



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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Immigration and Asylum

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

EU Citizens

Philip Dunne (Conservative): What discussions [has the Minister] had with the Home Secretary on the level of fees payable by EU citizens who are the spouse of a UK national and continue to reside in the UK after the UK leaves the EU. [900008]

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union (James Duddridge): The Secretary of State regularly discusses the rights of EU citizens with the Home Secretary and other Cabinet colleagues. To protect the right to reside, EU citizens who are resident at the end of the implementation period must apply for settled status by June 2021. This is a free-of-charge process, and we have already received well over 2.6 million applications to the scheme.

Philip Dunne: I am grateful to the Minister for that reply, and obviously I am delighted by

the progress that the settlement scheme is making in encouraging EU citizens who are here to remain. In common with many colleagues in the House, I spent a number of days in the last few weeks knocking on doors and talking to my constituents. One of the people I came across was an EU citizen—an Italian who was married to a British lady and had lived here for over 50 years, working all the time and paying his taxes. He wanted to become a British citizen, but is faced with an application fee of £1,700. Does my hon. Friend think that that is fair? Is there something that we can do to encourage people who have lived here for a long time to become British citizens?

Reply from James Duddridge: I am more than happy to meet my right hon. Friend to talk about the specifics of that case and the EU settlement scheme. Yesterday the Minister for immigration talked about why that issue would not be covered by the withdrawal agreement Bill, but I am more than happy to chat to my right hon. Friend about that individual case.

Peter Grant (SNP): Does the Minister have even the tiniest twinge of conscience at the sheer immorality of demanding that somebody pay an extortionate sum simply to be allowed to continue to live in their own home?

Reply from James Duddridge: The settlement scheme is free.

Philip Hollobone (Conservative): To what extent is the Government's EU settlement scheme in this country being replicated by the EU27, including with reference to fees and charges?

Reply from James Duddridge: My hon. Friend makes a good point. The Prime Minister made a big, bold offer for EU citizens, and we urge member states to do the same.

Jim Shannon (DUP): Will the Minister further outline whether he intends to level the fees between European partners and Commonwealth partners such as Canada to ensure that there is a level playing field for immigration? Is he aware that that would reduce the fees paid by Commonwealth spouses?

Reply from James Duddridge: Such issues are for the Home Office, but an advantage of taking back control is that we can look at our relationships with other parts of the world, particularly the Commonwealth, which makes up a third of the world by population.

Joy Morrissey (Conservative): Can my hon. Friend assure EU citizens in Beaconsfield that there is no charge for applying for settled status?

Reply from James Duddridge: ... I agree fully.

Wera Hobhouse (Liberal Democrat): What recent discussions [has the Minister] had with Cabinet colleagues on protecting the rights of EU citizens living in the UK after the UK leaves the EU. [900009]

Reply from the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union (Steve Barclay): I have regular discussions with Cabinet colleagues on citizens' rights. The withdrawal agreement will protect the rights of EU citizens who arrive in the UK by the end of the implementation period. As of the end of November, we were already moving towards receiving 3 million applications to the EU settlement scheme.

Wera Hobhouse: Will EU nationals who fail to get settled status by the end of this year become our next Windrush generation, losing their driving licences and jobs, and ultimately facing deportation?

Reply from Steve Barclay: I am glad that the hon. Lady asks that question, because it lets me say: first, we have a grace period until June 2021 to address that issue; and, secondly, the declaratory scheme that she advocates would increase the risk of exactly the issue to which she refers.

Andrew Bridgen (Conservative): Does the Secretary of State agree that the fact that 3.5 million EU citizens see the best future for themselves and their families as to remain living and working in post-Brexit Britain is a huge endorsement of our post-Brexit prospects? I

wish that that confidence was shared by hon. Members on both sides of the House.

Reply from Steve Barclay: I urge Members on both sides of the House to support Third Reading of the withdrawal agreement Bill because it safeguards the rights of the 3 million EU citizens here, as it does those of the 1 million or so UK citizens in Europe. The Bill guarantees the rights of those EU citizens because we value the contribution they make to our homes, communities and businesses.

Thangam Debbonaire (Labour): Refusing to provide paper proof of status, rejecting Labour's proposal to grant automatic status, granting only uncertainty inducing pre-settled status to people who have been here legally for years and the high cost of applying for citizenship—what part of all that does the Secretary of State believe makes our EU friends and neighbours living in the UK feel truly valued and welcome? ...

Reply from Steve Barclay: ... the hon. Lady should well know that the specific issue of documentation versus digital was raised with the Minister for Security, who was clear that although there will be a letter to provide a document, it would have reference to the digital number. That issue was explored at length. She will also know that citizens do not lose any rights when they get pre-settled status, and that they then move on to settled status. Those issues were debated—that is what a Committee stage is for—and addressed by a Home Office Minister at that time.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-09/debates/14307FFD-FFF0-42F0-B142-8E3BCB6B1219/EUCitizens>

For information about the EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, see

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

Topical Questions: Exiting the European Union

Keir Starmer (Labour): ... Yesterday, the Government voted down the Opposition's amendment on unaccompanied child refugees. Our amendment would have preserved the victory that Lord Alf Dubs had campaigned for. I have always had a good personal relationship with the Secretary of State, but whatever he says about the wider issues, he must know that the Government have got this wrong. This could be his last Brexit oral questions; is he prepared to reconsider? I urge him to do so.

Reply from Steve Barclay: To understand the context, it is important to look at the commitment the Government gave to commencing negotiations on this issue, as reflected in the letter of 22 October from the Home Secretary to the European Commission. As was touched on in earlier questions, the Government have a strong record on this. They take 15% of unaccompanied child refugees; we are one of the top three EU countries in that regard. That commitment on granting asylum and supporting refugees remains; it is actually embedded in our manifesto, on page 23. In the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill, we return to the traditional approach, in which the Government undertake the negotiation and Parliament scrutinises that, rather than Parliament setting the terms, as happened in the last Parliament.

