



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

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

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**The UK Parliament has been dissolved, and will not meet again until after the General Election that will take place on 12 December. Parliamentary questions not already answered will not now receive any response. The new parliament is expected to meet for the first time on 17 December formally to elect the Speaker, after which new MPs will be sworn in. The date of the State Opening of Parliament has not yet been announced.**

## Immigration and Asylum

### Scottish Parliament Debate

#### European Union Citizens' Rights

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12356&i=111695#ScotParlOR>

## Scottish Parliament Oral Answers

### Court of Session Ruling (Lock-change Evictions)

**Patrick Harvie (Green):** I hope that the whole chamber shares my horror at yesterday's Court of Session ruling that Serco's despicable policy of lock-change eviction of asylum seekers is lawful. If it is lawful, we must still say that it is certainly not right. It effectively strips people of their human rights and puts them at immediate risk of street homelessness. That includes people such as Muhammad and Khadija, a married couple in their seventies, with severe health problems, who are among those facing being turfed out on to the streets, in the middle of winter.

Greens believe that we must treat people who arrive on our shores seeking refuge with dignity and compassion. I think that most people in Scotland share that view. The Scottish Government statement said: "we will consider the implications of the judgment".

The situation is urgent. What immediate actions will the Scottish Government take in response to this humanitarian crisis?

**Reply from the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon):** We will liaise closely with Glasgow City Council. I agree with Patrick Harvie and I am horrified at the implications of the judgment. If lock-change evictions are legal—issues under the Human Rights Act 1998 are reserved to Westminster—they are certainly not moral, which is the key issue.

Let us be clear: we have ended up in this position because of an inhumane and degrading UK Government asylum system that leaves people destitute and homeless in the country in which they have sought refuge. We should be giving refuge to people who are fleeing some of the worst circumstances that any of us can imagine.

First and foremost, we need a long-term sustainable solution to asylum so that we can put in place a humane system. In the meantime, the Scottish Government will do everything in its powers to ensure that we are providing the care and help that asylum seekers need. The Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government will liaise closely with stakeholders to see how we can best support people who have been placed in that situation by an inhumane asylum system.

In the longer term—I hope that it is not too long term—we need control over immigration and asylum in the Scotland Parliament so that, just as we are doing right now with social security, we can build from scratch a system that has humanity, respect and dignity at its very heart.

**Patrick Harvie:** I agree that the UK Government's inhumane and degrading hostile environment is at the root of this tragedy. It is using destitution as a deliberate policy tool, which is morally indefensible. However, a long-term solution is not what people need in the here and now. We should be striving towards that, but in the here and now people need somewhere to stay. We cannot simply accept what the UK Government is doing to people: the Scottish Government can and must respond.

Last November, I asked about this situation because we knew that this crisis was coming. The First Minister told me that the Scottish Government would take the action necessary to prevent a humanitarian crisis, but adequate emergency accommodation is still not in place. We know that at least 150 people face imminent eviction and homelessness in the winter months ahead. We know who is to blame for the brutality of UK asylum policy, but those people do not need someone to blame; they need shelter, food, warmth, healthcare and support. This is an urgent crisis, which demands a rapid humanitarian response to ensure that those basic needs are met.

When will the First Minister be able to confirm that arrangements are in place, including emergency accommodation, for all those who need it now?

**Reply from the First Minister:** I say to Patrick Harvie in all sincerity that this is not simply about trying to apportion blame: this is about being clear about where, first,

responsibility, and secondly, legal powers, lie. The Scottish Government's record on this speaks for itself. We will do everything that we possibly can to shield asylum seekers and those who have been subject to welfare cuts from the implications of policies that we consider to be inhumane and which we deeply disagree with. Aileen Campbell will be happy to liaise with Patrick Harvie about what is possible, in a practical sense, working with Glasgow City Council. We will leave no stone unturned within the legal powers that we have, but I do not, and Patrick Harvie does not, do anybody any favours if we are not clear about the root of this problem; otherwise, we will not be providing the real solutions that people need. In the short term, we will do everything we can; the member has my absolute assurance on that. However, if we are to solve this problem we need to get the powers over this area out of the hands of the Tory Government, which is leading to such situations, and into the hands of a Parliament that will build a system that does not have such inhumane consequences built into it right from the start.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12362&i=111754#ScotParlOR>

