



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

### Contents

[Immigration and Asylum](#)

[Equality](#)

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

[Other UK Parliament and Government](#)

[Other News](#)

[Bills in Progress](#)

[Consultations](#)

[Job Opportunities](#)

[Events, Conferences, and Training](#)

[Useful Links](#)

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

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## Immigration and Asylum

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answer

#### Topical Questions: Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

**Stephen Metcalfe (Conservative):** Will my right hon. Friend update the House on what plans the Government have to secure the number of scientists, researchers and engineers we will require to reach the 2.4% GDP spend on research and development? [900302]

**Reply from the Minister for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation (Chris Skidmore):** ... Our new fast-track immigration scheme, including a global talent visa and the removal of the cap on tier 1 visas, will enable a wider pool of scientific and research talent to come to the United Kingdom. We are also investing in the number of researchers we need for the future, including £170 million for bioscience doctoral students and £100 million for artificial intelligence doctoral training centres.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-21/debates/502E569B-0EDE-46A9-80EE-7E9136EB3150/TopicalQuestions#contribution-273F73FD-D029-4586-B350-571763AB3D6D>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

### Immigration

**Afzal Khan (Labour)** [5539] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will implement all of the recommendations of the 13 January 2020 Law Commission publication entitled Simplification of the Immigration Rules: Report.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** We are carefully considering the Law Commission's report and recommendations. We will be providing a response to the report in due course, including whether we agree or disagree with each recommendation.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-20/5539/>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

[https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/lawcom-prod-storage-11jxou24uy7q/uploads/2020/01/6.6136\\_LC\\_Immigration-Rules-Report\\_FINAL\\_311219\\_WEB.pdf](https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/lawcom-prod-storage-11jxou24uy7q/uploads/2020/01/6.6136_LC_Immigration-Rules-Report_FINAL_311219_WEB.pdf)

### British Nationality: Children

**Afzal Khan (Labour)** [3311] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking in response to the High Court judgment in Project for the Registration of British Citizens as Children and others v Secretary of State for the Home Department [2019] EWHC 3536 (Admin) of 19 December 2019.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** While this court case remains active it would not be right to speculate on next steps and potential courses of action. We are, though, committed to considering this issue and the judgment carefully and plan to do so with the diligence that is deserved.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-14/3311/>

*The judgement referred to above can be read at*

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

### Visas: Families

**Kevan Jones (Labour)** [3686] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department plans to increase the minimum income requirement for non-European Economic Area family members to secure a visa to join their British or settled spouse or partner in the UK.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** The minimum income requirement was implemented in July 2012 as part of a package of reforms to the family Immigration Rules, and the overall assessment is that it strikes a fair balance between an individual's right to family life, the economic wellbeing of the UK and the community in general.

The Supreme Court has upheld the lawfulness of the minimum income requirement, which prevents burdens on the taxpayer and promotes integration, declaring that the policy is neither a breach of the right to respect for private and family life under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights nor discriminatory.

The Immigration Rules are kept under continuous review including the minimum income requirement and adjusted where necessary in light of feedback, impact and the findings of the courts.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-15/3686/>

### Visas: Polo

**Afzal Khan (Labour)** [1926] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the merits of granting special visas to foreign polo team players.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The Immigration Rules governing professional sportspeople and coaches ensure that UK sports can access top end talent whilst at the same time protecting opportunities for resident players.

Entry requirements are agreed with recognised governing bodies and are subject to regular review.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-10/1926/>

### Visas: Polo

**Afzal Khan (Labour)** [2577] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the number of special visas issued to foreign polo team players that have been utilised by low-skilled migrant workers.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** All entry requirements for sportspeople are agreed with the recognised Sport's Governing Body for each sport and are subject to regular review. The criterion for polo was recently approved in November 2019 and is published on the SGB's website. Home Office statistical data does not break down visas issued by particular sport.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-13/2577/>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### Immigration: Windrush Generation

**Sarah Owen (Labour)** [3893] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many victims of the Windrush scandal have received compensation in (a) England and (b) the East of England.

**Sarah Owen (Labour)** [3894] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much compensation from the Windrush Compensation Scheme has been awarded to victims of the scandal in (a) England and (b) the East of England.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** We will publish information on the total number of claims paid and the overall amount paid out by the scheme shortly, as noted in the Home Secretary's report to the Home Affairs Select Committee

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/update-to-the-hasc-on-windrush-22-october-2019>.