Keir Starmer: I am disappointed by the Secretary of State's reply. Labour will continue to fight to protect the most vulnerable. We may not win many votes in Parliament just now, but we can win the moral argument. I urge everyone who cares about the issue to put pressure on the Government, and urge Ministers to rethink this disgraceful decision. A legal obligation on the Government has been converted into reliance on the Prime Minister's word. Surely the Secretary of State can see why that gives rise to anxiety among Labour Members.

Reply from Steve Barclay: The shadow Brexit Secretary is right: there clearly has been anxiety among Labour Members, but I hope that he takes assurance from the explanation I gave that the commitment is unchanged. That is reflected in the letter of 22 October to the Commission from the Home Secretary, and in the manifesto.

The policy is unchanged. It is right that the Bill should, as is traditional, implement the international agreement; that is what it will do.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-09/debates/57F20524-9F95-4340-B984-3A77A09C3BC1/TopicalQuestions#contribution-A6B3A915-B1D5-4FD9-B41F-66F27860DC8D>

The manifesto referred to above can be read at

[https://assets-global.website-](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf)

[files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf)

Topical Questions: Exiting the European Union

Bambos Charalambous (Labour): Will the Minister confirm whether EU citizens who work and pay taxes in the UK post Brexit will be liable for the immigration health surcharge? Does he envisage similar charges being introduced for UK citizens living and working in the EU? [900033]

Reply from Steve Barclay: I am happy to guarantee to all those EU citizens living in the UK ahead of our exit that the withdrawal agreement Bill guarantees their rights, among which are their rights to healthcare. That is why I urge the hon. Gentleman to support the Bill on Third Reading.

Damien Moore (Conservative): Will my right hon. Friend confirm that the UK will remain an open, dynamic and welcoming place for EU citizens to study in our world-class universities, and that Britain continues to lead the way with the internationally recognised quality of our higher education? [900030]

Reply from James Duddridge: ... The Government are clear that they wish to continue to attract students from the EU and the rest of the world to study here in the UK. The UK's higher education institutions have long-established traditions of attracting the brightest minds at all stages of their education and research careers, as we saw yesterday with the alumna of the London School of Economics. This being our last oral questions, I thank civil servants for their support. I particularly thank my private office and Cara Phillips. They have been wonderful.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-09/debates/57F20524-9F95-4340-B984-3A77A09C3BC1/TopicalQuestions#contribution-DC379BBC-BE8B-4850-ACC5-6C02084D17DE>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

British Nationality: Children

Alison Thewliss (SNP) [149] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will refund child citizenship fees in light of the decision of the High Court that they are unlawful.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The judgment was handed down on 19 December, and we are carefully considering its implications, and next steps.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-12-19/149/>

The judgement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/prcb-v-sshd.pdf>

Immigration: Wales

Ruth Jones (Labour) [346] To ask the Secretary of State for Wales, what assessment he has made of the potential effect of the policies set out in the immigration White Paper on Wales.

Reply from Simon Hart: This Government is committed to developing a new

system for immigration that is fit for purpose and based upon the skills of the individuals seeking to work in the UK, rather than the country that they are from. On 6 September 2019, the Home Secretary commissioned the Migration Advisory Committee to consider a new points-based immigration system for introduction from January 2021.

The Committee has also been commissioned to review the salary thresholds for the future immigration system and will continue with this work in addition to its work on the new points-based immigration system and report back to the Government by January 2020.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-12-20/346/>

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

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

The following two questions both received the same answer

British Nationality: Children

Lord Alton of Liverpool (Crossbench) [HL1] To ask Her Majesty's Government when they intend to remove the fee charged by the Home Office to register children as British citizens; and whether they intend to refund those who paid such fees before the High Court ruling on 19 December.

Lord Alton of Liverpool (Crossbench) [HL2] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the ruling of the High Court on 19 December in the case brought by the Project for the Registration of Children as British Citizens that there is a "mass of evidence" that the fee charged to children registering for British citizenship prevents many such children from registering British citizenship, leaving them feeling "alienated, excluded, 'second-best', insecure and not fully assimilated into the culture and social fabric of the UK."

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The judgment was handed down on 19 December, and we are carefully considering its implications, and next steps.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-12-19/HL1/>

The judgement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/prcb-v-sshd.pdf>

Press Releases

Windrush Compensation Scheme independent review: the Adjudicator

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/windrush-compensation-scheme-independent-review-the-adjudicator/windrush-compensation-scheme-independent-review-the-adjudicator>

Windrush Compensation Scheme (Expenditure) Bill

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/windrush-compensation-scheme-expenditure-bill>

Supporting asylum seekers

<https://www.gov.scot/news/supporting-asylum-seekers-1/>

Warning over UK Government plans for Australian-style immigration system
<https://www.gov.scot/news/warning-over-uk-government-plans-for-australian-style-immigration-system/>

Nicola Sturgeon reassures EU citizens in New Year message
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18129940.nicola-sturgeon-reassures-eu-citizens-new-year-message/>

New Publications

Scottish Government Response to the Migration Advisory Committee: Salary thresholds and points-based immigration system
<https://tinyurl.com/tq68fek>

Windrush generation: Government action to 'right the wrongs'
<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-8779/CBP-8779.pdf>

Guidance: EU Settlement Scheme: current estimated processing times for applications
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-application-processing-times/eu-settlement-scheme-pilot-current-expected-processing-times-for-applications>

Updated: The Government Response to the fifth report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights, Session 2017-19 (HC 926, HL paper 146): Proposal for a draft British Nationality Act 1981 (Remedial) Order 2018
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/770929/CCS207_CCS0119338728-001_Human_Rights_Act_Accessible.pdf

News

EU settlement scheme delays leave people 'unable to get jobs or housing'
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/brexit-eu-nationals-home-office-settled-immigration-status-a9278311.html>

Points-based system could lead to steep rise in migrants
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/points-based-system-could-lead-to-steep-rise-in-migrants-vz2zhp5q7>

100,000 children in London 'without secure immigration status'
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jan/09/100000-children-in-london-without-secure-immigration-status>

MPs reject Labour's call to reinstate child refugee pledge
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-51028024>

SNP attacks Tories over failure to meet target for resettling refugee children
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18124413.snp-attacks-tories-failure-meet-target-resettling-refugee-children/>