*The Court of Session ruling referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.scotcourts.gov.uk/docs/default-source/cos-general-docs/pdf-docs-for-opinions/2019csih54.pdf?sfvrsn=0>

## Scottish Parliament Motions

### **S5M-19809 Ben Macpherson (SNP): Protecting the Rights of EU Citizens in Scotland**

– That the Parliament welcomes citizens from elsewhere in the EU, the EEA and Switzerland who have used their right to freedom of movement to come to Scotland, and recognises the significant contributions that such EU citizens make to Scotland and the rest of the UK socially, culturally and economically; acknowledges that EU citizens enrich Scotland and are an integral part of communities across the country; notes that the approach of the UK Government towards the rights of EU citizens since 24 June 2016 has created long-running insecurity and anxiety for millions; emphasises that EU citizens maintain their rights under freedom of movement until if and when the UK exits the EU; believes that EU citizens should not have to apply to retain rights they already have if the UK exits the EU and freedom of movement ends; notes that the establishment of a declarative system and the removal of the requirement to apply to the UK Government's EU Settlement Scheme would go some way to alleviating the current insecurity many people are experiencing; believes that the rights of EU citizens must be enshrined in primary legislation, and proposes that, if a declarative system is not established in law, the UK Government should immediately disapply its requirement that EU citizens accrue five years' residency to obtain full settled status, therefore removing the less secure pre-settled status, and considers that in all cases EU citizens must be given the option of receiving physical proof of status.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-19809>

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

<https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

### **S5M-19809.1 Liam McArthur (Liberal Democrat): Protecting the Rights of EU Citizens in Scotland**

– As an amendment to motion S5M-19809 in the name of Ben Macpherson (Protecting the Rights of EU Citizens in Scotland), insert at end ", but believes that the best and only guaranteed way to prevent a repeat of the Windrush scandal for EU citizens is to stop Brexit."

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-19809.1>

**S5M-19809.2 Donald Cameron (Conservative): Protecting the Rights of EU Citizens in Scotland** – As an amendment to motion S5M-19809 in the name of Ben Macpherson (Protecting the Rights of EU Citizens in Scotland), leave out from "notes that the approach of the UK Government" to end and insert "further acknowledges that the Withdrawal Agreement negotiated in October 2019 guarantees the rights of EU citizens living in the UK and ensures that EU citizens can continue to live and work in the UK after it leaves the EU through the EU Settlement Scheme; welcomes the announcement that the number of people permitted to work in the UK via the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Scheme will increase from 2,500 to 10,000; further welcomes proposals to introduce a new NHS visa, which will help towards resolving Scotland's NHS workforce crisis, and supports the continued efforts of the UK Government to ensure that the UK continues to be a place that attracts the best and brightest talents from around the world."

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-19809.2>

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

<https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

*Information about the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Scheme, referred to above, can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/tier-5-seasonal-worker-visa>

**S5M-19809.3 Claire Baker (Labour): Protecting the Rights of EU Citizens in Scotland** – As an amendment to motion S5M-19809 in the name of Ben Macpherson (Protecting the Rights of EU Citizens in Scotland), leave out "must be enshrined in primary legislation" and insert "residing in the UK at the point of EU exit, or the end of the transition period in the case of an agreement, must be enshrined in primary legislation; notes the recent report by Robert Gordon University and Feniks, *How Brexit Impacts EU Citizens' Mental Health and Wellbeing Research Findings*, and its findings that EU citizens in Scotland have experienced anxiety, and experience feelings of being unwelcome and rejected, with some reporting experiences of discrimination related to Brexit".

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-19809.3>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

<http://www.rgu.ac.uk/brexit-mental-health-research-findings>

## Press Releases

**Scottish Human Rights Commission expresses serious concerns about human rights implications of Serco judgment**

<http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/news/commission-expresses-serious-concerns-about-human-rights-implications-of-serco-judgment/>

**Court finds that Serco lock-change evictions are lawful**

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/court-finds-that-serco-lock-change-evictions-are-lawful/>

**Scottish Refugee Council – Q&A: lock-change evictions verdict**

<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/qa-serco/>

**Scottish Refugee Council – Know your rights: lock-change evictions**  
<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/know-your-rights-lock-change-evictions/>