A breakdown of claims awarded by geographical area will not be published as this could potentially identify individual claimants.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-15/3893/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-15/3894/>

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

### Immigration: EEA Nationals

**Kate Green (Labour)** [3743] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department will take to alert EEA citizens whose pre-settled status is about to expire to apply for settled status.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** At paragraph 1.18 of the Statement of Intent on the

EU Settlement Scheme, published in June 2018 (available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-statement-of-intent>),

the Government committed to reminding holders of pre-settled status, before its expiry, to apply for settled status.

Details of exactly how and when such reminders will be issued are currently being developed.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-15/3743/>

*Information about the EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>*

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

#### **Immigration: EEA Nationals**

**Kate Green (Labour)** [3744] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the procedure is for EEA citizens who have lived in the UK before 1 January 2021 and not gained (a) settled and (b) pre-settled status, to demonstrate their right to work in the UK after the introduction of a new immigration system on 1 January 2021 and before the deadline for settled status applications on 30 June 2021.

**Kate Green (Labour)** [3745] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the procedure is for UK employers from 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021 will be able to check the right to work of an EEA citizen who has lived in the UK before 1 January 2021 but not yet gained (a) settled and (b) pre-settled status, given the deadline for applications settled status is 30 June 2021.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** We will shortly set out details in relation to checks by employers and other third parties during the period from 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021. Our approach will ensure that those who are eligible for the EU Settlement Scheme but have not yet obtained status will continue to have the right to work during this period.

We will also ensure that right to work checks continue to be straightforward for employers to carry out, and will communicate any changes to the current system clearly and well in advance of their introduction.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-15/3744/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-15/3745/>

*Information about the EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>*

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

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

**Thangam Debbonaire (Labour)** [3789] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate her Department has made of the number of EU citizens resident in the UK that have not applied for (a) settled (b) pre-settled status.

**Thangam Debbonaire (Labour)** [3790] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department have taken to contact EU citizens resident in the UK who have not yet applied for settled or pre-settled status, in order to regularise their residency in the UK after the UK leaves the EU.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The latest published information shows that more than 2.7 million (2,756,100) EU Settlement Scheme applications had been received up to 31 December 2019. The latest figures can be found in the Home Office's 'EU

Settlement Scheme monthly statistics' available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics-december-2019>

The published figures refer specifically to applications made to the EU Settlement Scheme and cannot be directly compared with estimates of the resident population of EU/EEA nationals in the UK. The published figures include non-EEA family members, Irish nationals, and eligible EEA citizens not resident in the UK, none of whom are usually included in estimates of the resident EU population. Furthermore, the population estimates do not take account of people's migration intentions and will include people who have come to the UK for a range of purposes, including some who have no intention to settle in the UK.

In order to ensure that resident EEA nationals and their family members understand how and by when to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme, the Home Office has put in place a comprehensive communications and engagement plan, using all available channels to reach our audiences – such as marketing, presentations, email updates, toolkits and webinars.

The Home Office has delivered a £4 million marketing campaign to encourage resident EEA nationals to apply and further campaign activity is planned. Alongside this campaign activity, we have also undertaken extensive engagement and outreach with stakeholder groups, including employers, local authorities and community organisations. No-one will be left behind, which is why we are working in partnership with representatives of vulnerable groups and other experts to make sure everyone knows what they need to do and has the right level of support.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-15/3789/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-15/3790/>

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

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

### **Immigration: EU Nationals**

**Rachael Maskell (Labour Co-op)** [4410] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many EU nationals currently reside in (a) the City of York local authority, (b) Yorkshire and the Humber and (c) the UK; and what proportion of those EU nationals have been granted settled status.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** The latest published information shows that more than 2.7 million (2,756,100) EU Settlement Scheme applications had been received up to 31 December 2019. In the same period 2.45 million (2,450,100) applications had been concluded of which 58% were granted settled status. The latest figures can be found in the Home Office's 'EU Settlement Scheme monthly statistics' available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics-december-2019>

Published information on EU Settlement Scheme conclusions by region and local authority to 30 September 2019, can be found in the Home Office's 'EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics', local authority statistics tables, table EUSS\_LA\_03, available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-quarterly-statistics-september-2019>

EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics to 31 December 2019, including updated local authority tables, are planned for publication on 6 February 2020.