SNP MP: New parliament has a chance to "right the wrong" of single child refugees
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18154570.snp-mp-new-parliament-chance-right-wrong-single-child-refugees/>

Keir Starmer and Lord Dubs urge Tory MPs to rebel over child refugees

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2020/jan/07/keir-starmer-and-lord-dubs-urge-tory-mps-to-rebel-over-child-refugees>

Brexit: MPs attempt to force Boris Johnson to protect child refugees after EU departure

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/brexit-refugee-children-migrants-boris-johnson-withdrawal-bill-a9268046.html>

MPs vote to drop child refugee protections from Brexit bill

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jan/08/mps-vote-to-drop-child-refugee-protections-from-brexit-bill>

We simply can't turn our backs on vulnerable refugee children

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/jan/10/refugee-children-lone-reunite-rights-dublin-regulation>

Government urged to reunite child refugees with families

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jan/10/government-urged-to-reunite-child-refugees-with-families>

Tories vote down plan to help reunite unaccompanied child refugees with UK families

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/child-refugee-vote-brexit-bill-withdrawal-agreement-labour-boris-johnson-a9275391.html>

Having 'derived refugee' status does not make you a 'refugee'

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/having-derived-refugee-status-does-not-make-you-a-refugee-tnvzqbcvm>

Priti Patel is to examine ways of deporting illegal migrants more quickly and in greater numbers

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2020/01/01/priti-patel-examine-ways-deporting-illegal-migrants-quicklyand/>

Brexit: Government doubles the number of fast-track visas for scientists

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/brexit-fast-track-visa-scientists-research-universities-home-office-priti-patel-a9257216.html>

Cap demanded on skilled migrants to UK to reduce immigration after Brexit

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2019/12/30/cap-demanded-skilled-migrants-uk-reduce-immigration-brexit/>

Warning over new migration system

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18117894.warning-new-migration-system/>

Concerns of backlash to migrant plan

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/concerns-of-backlash-to-migrant-plan-g5z9vghzb>

'Tolerant' Scots would accept migration drive, thought First Minister

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/tolerant-scots-would-accept-migration-drive-thought-first-minister-1-5069089>

Visa applications: Home Office refuses to reveal 'high risk' countries

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jan/01/visa-applications-home-office-refuses-to-reveal-high-risk-countries>

£250,000 fund for asylum seekers at risk of eviction

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/250-000-fund-for-asylum-seekers-at-risk-of-eviction-fgf3tq922>

Justin Welby urges 'Good Samaritan' spirit after migrants attempt New Year's Eve Channel crossings

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/01/01/justin-welby-urges-good-samaritan-spirit-migrants-attempt-new/>

Migrant boat arrivals increase six-fold in 2019 after UK paid France £6m to stop them

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/migrant-boat-uk-france-refugee-channel-crossings-a9265841.html>

Huge rise in number of people trying to cross Channel to UK by sea

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jan/01/huge-rise-in-number-of-people-trying-to-cross-channel-to-uk-by-sea>

Boats carrying 43 migrants intercepted off Kent coast

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/boats-carrying-43-migrants-intercepted-off-kent-coast-hf5b5v53x>

130 people convicted for smuggling migrants into Britain

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-50973060>

Brexit: Britain's imminent departure from EU causing surge in dangerous channel crossings, immigration officers' union warns

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/brexit-immigration-channel-crossing-dover-kent-migration-a9266171.html>

Home Office insists patrols on French beaches have doubled, despite 229 migrants crossing Channel in one month

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/12/26/home-office-insists-patrols-french-beaches-have-doubled-despite/>

Border Force cutters patrolling the Channel are attracting migrants, former immigration chief says

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/12/28/border-force-cutters-patrolling-channel-attracting-migrants/>

Channel security 'a magnet for migrants'

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/channel-security-a-magnet-for-migrants-pb0f338ng>

Pregnant woman among migrants found in the Channel

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-50939128>

The child refugees risking the Channel by boat – one year on

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/dec/30/the-child-refugees-risking-the-channel-by-boat-one-year-on>

Thousands of asylum seekers not reporting rapes due to Home Office stigma and 'culture of disbelief'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-rape-survivors-sexual-abuse-destitution-homeless-a9250746.html>

Woman says she was raped by legal aid lawyer after being trafficked to UK

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/rape-survivor-asylum-home-office-sex-trafficking-a9253566.html>

More than 1,800 people spending Christmas in immigration detention centres

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/christmas-immigration-detention-asylum-seekers-government-tories-home-office-liberal-democrats-a9259761.html>

Husband of heavily pregnant British woman is refused entry to UK weeks before Christmas

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/uk-visa-home-office-husband-pregnant-refused-hostile-environment-a9259361.html>

Romanian court upholds acquittal of UK trafficking suspects

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-50895988>

The racist reality for migrants seeking a new life in Europe

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/the-racist-reality-for-migrants-seeking-a-new-life-in-europe-zqdtf89jk>

University life beckons for asylum seeker Somer Umeed Bakhsh

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/university-life-beckons-for-asylum-seeker-somer-umeed-bakhsh-lp6p6kkds>

Want to create an immigration system that works? Look to Airbnb

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2020/01/09/want-create-immigration-system-works-look-airbnb/>

Irregular migration to EU at lowest level since 2013 – border agency

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jan/09/irregular-migration-to-eu-at-lowest-level-since-2013-border-agency>

TOP

Equality

Scottish Parliament Equalities and Human Rights Committee

Race Equality: evidence session

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12436&i=112429#ScotParlOR>

Press Release

**Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government (Aileen Campbell):
There is room for everyone in Scotland**

<https://blogs.gov.scot/fairer-scotland/2020/01/05/there-is-room-for-everyone-in-scotland/>

News

Education chief David Russell stops reading books by white people to reform world view
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/education-chief-david-russell-stops-reading-books-by-white-people-to-reform-world-view-qnvhtzss8>

Top schools defend rejecting bursary for white boys
<https://www.bbc.com/news/education-50947271>

Private schools defend refusal of £1m donation to help poor white boys
<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2019/dec/30/private-schools-defend-refusal-of-1m-donation-to-help-poor-white-boys>