**We want EU to stay – Jeremy Miles**  
<https://gov.wales/we-want-eu-to-stay-jeremy-miles>

## New Publications

**EU Settlement Scheme Statistics, October 2019**  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/846263/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics-october-2019.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/846263/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics-october-2019.pdf)

**Updated Guidance: EU Settlement Scheme: EU, other EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members**  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/845641/main-euss-guidance-v3.0-ext.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/845641/main-euss-guidance-v3.0-ext.pdf)

**Updated guidance: EU Settlement Scheme Family Permit and Travel Permit**  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/846379/euss-family-and-travel-permit-guidance-v3.0ext.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/846379/euss-family-and-travel-permit-guidance-v3.0ext.pdf)

**Court of Session Judgement: Appeal by Shakar Omar Ali against (1) Serco Limited, (2) Compass SNI Limited, and (3) the Secretary of State for the Home Department**  
<https://www.scotcourts.gov.uk/docs/default-source/cos-general-docs/pdf-docs-for-opinions/2019csih54.pdf?sfvrsn=0>

## News

**Boris Johnson reveals ignorance over EU immigration figures in BBC interview**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/boris-johnson-reveals-ignorance-over-eu-immigration-figures-in-live-bbc-interview-a9204311.html>

**General election 2019: Tories promise to cut 'immigration overall'**  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/election-2019-50412772>

**Tories pledge to cut overall immigration and insist they will not set 'arbitrary' reduction targets**  
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18036890.tories-pledge-cut-overall-immigration-insist-will-not-set-arbitrary-reduction-targets/>

**Tories pledge to cut immigration if they win general election**  
<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/tories-pledge-to-cut-immigration-if-they-win-general-election-1-5046290>

**Tory immigration plans are 'hostile' for Scotland**  
<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/tory-immigration-plans-hostile-scotland-20882215>

**What is the Conservative Party's policy on immigration?**  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-11-14/news/what-is-the-conservative-partys-policy-on-immigration-z89pt2ng5>

**Labour's freedom of movement plan could treble immigration to 840,000 a year, Priti Patel claims**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/11/13/priti-patel-claims-labour-plans-extend-freedom-movement-could/>

**Corbyn says Labour will not put an arbitrary target on immigration**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/nov/14/corbyn-says-labour-will-not-put-an-arbitrary-target-on-immigration>

**General election: Diane Abbott vows to eradicate culture of deportations 'haunting' Home Office**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/general-election-labour-home-office-immigration-free-movement-manifesto-a9204691.html>

**What is the truth about the parties' policies on immigration?**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/infact/immigration-infact-election-priti-patel-corbyn-mcdonnell-free-movement-a9203246.html>

**Government 'exploits migrants for profit' by outsourcing visa services to private firms**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/nov/17/government-exploits-migrants-for-profit-by-outsourcing-visa-services-to-private-firms>

**Windrush victim dies without compensation or apology**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/windrush-scandal>

**Rising proportion of EU citizens in UK given temporary 'pre-settled status'**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/nov/14/rising-proportion-of-eu-citizens-being-granted-presettled-status>

**Almost 600,000 EU citizens apply for UK residency rights in single month as case backlog crosses half a million**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/eu-settlement-scheme-home-office-brexitee-uk-residency-rights-a9202511.html>

**EU citizens face deportation after Brexit if they miss application deadline, under hardline UK rules**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/brexit-eu-migrants-deported-boris-johnson-settled-status-application-a9203056.html>

**EU migrants face wait of five years for benefits in Britain**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/eu-migrants-face-wait-of-five-years-for-benefits-in-britain-f9p26rcv2>

**Jobs market wobbles as number of EU nationals in work plunges**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2019/11/12/jobs-market-wobbles-number-eu-nationals-work-plunges/>

**Court of session rules Serco asylum seeker evictions 'lawful'**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18033511.court-session-rules-serco-asylum-seeker-evictions-lawful/>

**Serco lock-change policy lawful, court rules**

<http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/tfn-news/serco-lock-change-policy-lawful-court-rules>

**Serco's evictions of refused asylum seekers lawful, judges rule**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/nov/13/scotland-high-court-rules-serco-evictions-of-asylum-seekers-lawful>

**Concerns over 'dangerous precedent' after Court of Session rules Serco lock-change evictions lawful**

[https://www.holyrood.com/news/view,concerns-over-dangerous-precedent-after-court-of-session-rules-serco-lockch\\_14718.htm](https://www.holyrood.com/news/view,concerns-over-dangerous-precedent-after-court-of-session-rules-serco-lockch_14718.htm)