The published figures refer specifically to applications made to the EU Settlement Scheme and cannot be directly compared with ONS estimates of the resident population of EU/EEA nationals in the UK. The published EUSS figures include non-EEA family members, Irish nationals, and eligible EEA citizens not resident in the UK, none of whom are usually included in ONS estimates of the resident EU population. Furthermore, the population estimates do not take account of people's migration intentions and will include people who have come to the UK for a range of purposes, including some who have no intention to settle in the UK.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-16/4410/>

Information about the EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Immigration: EU Nationals**

**Afzal Khan (Labour) [3314]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit's report entitled Not so straightforward, published 8 November 2019, what assessment she has made of the potential merits of implementing a declaratory system under the EU Settlement Scheme for EU (a) children in care and (b) care leavers.

**Afzal Khan (Labour) [3318]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to ensure children of EU citizens living in care and care leavers will not become undocumented if they are unable to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme before the deadline.

**Reply from Brandon Lewis:** A declaratory system would significantly reduce the incentive to apply for status and receive documentation proving that status. It risks creating confusion among employers and service providers and will have the effect of impeding EU citizens access to benefits and services to which they are entitled. It could lead to resident EEA citizens who have not applied for a document being discriminated against compared to those to have been documented. And if such a system were applied only to certain cohorts of EEA citizens, such as looked after children, they would be put at the greatest risk of suffering such discrimination. Children who have do not apply because their parent or guardian did not submit an application on their behalf can submit a late application. This includes children in care and care leavers.

The Home Office has been engaging with relevant stakeholders such as the Department for Education, Local Government Association and Association of Directors of Children's Services to assess the needs of this group and ensure they are supported.

The Home Office has issued a series of letters to all Directors of Children Services making recommendations about the activity local authorities and their staff need to undertake to make applications to EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) for looked after children and care leavers. Identifying the eligible cohort of children and care leavers was one of the recommendations, along with identifying resource to manage this work stream.

These recommendations have been followed up with a round of teleconferences aimed directly at local authorities and Health and Social Care Trusts to find further information about EUSS and to share information with colleagues across the UK. The aim of the teleconferences is to monitor the level of take up to the scheme and to surface early any problems a local authority might be experiencing. These calls will continue through the lifetime of the EUSS.

A New Burdens Assessment has also been produced in collaboration with key

stakeholders representing local authorities and children's social services to ensure local authorities are funded to identify and support eligible EEA children and family members in care and care leavers.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-14/3314/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-14/3318/>

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

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

*The report referred to above can be read at*

<http://gmiau.org/download/3745/>

### **EU Nationals: Wales**

**Ruth Jones (Labour) [5552]** To ask the Secretary of State for Wales, what discussions he has had with the Home Secretary on what steps she will take in relation to EU citizens in Wales who have not been granted the right to remain in the UK by the end of June 2021.

**Reply from Simon Hart:** I discuss a range of issues with my Cabinet colleagues including EU Exit.

The EU Settlement Scheme has been fully open since 30 March 2019. EU, other EEA and Swiss citizens, and their family members have until 30 June 2021 to apply. The EU Settlement Scheme is a free Scheme which enables EU, EEA and Swiss citizens resident in the UK, and their family members, to obtain the status they will require in order to live and work in the UK after it leaves the EU. The Government has always been clear that we will take a pragmatic approach and, in line with the Withdrawal Agreement, allow those with reasonable grounds for missing the deadline a reasonable further opportunity to apply. EU citizens will not automatically be deported if they fail to sign up to the settled status scheme by the 30 June 2021 deadline.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-20/5552/>

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

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

### **Undocumented Migrants: English Channel**

**Steve Double (Conservative) [3805]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the (a) number of illegal migrants who have entered the UK by crossing the English Channel and (b) proportion of such migrants that have been returned to France in the last 12 months.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Information regarding migrants crossing the English Channel was provided to the Home Affairs Select Committee on 5 March 2019 which gave the number of migrants detected entering the UK by small boats from January 2018 to February 2019 as 428.

On 22 July 2019 the then Home Secretary Sajid Javid provided an additional figure to Home Affairs Select Committee that up to 21 July 2019 725 migrants had crossed the English Channel.

Over 125 people who arrived on small boats have been returned to Europe.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-15/3805/>

### **Undocumented Migrants: Amnesties**

**Rosena Allin-Khan (Labour) [3860]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home

Department, with reference to the oral contribution of the Prime Minister on 25 July 2019, Official Report, column 1491, what assessment his Department has made of the potential merits of an introducing an amnesty for undocumented immigrants.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** The Government remains committed to an immigration policy which welcomes and celebrates people to the UK through safe and legal routes but deters illegal immigration. The Immigration Rules already provide for undocumented migrants to regularise their status.

