in Greater Manchester, London, Bristol, Birmingham and Leicester. Many partners are supporting this drive, including large employers such as B&Q, Rolls Royce, and Optimity, local authorities, Local Enterprise Partnerships, apprenticeship providers, schools, and community groups. Our Apprenticeships Diversity Champions Network (ADCN) has grown to over 70 members since its launch in 2017. It aims to influence the behaviour of other employers to support more people from underrepresented groups, including members of BAME communities, to start apprenticeships. Bristol City Council, an ADCN member, has launched a programme named 'Stepping up', which is providing a route for employees from BAME backgrounds into leadership positions through apprenticeships. Our new marketing campaign, 'Fire it Up', launched in January 2019 and set out to change the way people think about apprenticeships, demonstrating that they are a prestigious option, accessible to people from all

backgrounds. 'Fire it Up' advertising features clear representation of apprentices from a diverse range of backgrounds, and showcases apprentices from BAME backgrounds in high-status, professional roles.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-04/240958/>

New Publications

Practical Equality Rights in Welfare Benefits Advice – Scotland

<https://www.equallyours.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Welfare-Benefits-Guide-Scotland.docx>

Welsh Government response to the Estyn thematic report on Provision for secondary school-aged Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-04/response-to-the-estyn-thematic-report-on-provision-for-secondary-school-aged-gypsy-roma-and-traveller-pupils.pdf>

News

BME workers far more likely to be trapped in insecure work, TUC analysis reveals

<https://www.tuc.org.uk/news/bme-workers-far-more-likely-be-trapped-insecure-work-tuc-analysis-reveals>

We need more BME voices in the fight against insecure work

<https://www.tuc.org.uk/blogs/we-need-more-bme-voices-fight-against-insecure-work>

Ethnic minorities facing insecure work, says TUC

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-47900671>

Charity forced to slash community services

<http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/tfn-news/charity-forced-to-slash-community-services>

Stephen Poliakoff says it is 'striking' how few Jewish characters are portrayed in British TV dramas

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/04/13/stephen-poliakoff-says-striking-jewish-characters-portrayed/>

TOP

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament Debate

UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-04-08/debates/947067E5-8BAC-4FFA-BE7C-EB63CA702088/UNInternationalDayForTheEliminationOfRacialDiscrimination>

Discrimination in Football

The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (Mims Davies): ... The Government are concerned about the recent rise in racist abuse in football which threatens to overshadow everything we love about our national sport. Last weekend, the English Football League said that it was “saddened, disappointed and angered” after a weekend of fixtures was blighted by four separate incidents of alleged racism against players. At the same time, in the Premier League, Crystal Palace’s Wilfried Zaha re-posted an online tweet calling him “a diving monkey”. This all happened on the very same weekend that the Premier League’s new “No Room for Racism” campaign was visible at grounds up and down the country.

Late last year, the unthinkable occurred—a banana skin was thrown on the pitch in the direction of a player during the north London derby. At the same time, we saw the abuse that Manchester City forward Raheem Sterling suffered at Stamford Bridge. We all witnessed the appalling scenes of racism directed at several of our England players in Montenegro. Homophobic and anti-semitic chanting, both here and abroad, has been prevalent in recent times. English football is revered across the globe for its excitement and passion. No other sport or country opens its doors and embraces so many different nationalities. We simply cannot have millions of people, particularly our young people, tuning into or witnessing at first hand the type of vile abuse that has been apparent of late—abuse directed at our players and our managers by opposing fans.

Wilfried Zaha, Raheem Sterling, and Danny Rose deserve our respect for speaking out about the abuse that is happening now, but ultimately they deserve our support. They need clear demonstrations that zero tolerance of this behaviour means just that. Be it player, manager or supporter—whether playing or attending—nobody who goes to games should have to tolerate discrimination of any kind. We welcomed the Football Association’s call for UEFA to take strong and swift action following events in Montenegro. However, if this country is going to show the rest of the world that this behaviour is intolerable, we need to ensure that we are making every effort to combat discriminatory behaviour domestically. ... The Government are determined to help in tackling this problem. On 25 February, I brought many of the various administrators, campaign bodies, fan group representatives, players, managers and organisations together for a summit to discuss this issue and collectively decide on what steps they must take to help to eradicate it. At that summit, it was agreed that a number of areas needed to be examined further.