**Asylum seekers lose case over lock-change evictions**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-11-14/scotland/asylum-seekers-lose-case-over-lock-change-evictions-d3pz6rkk6>

**Serco to lock out 20 refugees and asylum seekers each week – lawyers to appeal to U.K. Supreme Council**

<https://www.paih.org/court-of-session-refuses-due-process-for-glasgows-refugees-and-asylum-seekers/>

**There are 1.2 million illegal immigrants in the UK - a quarter of the entire total in Europe**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/11/13/12-million-illegal-immigrants-uk-quarter-entire-total-europe/>

**Libel case against Tommy Robinson over bullied Syrian refugee comments reaches High Court**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/libel-case-against-tommy-robinson-over-bullied-syrian-refugee-comments-reaches-high-court-1-5046372>

**Channel migrants: Border Force intercepts boat carrying 22 people at Dover**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-50367348>

**What is Scotland's attitude to immigration?**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-business-50427399>

**Tory's hostile immigration environment lets prejudices flourish**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18038564.torys-hostile-immigration-environment-lets-prejudices-flourish/>

**We need to shout about the positive side of immigration**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/nov/15/we-need-to-shout-about-the-positive-side-of-immigration>

**Immigration to the UK may rise or fall but our laws are still barbaric**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/nov/17/immigration-to-uk-may-rise-or-fall-but-rules-remain-barbaric>

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## Community Relations

### Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-19817 John Mason (SNP): Welcoming Scottish Interfaith Week – That the

Parliament notes that Scottish Interfaith Week takes place from 10 to 17 November 2019; considers that faiths and people of faith have a hugely important part to play in modern Scotland; believes that the majority of people of faith get on well with each other, however acknowledges the challenges faced when they do not; appreciates that this is a matter of regret and sadness and demonstrates the need for building good interfaith and community relations; commends the work of Interfaith Scotland, local interfaith groups and faith communities across Scotland, in seeking to promote dialogue and mutual understanding between people of different faiths and philosophies, and wishes them well, particularly during Scottish Interfaith Week.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-19817>

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## Equality

### Press Release

**EU Charter of Fundamental Rights marks its 10th anniversary**

<https://fra.europa.eu/en/press-release/2019/eu-charter-fundamental-rights-marks-its-10th-anniversary>

### News

**'Stormzy effect' has boosted the number of black students at Cambridge, but now it's time for schools to step up**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/education-and-careers/2019/10/11/stormzy-effect-has-boosted-number-black-students-cambridge-now/>

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## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### Scottish Parliament Written Answer

#### **IHRA definition of antisemitism**

**S5W-25837 John Finnie (Green):** To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5W-25533 by Aileen Campbell on 8 October 2019, whether it will provide the information that was requested regarding which bodies requested it to adopt the IHRA definition of antisemitism.

**Reply from Aileen Campbell:** There were no formal requests to adopt the definition

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-25837>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-25533>



## Press Release

**Hate crime victims disadvantaged by gaps between hate crime legislation and implementation, OSCE human rights head says**

<https://www.osce.org/odihr/439127>

## New Publications

**Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE): 2018 Hate Crime Data**

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

**Being Black in the EU – Second European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey**

[https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra\\_uploads/fra-2019-being-black-in-the-eu-summary\\_en.pdf](https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2019-being-black-in-the-eu-summary_en.pdf)

## News

**Conservatives suspend members over Islamophobia allegations**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-50398826>

**Tory minister accused of 'whitesplaining' Islamophobia to senior Muslim Conservative Sayeeda Warsi**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/matt-hancock-islamophobia-whitesplaining-sayeeda-warsi-muslim-tory-a9196151.html>

**Tory official resigns from party after 'seeing Muslim man quizzed over religious practices'**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/tory-party-islamophobia-kyle-pedley-resign-conservative-muslim-a9203571.html>

**Tory councillors posted Islamophobic content on social media**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/nov/12/revealed-conservative-councillors-islamophobic-social-media>

**Conservative councillors suspended over Islamophobia as party's ex-chair condemns its 'vile racism at every level'**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/conservative-councillors-suspended-islamophobia-racism-latest-a9201161.html>