The Immigration Rules are kept under continuous review and adjusted where necessary in light of feedback, impact and the findings of the courts.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-15/3860/>

*The oral contribution referred to above can be read at*

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-07-25/debates/D0290128-96D8-4AF9-ACFD-21D5D9CF328E/PrioritiesForGovernment#contribution-EE693DF9-23E5-4CEF-996D-0F3ADF00908F>

### **Refugees: Syria**

**Kate Osamor (Labour Co-op)** [3267] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many places under the Syrian Vulnerable Person Resettlement Programme have been (a) applied for and (b) filled successfully in Enfield in each year since 2015.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** We are grateful to over 300 local authorities for pledging their support to the UK's resettlement schemes, enabling us to welcome over 27,000 vulnerable refugees to the UK since 2010.

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

The statistics, which include a local authority breakdown of resettlements, are available at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>

The latest statistics published on 28 November 2019 show that, in total since 2015, Enfield have resettled no refugees under the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme and four refugees under the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme, as at the end of September 2019.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-14/3267/>

*Information about the Syrian Vulnerable Person Resettlement Programme, referred to above, can be read at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/631369/170711\\_Syrian\\_Resettlement\\_Updated\\_Fact\\_Sheet\\_final.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/631369/170711_Syrian_Resettlement_Updated_Fact_Sheet_final.pdf)

### **Asylum: Employment**

**Kate Green (Labour)** [4341] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the oral contribution of the Prime Minister of 25 July 2019, Official Report column 1493, what progress her Department has made in reviewing the ban on asylum seekers working.

**Reply from Victoria Atkins:** Work on the review of Home Office policy on asylum seeker right to work is ongoing. This is a complex issue and it is crucial we take the time to get this right. We are listening carefully to the arguments and considering the evidence put forward on the issue.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-16/4341/>

The oral contribution referred to above can be read at <https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2019-07-25/debates/D0290128-96D8-4AF9-ACFD-21D5D9CF328E/PrioritiesForGovernment#contribution-EA843285-A048-4FA8-9451-769E5F4B669A>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

### British Nationality: Children

**Lord Alton of Liverpool (Crossbench)** [HL195] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 7 January (HL2), when they expect to complete their considerations of the implications of the High Court ruling of 19 December; and how they will (1) consult on, and (2) publicise, next steps which they intend to take.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** While this court case remains active it would not be right to speculate on next steps and potential courses of action. We are, though, committed to considering this issue and the judgment carefully and plan to do so with the diligence that is deserved.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-01-08/HL195/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-12-19/HL2/>

The judgement referred to above can be read at

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

### Immigration Controls

**Lord Green of Deddington (Crossbench)** [HL124] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to reduce the overall number of migrants coming to the UK following the end of free movement.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Government's election manifesto set out plans for a new immigration system that will give us full control over who is coming in and going out and will lead to an overall reduction in numbers.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-01-07/HL124/>

The manifesto referred to above can be read at

[https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba\\_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf](https://assets-global.website-files.com/5da42e2cae7ebd3f8bde353c/5dda924905da587992a064ba_Conservative%202019%20Manifesto.pdf)

### Undocumented Migrants

**Lord Patten (Conservative)** [HL152] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the numbers of illegal immigrants living in (1) England, (2) Northern Ireland, (3) Scotland, and (4) Wales.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** By its very nature, it is not possible to know the exact size of the illegal population and so we do not seek to make any official estimates.

The Government is focused on making it harder for people to enter and live in the UK illegally, whilst ensuring those who have the right to reside in the UK can do so. Exit checks introduced in April 2015 will, over time provide more detailed insights into the behaviour of migrants and how they comply with the restrictions placed upon their length of stay in the UK, but the data obtained does not provide the total

number of illegal migrants currently in the UK. In June 2019, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) published a note on measuring illegal migration.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/internationalmigration/articles/measuringillegalmigrationourcurrentview/2019-06-21>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-01-07/HL152/>

### Refugees

**Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL135]** To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the pledges by EU member states to re-settle 30,000 refugees in 2020, what steps they intend to take to encourage non-EU member states to make similar pledges.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The UK is strongly committed to supporting refugees, including through humanitarian assistance abroad and refugee resettlement to the UK. Nearly 23,000 refugees have been resettled under our schemes since the expansion of our efforts in September 2015.

The UK actively works to support other states, including non-EU member states, to participate in refugee resettlement through multilateral fora and by directly sharing technical expertise.