Elite schools refuse to accept £1m gift after donor says it can only be spent on white boys
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/winchester-college-dulwich-college-donation-bryan-thwaites-white-boys-a9264336.html>

What does it mean to be a black traveller?
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-50466718>

'We couldn't find any black Christmas figurines'
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-england-london-50892849/we-couldn-t-find-any-black-christmas-figurines>

TOP

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Religious Hatred: Islam

Steve Baker (Conservative) [286] To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, when he plans to establish a working definition of Islamophobia; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Luke Hall: The Government agrees that there needs to be a formal definition of Islamophobia to give the issue a stronger focus. We have committed to appointing independent advisers to provide expert advice on a definition. The first of these advisers, Imam Qari Asim MBE, was appointed in July 2019. We are taking steps to appoint individuals with the right combination of skills and experience to drive the work. We endeavour to move at pace on these appointments; good progress is balanced by the necessity for careful consideration of due process.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-12-20/286/>

The following five questions all received the same answer

Taxis: Hate Crime

Stephen Morgan (Labour) [198] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the potential merits of bringing forward legislative proposals to allow taxi drivers to audio record their journeys for the purposes of accurately recording incidents of hate crime and racism.

Stephen Morgan (Labour) [199] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department,

what discussions she has had with the Secretary of State for Justice on bringing forward legislative proposals to tackle (a) hate crime and (b) racism against taxi drivers.

Stephen Morgan (Labour) [200] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to improve the ability of taxi drivers to record incidents of (a) hate crime and (b) racism against them.

Stephen Morgan (Labour) [201] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many recorded incidents of (a) violence and (b) hate crime were recorded against taxi drivers in (a) 2010 and (b) 2018.

Stephen Morgan (Labour) [202] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to reduce hate crime against taxi drivers.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: UK legislation does not prohibit the installation and use of systems capable of recording visual and audio data in taxis and Private Hire Vehicles (PHVs). It is for individual taxi and PHV licensing authorities to consider whether such systems should be prohibited, permitted or mandated in their fleet. The Government has asked the Law Commission to undertake a full review of the coverage and approach of current hate crime legislation. That review is in progress. The Law Commission will publish a Consultation Paper in early 2020, and we expect their Final Report in early 2021.

The Government is clear that all forms of hate crime are unacceptable, and we have robust legislation to tackle these crimes. The Government's Hate Crime Action Plan includes a commitment by the Department for Transport to ensure that taxi and private hire vehicle drivers identify and report hate crime in the night-time economy and includes relevant advice in the Department's best practice guidance on Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle licensing.

The Home Office does not hold information on the occupation of victims of violence or hate crime.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-12-19/198/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-12-19/199/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-12-19/200/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-12-19/201/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2019-12-19/202/>

Information about the Law Commission review referred to above can be read at

<https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/law-commission-review-into-hate-crime-announced/>

The Action Plan referred to above can be read at

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

and update at

and update at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/748175/Hate_crime_refresh_2018_FINAL_WEB.PDF

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Sports: Racial Discrimination

Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth (Conservative) [HL14] To ask Her Majesty's Government what action they are taking to promote anti-racism in sport.

Reply from Baroness Barran: The Government is clear that racism has no place in sport or society at large, in line with the sport and physical activity strategy 'Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation', which has diversity and inclusion at its heart. Government remains supportive of a number of anti-racism initiatives that work with sports bodies from grassroots to the elite, including Show Racism the Red Card and Kick it Out. With Kick It Out stats demonstrating that racism constitutes 65 per cent of reports made via them in the 18/19 season, government will continue to call governing bodies to account for actions in this space. Over the past year the Government has led debates in the House of Commons on tackling racism in sport (on 22nd May 2019 and 12th July 2019), and hosted an Anti-Racism Summit in February 2019. This led to clear commitments to tackle racism in football stadia from the three main English football organisations in July 2019. Ministers and officials continue to speak to the FA and relevant football bodies to explore what more can be done. Grassroots sport clubs also receive support in tackling racism from our national sport council, Sport England, who provide free support and learning in running a club through its "Club Matters" programme.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-12-19/HL14/>

The Strategy referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/486622/Sporting_Future_ACCESSIBLE.pdf

The wrong dates have been quoted in relation to the House of Commons debates referred to above. There was no relevant debate on 22 May 2019, and the Commons was not sitting on 12 July 2019. It is possible that Baroness Barran may be referring to the Opposition Day debate on "Discrimination in Sport" that took place on 12 June 2019

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-06-12/debates/012867F0-9265-41A5-A046-BB3D17B41538/DiscriminationInSport>

and the Government statement and subsequent Q&A on "Discrimination in Football" that took place on 11 April 2019

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

Hate Crime: Public Transport

Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth (Conservative) [HL16] To ask Her Majesty's Government what action they are taking to tackle hate crime on public transport.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government is clear that all forms of hate crime are unacceptable. The Government's Hate Crime Action Plan 2016, and the refresh in 2018, contains a number of commitments to tackle hate crime on public transport. These include:

- The Department for Transport committing, in the July 2018 Inclusive Transport Strategy, to run a public awareness raising campaign to increase disability awareness amongst all transport passengers; and
- Working with local transport providers to ensure that bus drivers across England and Wales are fully equipped to challenge hate, including new guidance to support them.
- The 2018 Hate Crime Action Plan refresh also includes a number of broader

actions addressing all forms of hate crime, including hate crime on public transport. These include:

- A review by the Law Commission into the coverage and approach of current hate crime legislation; and
- A wide-ranging national hate crime communications campaign to publicly address hate crime and make clear that it is unacceptable to target people on the basis of their identity.