There were six initial areas: first, to review whether football’s current sanctioning regime goes far enough and, if not, what more is needed to act as a deterrent to this type of behaviour; secondly, to ensure that the partnership between football authorities and the police is close enough to improve the identification and sanctioning of offenders at matches; thirdly, to ask whether we give enough support to stewards and whether we can improve their capacity to deal with discrimination consistently throughout the leagues; fourthly, whether football can improve the information flow of incident reporting on the pitch, and support players; fifthly, how we can double down on efforts to ensure that match officials, stewarding operations and coaching and academy staff are all fully able to engage in their responsibilities to maintain an open and inclusive sporting environment; and finally, initiatives to help to increase the numbers of people from black and minority ethnic backgrounds into football professions beyond playing, with transparency and opportunities in the recruitment process absolutely central to this.

The Government will work with those key groups to deliver clear, tangible actions in the areas I have just described. My intention is to announce these in partnership with football before the end of the summer. If we are able to deliver them before, even better. I want to see change ready for the next season. ...

col 500 Tom Watson (Labour): ... We were all shocked by the blatant racism during the

game against Montenegro last month. Hearing Danny Rose say after that match that he cannot wait to see the back of football because of racism is deeply depressing, but sadly not surprising. When young players face abuse time and again, who can blame them for wanting to walk away? ...

We should also be aware that the problem is not only on the pitch and in the stands but online and in the media. ... Given that so much of the racist abuse directed at players is online, will the Minister explicitly include hate crimes aimed at sporting figures in the online harms consultation? ...

It is not just racism. Other types of bigotry, such as homophobia and sectarianism, plague the game. The Scottish Parliament has united in committing £14 million since 2012 to tackle sectarianism on the terraces. Can the Minister match that for English football? ...

Mims Davis: ... We need to support the bravery of players to do their jobs and to speak out in this day and age, but they should not feel they have to do that. It is right that players should take action and we are working with the police to make sure that we support them. ...

col 501 Gavin Newlands (SNP): ... The recent high-profile instances of racism in the game fly in the face of the fantastic work done over the years by groups such as Show Racism the Red Card and Kick It Out. Sadly, however, although football in England at any rate is swimming in money, a relatively small amount is spent by the game on such initiatives. I very much welcome the Minister's tone and the actions she has set out. I think we can all agree that it is time for footballing authorities and top-level clubs to take the issue more seriously and invest in resources appropriately, and not just invest but make proper policy and disciplinary decisions. ...

To read the lengthy question and answer session in full see

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-04-11/debates/53CBC73F-CFE0-49A3-8E73-21AE5A9CD7E2/DiscriminationInFootball>

UK Parliament House of Lords Ministerial Statement and Q&A

Discrimination in Football

Lord Ashton of Hyde read the statement made in the House of Commons by Mims Davies (included above).

col 587 Lord Griffiths of Burry Port (Labour): ... We hear that some football club fans are using closed Facebook groups to promote racist ideology. With the publication of the *Online Harms* White Paper this week, will the use of this type of technology be looked at as it applies to football? ...

A culture in the support of our national game permits and encourages these subversive activities. I remember having a close association in the 1980s with those neo-fascist groups of hooligans that went round causing trouble at various football stadiums across the land. How do we change a culture and allow a diverse population to feel that it has ownership of this game, rather than it being in the hands of multimillionaires from other places? Seriously, how do we stop black players on the pitch being used, in a sense, as icons, heroes or puppets for people's own prejudices? ...

Lord Addington (Liberal Democrat): ... We are not talking about a new thing; we are talking about something that many of us hoped was at least in terminal decline. In fact, we are hearing an unpleasant echo of the culture of abuse in football that was a regular part of the cheering of the crowds when I was growing up. I remember being in Scotland when the first black player played in the Old Firm game and Glasgow market sold out of bananas. There is nothing new here—which is probably one of the most worrying things. ...

col 589 Lord Ashton of Hyde: ... BAME players make up 30% of the playing population, and yet coaches represent 7.6% of the population. We want also to look at new ideas

about data collection; at more challenging targets being set; and at having more transparency in recruitment practices and other incentives, to encourage under-represented groups into careers—not just as players but in running the game as well. Another issue that will be considered is that there is an even smaller BAME proportion among journalists, who are one of the ways in which culture is spread. People who are interested in the game learn about it and consider it through journalism. ...

Baroness Bull (Crossbench): ... Does the Minister agree that there is indeed an issue of institutional racism to be addressed? If so, what steps are being taken on that? ...