**When it comes to Islamophobia, Tory eyes are still wide shut**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/nov/11/islamophobia-tory-matt-hancock-sayeeda-warsi-muslims>

**Sturgeon accuses Corbyn of failing to deal with anti-Semitism as he heads to Scotland**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18032017.sturgeon-accuses-corbyn-failing-deal-anti-semitism-heads-scotland/>

**Labour candidate has repeatedly attacked critics of Jeremy Corbyn's approach to anti-Semitism**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/11/16/labour-candidatehas-repeatedly-attacked-critics-jeremy-corbyns/>

**Labour antisemitism row: public figures say they cannot vote for party under Corbyn**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/nov/14/labour-antisemitism-row-public-figures-say-they-cannot-vote-for-party-under-corbyn>

**Top authors and actors refuse to vote for Jeremy Corbyn over failure to combat anti-Semitism**  
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/11/14/top-authors-actors-refuse-vote-jeremy-corbyn-failure-combat/>

**As a historian of England's shameful anti-Semitic past, I dread the idea of Prime Minister Corbyn**  
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/11/16/englands-shameful-history-blood-libel-compelled-denounce-corbyns/>

**Former Labour MP demands antisemitism investigation findings published before general election**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/labour-antisemitism-investigation-general-election-corbyn-equality-watchdog-a9202916.html>

**'The abuse made me physically ill': Luciana Berger reveals toll of fighting antisemitism while Labour MPs refused to stand by her**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/luciana-berger-labour-antisemitism-jeremy-corbyn-election-latest-liberal-democrats-finchley-a9196696.html>

**General election: Tories urged to drop parliamentary candidate for 'disgusting racism'**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/general-election-latest-news-conservatives-candidate-anthony-browne-racism-a9199511.html>

**Tory candidate faces call to stand down over 'disgusting racism'**  
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/11/11/tory-candidate-faces-call-stand-disgusting-racism/>

**Church minister who heckled Corbyn suspended over tweets**  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-50433951>

**Church of Scotland minister who heckled Jeremy Corbyn suspended over racist and homophobic tweets**  
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18039449.church-scotland-minister-heckled-jeremy-corbyn-suspended-racist-homophobic-tweets/>

**Church minister the Rev Richard Cameron who heckled Jeremy Corbyn suspended over tweets**  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-11-15/scotland/church-minister-the-rev-richard-cameron-who-heckled-jeremy-corbyn-suspended-over-tweets-2knnz60fs>

**Christian minister who accused Corbyn of being 'terrorist sympathiser' linked to homophobic and Islamophobic tweets**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/corbyn-heckler-richard-cameron-terrorist-sympathiser-tweets-church-scotland-a9201846.html>

**Police Scotland is racist, claims Sheku Bayoh's sister**  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-50401339>

### **Sheku Bayoh's sister accuses police of institutional racism**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-11-14/scotland/sheku-bayohs-sister-accuses-police-of-institutional-racism-2z7jq8xnt>

### **Whatever happened to Sheku Bayoh, Police Scotland does not tolerate racism**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/opinion/columnists/whatever-happened-to-sheku-bayoh-police-scotland-does-not-tolerate-racism-kenny-macaskill-1-5045155>

### **Boys 'cling to' sectarian view**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/boys-cling-to-sectarian-view-22rvmfvpg>

### **Antisemitism is on the rise in Europe, riding a wave of nationalism. How did we forget the horrors of history so fast?**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/antisemitism-europe-far-right-nationalism-jewish-racism-a9205406.html>

### **White man accuses Tesco of racism over black friend**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-11-13/scotland/white-man-accuses-tesco-of-racism-over-black-friend-wrqlxm5xj>

### **Canvey Island graffiti attacks investigated as hate crime**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-essex-50372475>

### **Black Facebook staff describe workplace racism in anonymous letter**

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2019/nov/13/facebook-discrimination-black-workers-letter>

### **New Kick It Out chair Sanjay Bhandari asks fans to be 'activists, not bystanders'**

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2019/nov/12/sanjay-bhandari-kick-it-out-football-racism>

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## **Other Scottish Parliament and Government**

### **Scottish Parliament Ministerial Statement**

#### **Sheku Bayoh**

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12356&i=111691&c=2214813#ScotParlOR>

### **Scottish Parliament Written Answer**

#### **Charities**

**S5W-26333 Neil Findlay (Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on whether registered charities should be allowed to criticise politicians and political parties.