More widely, the British Transport Police (BTP) provides a policing service that meets the needs of all passengers and people who use or work on the railways. BTP has a firm commitment to responding to all reports of hate crime and it actively works with train operating companies and Network Rail to improve awareness, vigilance and reporting of information on hate crime incidents.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-12-19/HL16/>

The Action Plans referred to above can be read at

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

and

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/748175/Hate_crime_refresh_2018_FINAL_WEB.PDF

Information about the Law Commission review referred to above can be read at

<https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/law-commission-review-into-hate-crime-announced/>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Catherine West (Labour) (26) Anti-Semitic incidents: This House condemns the widely reported instance of a 13 year old boy receiving vile anti-Semitic abuse on a London bus on 5 January; sends this House's solidarity and sympathy to the Jewish community following this and other recently widely reported instances of anti-Semitic abuse; again calls on the Government to redouble its efforts to work with the Jewish community and Jewish organisations to ensure that their concerns are heard and steps are established to ensure that the Jewish community feels safe in the UK; and commits to working towards eliminating anti-Semitic and racist abuse as quickly as possible.

<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/53479/antisemitic-incidents>

New Publication

Antisemitic Discourse in Britain 2018

<https://cst.org.uk/public/data/file/6/0/Antisemitic%20Discourse%20Report%202018%20WEB.pdf>

News

It's shameful that Johnson has reneged on the inquiry into Tory Islamophobia

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/dec/23/boris-johnson-reneged-inquiry-islamophobia-british-muslims>

Five face charges as Scotland Yard sends files on Labour 'anti-Semitism' to CPS

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/six-arrests-labour-antisemitism-a4329191.html>

Hitler-row SNP councillor allowed to join election victory party despite ban
<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/hitler-row-councillor-allowed-join-21178727>

Whitehall reforms may lead to discrimination, says union
<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2020/jan/02/whitehall-reforms-may-lead-to-discrimination-says-union>

Durham neo-Nazi teenager detained for terror attack plan
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tyne-51022706>

Teenage neo-Nazi who planned terror attacks on synagogues as part of 'race war' jailed
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/synagogue-attack-durham-neo-nazi-teenager-jailed-terror-antisemitism-a9273696.html>

British neo-Nazi teenager jailed for planning terrorist attacks on home city
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/01/07/british-neo-nazi-teenager-jailed-planning-terrorist-attacks/>

Youngest terrorist jailed for neo-Nazi bomb plot
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/murderer-who-risked-his-life-in-london-bridge-attack-i-had-to-help-bnpwr3dp3>

Subjective exclusions 'target black students', teacher says
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-bristol-50843354>

Exclusions for racism in primary schools in England up more than 40%
<https://www.bbc.com/news/education-50331687>

Nine-year-old 'shocked and sad' at racist abuse
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/education-50410821/>

Children excluded from primary school for racism has increased by 40 per cent in 10 years
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/01/01/children-excluded-primary-school-racism-rises-40-per-cent-10/>

'People like you' still uttered: BAME armed forces personnel on racism in services
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jan/07/people-like-you-still-uttered-bame-armed-forces-personnel-on-racism-in-services>

Racism in UK military: only six people found guilty at court martial in past five years
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jan/07/racism-in-uk-military-only-six-people-found-guilty-at-court-martial-in-past-five-years>

Anti-Islamic slogans painted near Brixton mosque
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-50968759>

Anti-Islamic slogans daubed on building close to mosque and cultural centre
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/01/01/anti-islamic-slogans-daubed-building-close-mosque-cultural-centre/>

Anti-Islamic slogans spray-painted near mosque in Brixton
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jan/01/anti-islamic-slogans-spray-painted-near-mosque-in-brixton>

Site near Brixton Islamic centre spray painted with Islamophobic slogans
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/brixton-islamophobic-slogans-north-islamic-centre-islamophobia-a9267071.html>

Suspected neo-Nazi has bail conditions changed to allow him to sit in the garden
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/01/03/suspected-neo-nazi-has-bail-conditions-changed-allow-sit-garden/>

Antisemitic Discourse Report 2018
<https://cst.org.uk/news/blog/2019/12/30/antisemitic-discourse-report-2018>

Antisemitism playing 'unprecedented role' in British life, Community Security Trust warns
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/community-security-trust-blames-labour-s-alleged-antisemitism-for-unprecedented-hate-crime-7sxpqcfxx>

Anti-Semitic graffiti daubed on London shops and cafes
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-50938967>

Synagogues and shops in London sprayed with anti-semitic graffiti during Hanukkah
<https://www.scotsman.com/news/synagogues-and-shops-in-london-sprayed-with-anti-semitic-graffiti-during-hanukkah-1-5067792>

Holocaust memorial is 'fig leaf' in antisemitism debate, says Williams
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/holocaust-memorial-is-fig-leaf-in-antisemitism-debate-says-williams-d87hdgscr>

Antisemitism playing 'unprecedented role' in British life, Community Security Trust warns
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/community-security-trust-blames-labour-s-alleged-antisemitism-for-unprecedented-hate-crime-7sxpqcfxx>

Boy, 13, punched in anti-Semitic attack on London bus
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-51005758>

Why are people anti-Semitic?
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/ideas/videos/why-are-people-anti-semitic/p07ygz58>

This Hampstead 'anti-semitism' rally was more political farce, by way of Philip Roth
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/women/politics/hampstead-anti-semitism-rally-political-farce-way-philip-roth/>

The antisemitic monster rising from the slime is not Corbynism – it is white nationalism
<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/antisemitism-london-graffiti-hate-crime-corbyn-johnson-tories-a9264746.html>

Dog walker racially and physically abused in Fife village
<https://www.scotsman.com/news/crime/dog-walker-racially-and-physically-abused-in-fife-village-1-5067570>

Listen to Stormzy when he talks about racism
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/listen-to-stormzy-when-he-talks-about-racism-927q6hxgv>

Nil By Mouth urges joint Celtic and Rangers statement condemning abuse after Morelos branded 'wee orange b***'**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/sport/18138651.nil-mouth-urges-joint-celtic-rangers-statement-condemning-abuse-morelos-branded-wee-orange-b-/>

Rangers and Celtic urged to speak out on sectarian abuse after Alfredo Morelos called 'orange b***d'**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/crime/rangers-and-celtic-urged-to-speak-out-on-sectarian-abuse-after-alfredo-morelos-called-orange-b-d-1-5070723>

Rangers allege Alfredo Morelos racially abused by Celtic supporters during Old Firm derby