Lord Ashton of Hyde: I agree with the noble Baroness that institutional bias is often present. It is easy to tackle the overt and obvious instance of racism, but institutional bias is more complicated and insidious. ...

To read the lengthy question and answer session in full see

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2019-04-11/debates/236555C6-619C-444D-A9B0-757058F6C738/DiscriminationInFootball>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

Business of the House

Kate Green (Labour): Last month, the Home Secretary made a very welcome announcement of new funding for security at mosques and other places of worship. Following my question in Home Office orals on 1 April, nearly 100 colleagues have written to ask for that funding to be brought forward in good time for Ramadan, which is just three and a half weeks away. Could the Leader of the House arrange an urgent statement for as soon as we come back, about what the Home Office is doing to ensure that our Muslim constituents are safe during Ramadan—a time when the community is highly visible?

Reply from Andrea Leadsom: The hon. Lady raises a really important point. I know that the Home Office is absolutely committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those who are at worship, at all times. If she wants to write to me following the business question, I can take up her specific question directly.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-04-11/debates/67B2249C-6E2E-4B1E-B574-6D946D30BA2E/BusinessOfTheHouse#contribution-F02953B8-577F-4F1A-9EDA-ACE6748A592D>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Stop and Search: Racial Discrimination

Kate Osamor (Labour Co-op) [241469] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps he has taken to safeguard against race disproportionality in the use of section 60 powers.

Reply from Nick Hurd: The government has made it simpler for police in seven forces particularly affected by serious violent crime to use stop and search powers set out Section 60 (s60) of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994, in anticipation of serious violence.

These changes will help the police to tackle serious violence by enabling 3,000 more officers to authorise their use. S60s are publicly communicated, which the police believe can deter individuals from carrying weapons into areas in which these powers are known to be in operation.

These changes are being piloted for up to 12 months, and we have been clear that no one should be stopped based on their race or ethnicity. All forces will continue to collect and report data to the Home Office on the race and ethnicity of people

searched, and the use of stop and search will also be inspected by HMICFRS as part of their annual inspection round.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-05/241469/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Football: Racial Discrimination

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL14836] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to work with relevant authorities, such as FIFA, and UEFA, to strengthen sanctions against racist behaviour in international football.

Reply from Lord Ashton of Hyde: The racist abuse England players were subjected to in Montenegro was completely unacceptable and we supported the Football Association's call for UEFA to take strong and swift action. The FA represents English football's interests at the international level of the sport.

Whilst progress has been made here and abroad in tackling discrimination in football over the years, more needs to be done, and Government is continuing to work with the footballing authorities and other organisations to agree what action must be taken to stamp out all forms of discrimination at football events in this country.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-03-26/HL14836/>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

John Mann (Labour) (2276) Antisemitism – That this house notes the contribution of 1 million euros made by Borussia Dortmund Football Club towards the expansion of Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial in Israel; congratulates the club for their commitment to the memory of the Holocaust and their ongoing action against modern day antisemitism; further highlights an example of best practice and leadership shown by Borussia Dortmund; and looks forward to similar significant contributions to tackling anti-racism across the football world.

<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/52798/antisemitism>

Press Releases

Home Office awards additional £346,000 to fight hate crime

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-office-awards-additional-346000-to-fight-hate-crime>

Impunity for anti-Roma hatred must end, ODIHR Director says on International Roma Day

<https://www.osce.org/odihr/416486>

Praising Roma's contributions in Europe, UN expert urges end to rising intolerance and hate speech

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/04/1036291>

New Publication

House of Commons Library: General Debate on the definition of Islamophobia

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CDP-2019-0086/CDP-2019-0086.pdf>

News

Anti-Semitism row: Jeremy Corbyn concerned evidence 'ignored'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-47924025>

Corbyn criticised over handling of anti-Semitism cases

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-47845390>

Jewish Labour Movement expresses no confidence in Jeremy Corbyn following party's anti-Semitism rows

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17557040.jewish-labour-movement-expresses-no-confidence-in-jeremy-corbyn-following-partys-anti-semitism-rows/>

Jewish group passes vote of no confidence in Corbyn

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/jewish-group-passes-vote-of-no-confidence-in-corbyn-1-4903490>

Jeremy Corbyn admits Labour 'misled or ignored' evidence of anti-Semitism

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/04/14/jeremy-corbyn-admits-labour-misled-ignored-evidence-anti-semitism/>