**Reply from Aileen Campbell:** Charities play a key role in civil society and we welcome the insight and challenge they bring to public policy. The Scottish Government welcomes this debate and challenge, and see it as an essential part of the democratic process.

Charities can campaign on political issues to advance their charitable purposes, including during electoral periods, as long as the requirements of charity law, and where necessary electoral law, are met.

However, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 makes clear that a body will not meet the charity test if it is, or one of its purposes is to advance, a political party.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-26333>

## Press Releases

**Committee welcomes extension of electoral franchise**

<https://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/113545.aspx>

**Death of Sheku Bayoh**

<https://www.gov.scot/news/death-of-sheku-bayoh/>

## New Publications

**Timing of Scottish Budget 2020-21**

<https://www.gov.scot/news/timing-of-scottish-budget-2020-21/>

**Looking ahead to the Scottish Government's Draft Budget 2020-21: Valuing the Third Sector**

<https://storage.googleapis.com/scvo-cms/published/EHRiC/2019/11/7/Looking-ahead-to-the-Scottish-Government-s-Draft-Budget-2020-21--Valuing-the-Third-Sector/EHRiC-S5-19-04.pdf>

## News

**Prisoners and foreign nationals in Scotland 'should be given right to vote'**

<https://www.heraldsotland.com/news/18031519.prisoners-foreign-nationals-scotland-should-given-right-vote/>

**Sheku Bayoh death: Public inquiry will be held into death in custody of Fife man**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/sheku-bayoh-death-public-inquiry-will-be-held-into-death-in-custody-of-fife-man-1-5044379>

**Public inquiry ordered over death of Sheku Bayoh in custody**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/nov/12/public-inquiry-ordered-sheku-bayoh-death-in-custody-kirkcaldy-2015>

**Public inquiry to be held into Sheku Bayoh death**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-11-13/scotland/public-inquiry-to-be-held-into-sheku-bayoh-death-9s78kwmb6>

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## General Election

### News

**General election 2019: Guide to the parties taking part**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election-2019-50420500>

**General election 2019: Who is standing in Scotland?**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election-2019-50437627>

**Manifesto watch: what have the main parties promised in the 2019 general election?**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/11/17/manifesto-2019-general-election-labour-conservative-lib-dem-brexite/>

**Election polls: latest UK general election 2019 polling tracked**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/ng-interactive/2019/oct/31/uk-general-election-2019-poll-tracker>

**Labour's lack of Indian candidates is a slap in the face, Corbyn told**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2019-11-14/news/labours-lack-of-indian-candidates-a-slap-in-the-face-corbyn-told-kcqmn00hg>

**Police launch UK-wide operation to protect election candidates**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/nov/15/police-launch-uk-wide-operation-protect-election-candidates>

**General election: Police tell candidates not to campaign alone for own safety amid rising death threats and abuse**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/general-election-mps-death-threats-abuse-police-safety-security-advice-a9205066.html>

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## Bills in Progress

\*\* new or updated this week

### Scottish Parliament

**Children (Scotland) Bill**

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/112632.aspx>

**Civil Partnership (Scotland) Bill**

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/112997.aspx>

**\*\* Disclosure (Scotland) Bill**

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/111895.aspx>

Education and Skills Committee: Stage 1 evidence session

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12350&i=111652#ScotParlOR>

**\*\* Female Genital Mutilation (Protection and Guidance) (Scotland) Bill**

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/111850.aspx>

## Consultations

\*\* new or updated this week

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

**Freedom of Information extension of coverage** (closing date 22 November 2019)

<https://consult.gov.scot/constitution-and-cabinet/freedom-of-information-extension-of-coverage/>

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

**Widening the scope of the current victim statement scheme** (closing date 24 November 2019)

<https://consult.gov.scot/justice/current-victim-statement-scheme/>

**Financial Redress for Historical Child Abuse in Care** (closing date 25 November 2019)

<https://consult.gov.scot/redress-survivor-relations/financial-redress-historical-child-abuse-in-care/>

**Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy Review** (closing date 29 November 2019)

<https://consult.gov.scot/human-trafficking-team/trafficking-and-exploitation-strategy-review/>