<https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/scottish/rangers-alfredo-morelos-celtic-racist-abuse-old-firm-scottish-premier-league-a9265081.html>

Investigation finds 'no evidence' of alleged racism against Chelsea's Rüdiger

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2020/jan/06/tottenham-investigation-finds-no-evidence-of-alleged-racism-against-chelseas-rudiger>

Three fans arrested for racist and homophobic abuse during Brighton vs Chelsea

<https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/premier-league/brighton-chelsea-three-fans-arrested-racism-homophobic-abuse-latest-sussex-police-a9267376.html>

Three arrested for homophobic and racist abuse at Brighton v Chelsea

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2020/jan/02/three-arrested-for-homophobic-and-racist-abuse-at-brighton-v-chelsea>

Government prepared to take 'further steps' over racism in football

<https://www.bbc.com/sport/football/50893279>

Downing Street warns Premier League to sort hate-crime crisis or face government intervention

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2019/12/23/downing-street-orders-premier-league-act-hate-crime-football/>

Football must do more to tackle racism, says Downing Street

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/dec/23/pfa-calls-for-uk-government-inquiry-into-racism-in-football>

Government rebuffs PFA's call for inquiry into racism in football and tells authorities to 'do more' to combat issue

<https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/news/racism-in-football-antonio-rudiger-government-rejects-pfa-call-inquiry-tottenham-vs-chelsea-racist-a9258001.html>

Football chiefs 'must confront racism in sport'

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/football-chiefs-must-confront-racism-in-sport-d63dfnqsz>

Football does not need politicians pontificating about racism - it needs to hand power to the players

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2019/12/23/football-does-not-need-politicians-pontificating-racism-needs/>

Let captains take players off for racism, says PFA chairman Ben Purkiss
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/let-captains-take-players-off-for-racism-says-pfa-chairman-ben-purkiss-lrrsgzhjv>

Racism in football: Reporting process is 'broken'
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-50807782>

FA's burden of proof over racism may need a higher standard
<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2019/dec/25/fa-burden-of-proof-racism-football>

David Jones apologises to Gary Neville following Sky Sports racism row
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18118661.david-jones-apologises-gary-neville-following-sky-sports-racism-row/>

Chelsea fan arrested for racially abusing Tottenham's Son Heung-min
<https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/premier-league/tottenham-vs-chelsea-racism-son-heung-min-fan-arrested-antonio-rudiger-epl-a9258641.html>

Chelsea supporter arrested for allegedly racially abusing Son Heung-min
<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2019/dec/23/chelsea-supporter-arrested-for-racially-abusing-tottenhams-son-heung-min>

'No evidence' of racism against Chelsea's Antonio Rudiger, say Tottenham as police close investigation
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2020/01/06/no-evidence-racism-against-chelseas-antonio-rudiger-say-tottenham/>

'No evidence' of racism by Tottenham Hotspur fans towards Antonio Rüdiger
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/no-evidence-of-racism-by-tottenham-hotspur-fans-towards-antonio-ruediger-mvzzxvzbm>

Tottenham and police find 'no evidence' of racial abuse of Chelsea defender Antonio Rudiger
<https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/premier-league/antonio-rudiger-racist-abuse-chelsea-tottenham-police-a9272776.html>

Shocked Chelsea defender Antonio Rudiger ready to face next contest after racist abuse
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2019/12/25/shocked-chelsea-defender-antonio-rudiger-ready-face-next-contest/>

Antonio Rudiger: Tottenham say investigation into alleged racist abuse 'inconclusive'
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/football/50898486>

José Mourinho urges Tottenham Hotspur fans to expose racists
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/jose-mourinho-urges-tottenham-hotspur-fans-to-expose-racists-fqzl5rtt0>

Paul Pogba leads Manchester United's protest against racism
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/paul-pogba-leads-manchester-uniteds-protest-against-racism-rc2whlmth>

Manchester City fan banned for racially abusing Raheem Sterling

<https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/news/man-city-news-raheem-sterling-racism-abuse-a9279086.html>

Manchester City fan convicted of abusing Raheem Sterling as judge warns of rise of racism in football

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2020/01/10/manchester-city-fan-convicted-abusing-raheem-sterling-judge/>

Manchester City fan gets five-year ban for racist abuse of Raheem Sterling

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2020/jan/10/manchester-city-fan-banned-five-years-racist-abuse-raheem-sterling-football>

We won't tackle racism until anti-racist voices are given a fair hearing

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/dec/23/racism-anti-racist-voiced-britain-stormzy-gary-neville>

Racist abuse hurled at teen player with Bishopbriggs junior football team from terraces

<https://www.scotsman.com/sport/football/racist-abuse-hurled-at-teen-player-with-bishopbriggs-junior-football-team-from-terraces-1-5069941>

The Welsh grass-roots rugby club who walked off in protest over racism but could be punished with a defeat

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/rugby-union/2020/01/08/welsh-grass-roots-rugby-club-walked-protest-racism-could-punished/>

TOP

Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Scottish Parliament Motions

S5M-20318 Michael Russell (SNP): European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill –

That the Parliament notes the legislative consent memorandum on the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill lodged by the Scottish Government on 20 December 2019; further notes that people in Scotland voted remain and for remain parties, most recently at the UK General Election on 12 December 2019; considers that the Withdrawal Agreement negotiated by the UK Government would cause damage to Scotland's environment, economic and social interests; regrets that the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill has been amended to remove important protections from workers' rights and asylum-seeking children, and to prohibit an extension of the implementation period to negotiate the future relationship with the EU; regrets that the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill is to proceed through the UK Parliament with minimal scrutiny, failing to respect the significance of the decision to be taken by, or the role of, the Scottish Parliament in scrutinising legislation requiring its legislative consent; is determined to respect and uphold the views of the people of Scotland on this crucial issue to the future of the nation, and therefore does not support the Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration negotiated by the UK Government, and does not consent to the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill that would implement that agreement.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-20318>

S5M-20318.1 Adam Tomkins (Conservative): European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill – As an amendment to motion S5M-20318 in the name of Michael Russell (European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill), leave out from "people in Scotland" to end and insert "the legislative consent memorandum indicates that the Scottish Ministers would have recommended that the Parliament withhold consent from any legislation providing for EU exit, irrespective of its content; recalls that the decision to leave the EU was taken by a clear majority of those voting in the 2016 referendum; believes that the results of referendums should be respected and implemented, rather than ignored; welcomes that the UK will be leaving the EU later this month with a Withdrawal Agreement; recalls that all parties in the Scottish Parliament have called for such an agreement to be in place before EU exit and therefore supports the Withdrawal Agreement, and consents to the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill, which will implement this agreement."