Jeremy Corbyn admits: Labour 'ignored' anti-semitism

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/jeremy-corbyn-admits-labour-ignored-anti-semitism-rtqjzldp0>

Jewish Labour Movement gives Corbyn ultimatum on antisemitism

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-04-13/news/jewish-labour-movement-gives-corbyn-ultimatum-on-antisemitism-5srxwm8wr>

Labour drops candidate over antisemitism

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-04-10/news/labour-drops-candidate-over-antisemitism-d38xkq6fx>

Labour council hopeful Paul Knaggs turns on Jews and Muslims

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/labour-council-hopeful-paul-knaggs-turns-on-jews-and-muslims-sbr7q0rjt>

Lovejoy actor and Labour council candidate accused of promoting 'anti-Semitic conspiracy theories'

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/04/12/lovejoy-actor-labour-council-candidate-accused-of-promoting-anti/>

New row on antisemitism grips Labour

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-04-09/news/new-row-on-antisemitism-grips-labour-h9tnch0sk>

Labour ex-candidate Sara Reeves reported to police over Hitler post

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/labour-ex-candidate-sara-reeves-reported-to-police-over-hitler-post-zd2w8mp0t>

Labour councillor suspended over Facebook post which said 'Hitler had the right idea' about travellers

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/04/08/labour-councillor-suspended-facebook-post-said-hitler-had-right/>

Labour councillor denies Facebook Hitler remark

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-politics-47853418>

Steven Bishop jailed for London mosque bomb plot

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-london-47879119>

Man Facing Jail After Admitting Planning Bomb Attack On South London Mosque

<https://tellmamauk.org/man-facing-jail-after-admitting-planning-bomb-attack-on-south-london-mosque/>

Terrorist planned to bomb UK's largest mosque 'to get justice' for Manchester attack

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/mosque-attack-terror-uk-plot-steven-bishop-jailed-manchester-a8864166.html>

Extremist admits planning to blow up London mosque in suspected revenge for Manchester bombing

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/04/08/extremist-admits-planning-blow-london-mosque-suspected-revenge/>

Racist alcoholic plotted to become UK's first far right suicide bomber

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-04-09/news/racist-alcoholic-plotted-to-become-uk-s-first-far-right-suicide-bomber-lq8c3v39f>

Academic Sir Roger Scruton sacked from housing role

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-47880669>

Sir Roger Scruton sacked as UK Government housing tsar after 'unacceptable' comments on Islamophobia

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17564911.sir-roger-scruton-sacked-as-uk-government-housing-tsar-after-unacceptable-comments-on-islamophobia/>

UK philosopher sacked as Government adviser for Islamophobia comments

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/uk-philosopher-sacked-as-government-adviser-for-islamophobia-comments-1-4905404>

Government adviser sacked after claiming George Soros is running 'empire' in Hungary, Chinese people are 'robots' and Islamophobia was 'invented by Muslim Brotherhood'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/roger-scruton-george-soros-antisemitism-islamophobia-china-comments-a8863396.html>

Government sacks Sir Roger Scruton over 'unacceptable' comments about Chinese people and Islamophobia

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/04/10/government-housing-tsar-sacked-unacceptable-comments-about-chinese/>

Government sacks Sir Roger Scruton over Soros and Islamophobia remarks

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-04-11/news/government-sacks-sir-roger-scruton-over-soros-and-islamophobia-remarks-f3r833n38>

SNP adviser under fire as anti-racism worker wins legal battle

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/17568408.snp-adviser-under-fire-as-anti-racism-worker-wins-legal-battle/>

Union worker wins payout for dismissal by STUC chief Grahame Smith

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-04-13/scotland/union-worker-wins-payout-for-dismissal-by-stuc-chief-grahame-smith-rcpz9fq3m>

Orange Easter march faces Glasgow route change over sectarian fears

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-04-12/scotland/orange-easter-march-faces-glasgow-route-change-over-sectarian-fears-0zhzns59h>

How Mike Woodhouse learnt to stop petrol-bombing and love travellers

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news-review/how-mike-woodhouse-learnt-to-stop-petrol-bombing-and-love-travellers-8b6h72q8k>

Anti-Semitic post apparently written by National Theatre's former head of music investigated by police

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/04/09/antisemitic-post-apparently-written-national-theatres-former/>

Why is the struggle against antisemitism no different four years on?