**\*\* What makes a strong and vibrant community, asks Holyrood Committee** (closing date 22 January 2020)

<https://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/113583.aspx>

**Civil Partnership (Scotland) Bill** (closing date 31 January 2020)

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/113449.aspx>

**Use of interpreters in the asylum process** (closing date not stated)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/call-for-evidence-use-of-interpreters-in-the-asylum-process>

**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>

## Job Opportunities

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

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

## Events, Conferences, and Training

\*\* new or updated this week

**\*\* this week!**

### **Rights and Entitlements of EEA Nationals**

20 November 2019 in Stirling (9.30-12.30)

PAiH training to explore fundamental issues of settled and pre-settled status, welfare and housing entitlements of EEA nationals. For information see <http://www.paih.org/training>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Rights of Refugees and Asylum Seekers**

20 November 2019 in Stirling (1.30-4.30)

PAiH training to explore how the asylum system works, the process involved in making a claim for asylum, barriers faced by both refugees and asylum seekers building a new life in Scotland, and their respective entitlement to services. For information see <http://www.paih.org/training>

**\*\* this week!**

### **Working with people from diverse religion & belief identities**

21 November 2019 in Glasgow (9.30-1.00)

22 April 2020 in Glasgow (1.00-4.30)

Interfaith Scotland course on improving confidence in discussing and responding to the religion and belief of those we work with. Includes the core beliefs and cultural practices of the main faiths, and individual needs that may arise from a person's faith or belief identity. For information see <https://interfaithscotland.org/get-involved/training> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

**\*\* this week!**

### **Working with refugees and VPRS resettlement**

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](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

**\*\* this week!**

### **Introduction to Policing**

24 November 2019 in Glasgow (9.45-3.00)

Police Scotland course to encourage people from minority ethnic communities to consider careers in policing. For information see <https://www.scotland.police.uk/recruitment/events> contact [recruitmentpositiveactionteam@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:recruitmentpositiveactionteam@scotland.pnn.police.uk) or request to join the closed facebook group 'Police Scotland Positive Action'

### **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](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

### **\*\* Introduction to Race Equality**

11 December 2019 in Glasgow (10.00-3.30)

CRER training to build understanding of race and racism in the Scottish context, and

provide the tools needed to promote equality for minority ethnic people. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/w6q6cfv>

### **Refugee community sponsorship**

11 December 2019 in Glasgow

For information see [http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/what\\_we\\_do/training](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/what_we_do/training) or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / [martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](mailto:martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)

### **No Recourse to Public Funds**

11 December 2019 in Glasgow (1.30-4.30)

PAiH training to help frontline workers identify a tenant's current status, clarify what this means in terms of access to public funds and plan effective support where difficulties arise. For information see <http://www.paih.org/training>

### **\*\* Political Shadowing Scheme**

Closing date for applications: 12 December 2019

CRER BME Political Shadowing Scheme to address the under-representation of Black and minority ethnic people in the Scottish political arena by empowering and inspiring individuals from BME communities to be actively involved in politics. For information see <https://www.crer.scot/political-shadowing-scheme>

### **Three mottos to guide our approach to equality, diversity & inclusion**

13 February 2020 in Glasgow (1.00-4.30)

2 June 2020 in Glasgow (1.00-4.30)

Interfaith Scotland course considering diversity in its widest sense including why some people ignore or deny the disadvantages that others experience, how to respond to misunderstandings or offence, and the impact of our inner narratives on our interactions. For information see <https://interfaithscotland.org/get-involved/training> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

### **Interpreting culture – improving cross-cultural communication**

10 March 2020 in Glasgow (1.00-4.30)

Interfaith Scotland course on cultural diversity to explore how cultural background influences behaviour, values, and beliefs, and how to improve our inter-cultural communication. For information see <https://interfaithscotland.org/get-involved/training> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

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## Useful Links

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

**Refugee Survival Trust** <https://www.rst.org.uk/>

**Freedom from Torture** <https://www.freedomfromtorture.org/>

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Volunteer Scotland Disclosure Services**

<https://www.volunteerscotland.net/for-organisations/disclosure-services/>

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

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**SCoJeC**

The Scottish Council of  
**Jewish Communities**

Representing, connecting and supporting Jewish people in Scotland



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**

Empowering Scotland's Ethnic and  
Cultural Minority Communities

**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/>



**gov.scot**

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

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