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-20318.1>

S5M-20304 Anas Sarwar (Labour): Recognising the Life and Achievements of Bashir Maan CBE: That the Parliament marks the sad passing of Bashir Maan CBE and recognises his immense contribution to public life in Scotland; notes that Bashir arrived in Glasgow in 1953 aged 26 as a student and worked as a door-to-door salesman; recognises his many achievements, including in 1968 being appointed the first Asian and Muslim Justice of the Peace in Scotland, in 1970 making history by being the first Muslim Councillor publicly elected in the UK, serving the Labour Party in the Kingston ward in Glasgow, in 1971 becoming the first Muslim magistrate, in 1977 being appointed Deputy Chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality by the Home Secretary for three years, and in 1983 becoming the first South Asian to be appointed Deputy Lieutenant of Glasgow by the Lord Provost, Michael Kelly; notes that in 2000, in recognition of his extensive work in the community, race relations and the voluntary sector, Bashir was awarded a CBE; acknowledges that in 2003 he retired from politics after a career that spanned 33 years and completion of a four-year term as Convenor of the Strathclyde Joint Police Board; recognises that in June 1999 he received an honorary doctorate from the University of Strathclyde, and that in total he was awarded three honorary doctorates and two fellowships by Scottish universities; acknowledges that Bashir published a number of books, including *The New Scots: The Story of Asians in Scotland* in 1992, which chronicles the history of the Asian diaspora in Scotland, as well as *The Thistle and the Crescent: a study of Scottish-Islam relations* in 2008, and *Muslims in Scotland* in 2015, which chronicle Scottish Muslim life; recognises that, in 1997, he was a founding member of the Muslim Council in Britain, and that between 2007 and 2009 he was Convener of the Muslim Council of Scotland, and believes that Bashir Maan was a pioneering and inspiring role model and a true trailblazer who broke barriers several times, achieving many firsts, and made history paving the way and opening the civic door for a whole generation of South Asian Scots.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-20304>

Press Releases

First Minister launches ‘Scotland’s Right to Choose

<https://firstminister.gov.scot/first-minister-launches-scotlands-right-to-choose/>

First Minister New Year message 2020

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nROthLDj0PM>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

The following two questions both received the same answer

Marriage

Baroness Cox (Crossbench) [HL23] To ask Her Majesty's Government what progress they have made on their commitment in the Integrated Communities Strategy Green Paper to "explore the legal and practical challenges of limited reform relating to the law on marriage and religious weddings."

Baroness Cox (Crossbench) [HL25] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have, if any, to amend the Marriage Act 1949 to make it a legal requirement for couples to civilly register their marriage before, or at the same time as, their religious ceremony.

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: The law has long made provision for couples, including Muslim couples, to marry in their place of worship in a way that gives them legal rights and protections. The Government shares the concern that some people may nonetheless marry in a way that does not, and without appreciating the consequences.

The independent Sharia review has recommended an offence apply to religious celebrants marrying in a ceremony that is outside the ambit of the Marriage Acts.. Any legislative proposal, including such an offence, must be thoroughly assessed for its fairness to all religious groups and for how far it could achieve the change of practice intended. That is why it is with the greatest care that the Government is continuing the exploration of both limited reform and non-legislative options that it began in detail in the spring.

Separately from this exploration, the Law Commission has begun its weddings project. It will make recommendations for how the wider law on getting married in England and Wales can be systematically reformed in a way that is simple, fair and consistent.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-12-19/HL23/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-12-19/HL25/>

The Integrated Communities Strategy Green Paper, referred to above, can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/696993/Integrated_Communities_Strategy.pdf

The Sharia Review, referred to above, can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/678478/6.4152_HO_CPFGR_Report_into_Sharia_Law_in_the_UK_WEB.pdf

The Law Commission weddings project, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/law-commission-begins-work-on-weddings-reform/>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

Alison Thewlis (SNP) (31) Commemorating the life of Bashir Maan: That this House commemorates the life of Bashir Maan CBE, who sadly passed away on the 20 December 2019, aged 93; appreciates his contribution to public life in Scotland and his work as a community leader, activist and author; understands he was the first Muslim in the UK to hold political office when he was elected as councillor for the Glasgow Kingston council ward in 1970; notes that his extensive commitment to the community led to his

Convenorship of the Muslim Council of Scotland and past Presidency of the Islamic Centre Glasgow; recognises that he also held several judicial appointments such as Magistrate, Police Judge, District Court Judge and Bailie of the City of Glasgow; further notes that his achievements were recognised when he was awarded three honorary degrees of doctorate and two fellowships by Scottish universities; and understands that he paved the way for many public figures who came after him and that he will be sorely missed by his family, friends, and the people of Glasgow.