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-04-09/news/why-is-the-struggle-against-antisemitism-no-different-four-years-on-n38l5f8t5>

'There are always empty seats beside me'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-47882998/derek-owusu-there-are-always-empty-seats-beside-me>

West Ham 'disgusted' after fans are filmed chanting antisemitic abuse

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2019/apr/13/west-ham-disgusted-after-fans-are-filmed-chanting-antisemitic-abuse>

Jürgen Klopp condemns 'disgusting' Mohamed Salah chants by Chelsea fans

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2019/apr/12/jurgen-klopp-mohamed-salah-chants-chelsea>

Teenager arrested over hate crime at Edinburgh football derby

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/teenager-arrested-over-hate-crime-at-edinburgh-football-derby-1-4905858>

Minister Backs Football Teams Who Walk Off Pitch If They Are Racially Abused

<https://tellmamauk.org/minister-backs-football-teams-who-walk-off-pitch-if-they-are-rationally-abused/>

Facebook 'approved racist adverts' calling for Leaver army

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-04-10/news/facebook-approved-racist-adverts-calling-for-leaver-army-n6bnqt07q>

Media are reluctant to label far-right attackers as terrorists, study says

<https://www.theguardian.com/media/2019/apr/10/media-are-reluctant-label-far-right-attackers-terrorists-study-says>

TOP

Other Scottish Parliament and Government

News

Scots back assisted dying, MSPs claim

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-04-08/scotland/scots-back-assisted-dying-msps-claim-q5v0jq2ck>

TOP

Other UK Parliament and Government

Ministerial Statements and Q&A

House of Commons: Online Harms White Paper

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-04-08/debates/0B8572FF-E3B5-4585-9497-4AE6611D434D/OnlineHarmsWhitePaper>

House of Lords: Online Harms

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2019-04-08/debates/C01D2C25-DB03-44D1-BFAB-ED268690BFA0/OnlineHarms>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Mortgages: Islam

Matthew Pennycook (Labour) [240602] To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, pursuant to the Answer of 14 March to Question 229779, which four high street banks offer Sharia-compliant home purchase plans.

Reply from John Glen: The four banks serving the UK which offer Sharia-compliant home purchase plans are: Al Rayan Bank, United National Bank, Ahli United Bank and ABC International Bank.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-03/240602/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-03-07/229779/>

Forced Marriage: Prosecutions

Andrew Rosindell (Conservative) [239336] To ask the Attorney General, what steps the CPS is taking to increase the rate of prosecution of people who are responsible for forced marriages.

Reply from Robert Buckland: The CPS takes the prosecution of forced marriage allegations very seriously. Each CPS Area has an identified prosecutor to lead on

or deal with these cases. The CPS keeps its legal guidance under review to assist prosecutors to meet these challenges. This will shortly be revised to address cases where the victim lacks capacity to consent to marriage because of a condition affecting their mental functioning. At a national level there exists a joint police and CPS forced marriage working group, which has developed a protocol for investigations and prosecutions as well as training for prosecutors.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-01/239336/>

Female Genital Mutilation: Prosecutions

Andrew Rosindell (Conservative) [239331] To ask the Attorney General, what recent discussions he has had with the CPS on the effectiveness of prosecution in cases involving female genital mutilation.

Reply from Robert Buckland: The CPS is determined to bring those responsible for Female Genital Mutilation to justice, and recently obtained the first conviction for such a case, in London. CPS prosecutors work closely with the police from the outset of these cases to address the challenges they raise, including legal questions concerning jurisdiction and expert evidence, and have assigned FGM leads for every CPS Area. Whilst prosecution alone will not end this appalling crime, this first conviction sends out a strong message that FGM is child abuse and that the perpetrators will be brought to justice.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-01/239331/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Female Genital Mutilation: Prosecutions

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [910351] What steps the CPS is taking to improve the rate of prosecution of people responsible for female genital mutilation.

Nigel Huddleston (Conservative) [910355] What steps the CPS is taking to prosecute people responsible for female genital mutilation.

Reply from Robert Buckland: The CPS is determined to bring those responsible for Female Genital Mutilation to justice. I welcome the recent successful conviction in London which was the first in the UK.

Whilst prosecution alone will not end this appalling crime, this first conviction sends out a strong message that FGM is child abuse and that the perpetrators will be brought to justice.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-11/910351/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-11/910355/>

Homelessness: Sikhs

Preet Kaur Gill (Labour Co-op) [240066] To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, how many and what proportion of homeless people who died outdoors in the last 12 months were Sikh.