<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/53484/commemorating-the-life-of-bashir-maan>

Press Release

Prime Minister's New Year's message

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-ministers-new-years-message-31-december-2019>

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New Publication

Failing victims, fuelling hate: challenging the harms of the 'Muslim grooming gangs' narrative

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/0306396819895727>

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Other News

Police Scotland: Launch of online reporting tool for major incidents

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/whats-happening/news/2020/january/launch-of-online-reporting-tool-for-major-incidents>

Understanding British Imams

http://sites.cardiff.ac.uk/islamukcentre/research/understanding-british-imams/?fbclid=IwAR3aWDclEg09fD-1ST8AG8rFeFERm_JR80qT0u7KJ1b8xwR7So4XvPNjGXI

Birmingham Islamic school 'segregated' boys and girls

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-birmingham-51019018>

Islamic school breaking law by segregating children and prioritising boys, Ofsted finds

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/islamic-school-breaking-law-by-segregating-children-and-prioritising-boys-ofsted-finds-wlxbq08bb>

Volunteers bring Sikh cuisine to Bristol's homeless

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-england-bristol-50946265>

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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>

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

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

UK Parliament

**** Asylum Support (Prescribed Period) Bill**

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/asylum-support-prescribed-period.html>

Bill as introduced

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/58-01/012/5801012.pdf>

First Reading, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-09/debates/0AD8D7DE-6A79-4F19-AE2E-1BA44D40CD67/AsylumSupport\(PrescribedPeriod\)Bill\(HL\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-09/debates/0AD8D7DE-6A79-4F19-AE2E-1BA44D40CD67/AsylumSupport(PrescribedPeriod)Bill(HL))

**** European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill**

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/european-union-withdrawal-agreement.html>

Committee Stage, House of Commons

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-07/debates/C5ADC5C3-0008-4CBB-81D6-717666FC7C4B/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-07/debates/C5ADC5C3-0008-4CBB-81D6-717666FC7C4B/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

and

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-08/debates/4E741301-D874-401D-BC87-F023AAB86B49/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-08/debates/4E741301-D874-401D-BC87-F023AAB86B49/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

Third Reading, House of Commons

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-09/debates/D0792D24-67D7-484C-B94F-3A7D43685852/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-09/debates/D0792D24-67D7-484C-B94F-3A7D43685852/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

First Reading, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-09/debates/0B2509BB-77AE-44FD-B003-0D64C7A1ABD9/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-09/debates/0B2509BB-77AE-44FD-B003-0D64C7A1ABD9/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

House of Lords Library Briefing

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/LLN-2020-0011/LLN-2020-0011.pdf>

House of Lords European Union Committee Report: Brexit: the revised Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld5801/ldselect/ldeucom/4/4.pdf>

Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform Committee Report: European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld5801/ldselect/lddelreg/3/3.pdf>

Evidence Session, Scottish Parliament Finance and Constitution Committee
<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12447&i=112511#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Legislative Consent Memorandum
https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/SPLCM-S05-29.pdf

Scottish Parliament Debate
<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12446&i=112508#ScotParlOR>

Briefing: The revised (European Union) Withdrawal Agreement Bill – Implications for Scotland
<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdnep.azureedge.net/published/2020/1/6/The-revised--European-Union--Withdrawal-Agreement-Bill---Implications-for-Scotland/SB%2020-01.pdf>

**** Marriage (Approved Organisations) Bill**

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/marriageapprovedorganisations.html>

Bill as introduced

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/58-01/014/5801014.pdf>

First Reading, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-09/debates/CB4528C1-663E-43FE-A3CB-54C07804B265/Marriage\(AppearedOrganisations\)Bill\(HL\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-09/debates/CB4528C1-663E-43FE-A3CB-54C07804B265/Marriage(AppearedOrganisations)Bill(HL))

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

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/refugeesfamilyreunion.html>

Bill as introduced

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/58-01/015/5801015.pdf>

First Reading, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-09/debates/FBBCACB2-047D-4F3F-9904-1A1D4AF14E12/Refugees\(FamilyReunion\)Bill\(HL\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-09/debates/FBBCACB2-047D-4F3F-9904-1A1D4AF14E12/Refugees(FamilyReunion)Bill(HL))

**** Windrush Compensation Scheme (Expenditure) Bill**

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-20/windrushcompensationschemeexpenditure.html>

Bill as published

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-01/0004/20004.pdf>

Explanatory Notes

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-01/0004/en/20004en.pdf>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

Community Wellbeing (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>

**** Gender Recognition Reform (Scotland) Bill** (closing date 17 March 2020)

<https://tinyurl.com/sxarzv4>

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>

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Job Opportunities

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

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

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Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

**** EU Settlement Scheme Information Session**

20 January 2020 in Stirling (6.00–9.00)

EU Citizens Rights' Project information session to find out more about the EU Settlement Scheme, when and how to apply, rights of EU citizens in Scotland, and what services and resources are available to provide support. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/gqqkf8l>

**** Forced Marriage Training**

22 January 2020 in Edinburgh (9.30–4.00)

3 February 2020 in Glasgow (9.30–4.00)

Shakti Womens' Aid training for professionals to provide information about the gendered cultural context of forced marriage and its links to honour-based violence and domestic abuse, learn how the forced marriage and other legislation, can be used to protect children and adults at risk, and find out about appropriate responses to identified risk and disclosure of forced marriage. For information about the Edinburgh event see <https://tinyurl.com/yg6qy66g> and about the Glasgow event see <https://tinyurl.com/t9twmd8>

Discrimination Law in 2020

3 February 2020 in Edinburgh (9.00–4.00)

Equality and Human Rights Commission conference to review major discrimination cases from the last year, and provide with authoritative guidance on recent and proposed changes to discrimination legislation. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/vg5gdu7>

**** BME Women's Experiences of Gender Based Violence**

12 February 2020 in Edinburgh (10.00–4.00)

Scottish Women's Aid/Shakti training to raise awareness of the varied issues for black and minority ethnic women and their children experiencing domestic abuse, forced marriage and other types of gender based violence, and explore the social, cultural, and religious factors which impact upon BME women's experiences of gender based violence. For information see <https://womensaid.scot/training-event/bme-womens-experiences-of-gender-based-violence-2/>

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

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

Working with people from diverse religion & belief identities

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

Organising interfaith events and enabling dialogue

7 May 2020 in Glasgow (1.00–4.30)

Interfaith Scotland course on how to arrange events that bring together people of many faiths and philosophies for meaningful and respectful dialogue, including practical considerations for their success, and creating an environment that respects difference while seeking mutual understanding. For information see <https://interfaithscotland.org/get-involved/training> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

3rd International Conference on Migration and Mobilities

8–10 July 2020 in St Andrews

The conference is orientated around the four themes that reflect key contemporary conceptual and policy concerns: internal migration and urban change, forced migration and bordering, visualising mobilities, and European migration in turbulent politic. For information see <http://www.imigmob2020.org/home>

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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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