Reply from Heather Wheeler: The ONS recently published a statistical report on the deaths of homeless people in England and Wales. This does not break down the number of deaths by religion. The full ONS report can be found at the following website:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriage/deaths/datasets/deathsofhomelesspeopleinenglandandwales>.

Every death of someone sleeping rough on our streets is one too many and we take

this matter extremely seriously. The Government is committed to reducing homelessness and rough sleeping. No one should ever have to sleep rough. That is why last summer we published the cross-government Rough Sleeping Strategy. This sets out an ambitious £100 million package to help people who sleep rough now, but also puts in place the structures that will end rough sleeping once and for all. The Government has now committed over £1.2 billion to tackle homelessness and rough sleeping over the spending review period.

In its first year, the Rough Sleeping Initiative provided over 1,750 new bed spaces and 500 staff.

It should not happen that people die prematurely and on the street because they are homeless. Whilst we recognise that suitable housing is a key part of the solution, health services have a significant role to play, alongside other public services. The MHCLG is working with the DHSC to ensure that rough sleepers have the health care they need, when they need it. The 10 year NHS long-term plan sets out that the NHS will invest up to £30 million on health services for people sleeping rough from 2019/20.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-04-02/240066/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

The following two questions both received the same answer

School Meals

Lord Singh of Wimbledon (Crossbench) [HL14917] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to ensure that all schools provide a non-halal meal option.

Lord Singh of Wimbledon (Crossbench) [HL14918] To ask Her Majesty's Government what estimate they have made of the number of schools that offer only halal meals; and what assessment they have made of the impact of that policy on children in such schools.

Reply from Lord Agnew of Oulton: The government sets out required minimum standards in the attached School Food Standards to ensure that children are served healthy, nutritious meals. The standards do not specify food requirements in terms of cultural and religious needs.

Within these standards, headteachers, governors and their caterers are best placed to make decisions about their school food policies. Information on the types of food provided in schools and the number of schools that offer only halal meals is not held centrally.

Schools should act reasonably in their provision of food, providing choices that take account of cultural, religious and special dietary needs, and we expect them to work with parents in making appropriate arrangements. In particular, schools should consult with parents when making changes to school food provision and ensure parents have access to information on the food provided.

Schools may consider providing both halal and non-halal food each day, or ensuring that dishes are clearly labelled to allow pupils to select the appropriate choice.

[HL14917_HL14918_School_Food_Regulations_2014](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-03-28/HL14917/>

TOP

Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

Human Tissue (Authorisation) (Scotland) Bill

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

Vulnerable Witnesses (Criminal Evidence) (Scotland) Bill

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

UK Parliament

Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) Bill

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

Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) (No. 2)

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/asylumseekerspermissiontoworkno2.html>

Banknote Diversity

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

Border Control Bill

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

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

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

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>

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 and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Bill

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

Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill

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

Immigration (Time Limit on Detention) Bill

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

TOP

Consultations

** new or updated this week

The Law of Succession (closing date 10 May 2019)

<https://consult.gov.scot/justice/law-of-succession-2019/>

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act (closing date 10 May 2019)

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/111249.aspx>

**** Online Harms White Paper** (closing date 1 July 2019)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/online-harms-white-paper>

Experiences of Islamophobia (closing date not stated)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/amina-islamophobia>

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>

TOP

Job Opportunities

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

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

TOP

Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Inclusion Cultivation

16 April 2019 in Kirkcaldy (9.30-4.00)

Fife Centre for Equalities workshop to help those aspire to be equality trainers to learn the techniques in designing and conducting a programme of activities, approaches you can adopt in your promotional strategy, and confidence to lead discussions on fairness and equality. For more information see <https://tinyurl.com/yb6anztx>

**** this week!**

BAME Disabled People Peer Group

17 April 2019 in Glasgow (10.30-3.30)

Glasgow Disability Alliance peer group for people from minority ethnic communities who are disabled or living with a long term condition. For information see <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/D1xnCROW0AEavwf.jpg> or contact 0141 556 7103 / text: 07958 299 496 / info@gdaonline.co.uk

**** next week!**

Working with Interpreters

24 April 2019 in Glasgow

8 October 2019 in Glasgow

28 November 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to train service providers in the processes of using an interpreter, examine the pitfalls – and consequences – of this aspect of service provision, looking at confidentiality, professional boundaries, including appropriate behaviour and standards, and evaluation processes. Reduced fees available for relevant organisations. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/jt93fog> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

**** next week!**

Intercultural Youth Scotland Launch Event

26 April 2019 in Edinburgh (5.30-9.00)

Intercultural Youth Scotland charity launch event to celebrate their new organisation and showcase some of Scotland's talented multicultural young people. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y2ctah47>

**** Outside In: Transforming Hate in Youth Settings**

30 April 2019 in Glasgow (1.30-4.30)

Interfaith Scotland event to disseminate key findings from the "Outside In" project to transform hate speech in settings with young people. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y2q83btc>

Working with unaccompanied refugee children

1 May 2019 in Glasgow

26 September 2019 in Glasgow

6 November 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to enable service providers to better understand separated children, and how you can help them in their journey. Reduced fees available. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y7mz5uuv> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

**** Action on Prejudice Live**

8 May 2019 in Aberdeen (10.00-4.00)

Action on Prejudice event for youth workers and other practitioners working in diverse communities to hear from professionals about the tools and services available to address hate crime and prejudice. For information see <https://actiononprejudice.info/events/aop-live-aberdeen/>

Age assessment awareness

9 May 2019 in Glasgow

13 November 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to give social workers and other relevant staff an awareness of the components that are used to build a picture of a person's age. It draws on a variety of existing Age Assessment practice guidelines and demonstrates how these apply in Scotland. Reduced fees available. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y8f2z7p4> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Meet the Charity Regulator

14 May 2019 in Srathpeffer (9.30-12.15)

29 May 2019 in Aberdeen (1.15-4.00)

25 June 2019 in Troon (1.15-4.00)

28 August 2019 in Dunfermline (1.15-4.00)

25 September 2019 in Glasgow (1.15-4.00)

1 October 2019 in Fort William (9.30-12.15)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator events to give charity trustees and staff the opportunity to hear about latest developments, meet OSCR staff and board and ask questions. For information see <https://www.oscr.org.uk/news/meet-the-scottish-charity-regulator-2019/>

Working with refugees and the asylum process

15 May 2019 in Glasgow

18 September 2019 in Glasgow

31 October 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine why people might need to flee their own country, how they seek asylum in the UK, and what opportunities exist for rebuilding their lives here in Scotland. Reduced fees available for relevant organisations. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/z68a5k8> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Refugee community sponsorship

21 May 2019 in Glasgow

11 December 2019 in Glasgow

For information see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/what_we_do/training or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Working with refugees and VPRS resettlement

23 May 2019 in Glasgow

2 October 2019 in Glasgow

21 November 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to examine the issues facing Syrian refugees as they move from countries around Syria to the UK, and highlight the challenges and opportunities they face as they build new lives in Scotland. Reduced fees available. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/zy436gr> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Volunteers' Week Scotland 2019

1-7 June 2019 (Scotland-wide)

Volunteers' Week is a time to say thank you for the fantastic contribution volunteers make, and recognise their invaluable and diverse contribution to the UK. For information see <https://www.volunteersweek.scot/>

Refugee Festival Scotland

20-30 June 2019 (Scotland-wide)

Refugee Festival Scotland celebrates the contribution refugees make to life in Scotland, and offers people from different backgrounds the chance to meet and celebrate together. For information see <https://www.refugeefestivalscotland.co.uk/about/>

**** We Are One – Citizenfest**

9-10 August 2019 in Glasgow

Festival asserting and celebrating diversity and equality with a programme of events in a variety of city centre venues: celebrating our rights – ethnic, political, minority, and common human rights – through music, seminars, food, drama, talks, art, and much more. For information see <https://www.facebook.com/citizenfestweareone>

Refugee rights to housing

7 November 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course identifying the different groups of asylum seekers and refugees most likely to seek housing in Scotland, their legal rights, and the duties and obligations on local authorities and other housing organisations towards them. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y9pvpl5r> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Engaging with seldom heard voices

5 December 2019 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course looking at the various approaches, tools and techniques we can adopt to reach out to people who are seldom heard. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y8tg2x4k> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

TOP

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>

TOP



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/>

The copyright of each article belongs to the publisher on whose website it appears, and it may only be copied or reproduced in accordance with the relevant terms and conditions. Full details of these, and the publisher's contact information, are available on each website.