For instance, the UK chaired last year's Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement where UNHCR's 3-year strategy to increase resettlement and complementary pathways was launched; a key tool in encouraging more countries to increase the quantity and quality of resettlement. The UK also supports both EU and Non-EU states in developing community sponsorship schemes, including through co-chairing the community sponsorship 'States Network' launched at the Global Refugee Forum in December.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-01-07/HL135/>

### Asylum: Appeals

**Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL261]** To ask Her Majesty's Government what percentage of asylum cases were reversed on appeal in the last year for which figures are available.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Home Office publishes data on asylum appeals determined in the 'Immigration Statistics Quarterly Release'.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>  
Data on the number of asylum appeals lodged and determined (allowed or dismissed) are published in tables Asy\_D06 and Asy\_D07 of the 'asylum appeals lodged and determined datasets'.

Information on how to use the dataset can be found in the 'Notes' page of the workbook. The latest data relates to the year ending September 2019. Additionally, the Home Office publishes a high-level overview of the data in the 'summary tables'. The 'contents' sheet contains an overview of all available data on asylum and resettlement.

Information on future Home Office statistical release dates can be found in the 'Research and statistics calendar'

[https://www.gov.uk/search/research-and-statistics?keywords=immigration&content\\_store\\_document\\_type=upcoming\\_statistics&organisations%5B%5D=home-office&order=relevance](https://www.gov.uk/search/research-and-statistics?keywords=immigration&content_store_document_type=upcoming_statistics&organisations%5B%5D=home-office&order=relevance)

A summary of the data on appeals, taken from the summary tables, can be found in Annex A.

[Annex A - Summary Tables](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-01-09/HL261/>

## Welsh Assembly Debate

**Debate on the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee Report: Changes to freedom of movement after Brexit – Implications for Wales**

<https://record.assembly.wales/Plenary/6076#A55694>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.assembly.wales/laid%20documents/cr-ld12859/cr-ld12859%20-e.pdf>

## Press Releases

**EU citizens vital to Scotland**

<https://www.gov.scot/news/eu-citizens-vital-to-scotland/>

**Brexit: protecting the rights of EU citizens living in the UK**

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/eu-affairs/20170505STO73508/brexit-protecting-the-rights-of-eu-citizens-living-in-the-uk>

**Historic UN Human Rights case opens door to climate change asylum claims**

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25482&LangID=E>

## New Publications

**Briefing: The UK's refugee family reunion rules: a comprehensive framework?**

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-7511/CBP-7511.pdf>

**Experiences and Impact of the EU Settlement Scheme**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gYRREyjC1LW9Mk4fReeS848kHbtPK2ao/view>

**Migrants and Discrimination in the UK**

<https://migrationobservatory.ox.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Briefing-Migrants-and-Discrimination-in-the-UK.pdf>

## News

**Immigration system will 'put people before passports' - PM**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-51175628>

**Landlords back cards for EU citizens to prove post-Brexit status**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2020/jan/22/landlords-back-cards-for-eu-citizens-to-prove-post-brexit-status>

**EU nationals who cannot prove 'settled status' being wrongly denied basic rights, report finds**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/eu-nationals-settled-status-brexit-employers-landlords-housing-rights-a9289186.html>

**Brexit: MPs vote against protecting rights of child refugees**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/brexit-vote-result-child-refugees-dubs-amendment-eu-bill-commons-a9297056.html>

**Brexit: Government defeated by peers over child refugees**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-51194109>

**Government loses child refugee vote in string of Lords defeats**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2020/jan/21/government-loses-child-refugee-vote-in-string-of-lords-defeats>

**Child refugees have become pawns in a rightwing culture war**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/jan/25/the-right-child-refugees-culture-wars-government>

**Children must have the #RightToReunite with their families. To take this away would be barbaric**

<https://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/children-must-have-the-righttoreunite-with-their-families/>

**Johnson likely to end £30,000 immigration threshold post-Brexit**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jan/22/boris-johnson-likely-to-end-30000-immigration-threshold-post-brexit>

**Boris Johnson lifts £30k wage barrier on immigrants**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/boris-johnson-lifts-30k-wage-barrier-on-immigrants-ghzvqx68r>

**Business leaders call on Priti Patel to lower minimum wage for migrant workers**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/brexit-eu-migrant-workers-minimum-wage-priti-patel-cbi-a9299466.html>

**Priti Patel: Low-skill migrants won't be spared new visa curbs**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/priti-patel-low-skill-migrants-wont-be-spared-new-visa-curbs-pwrz36z25>

**Theresa May's £30,000 salary cap on migrants to be replaced by Australian-style points system**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2020/01/21/theresa-mays-30000-salary-cap-migrants-replaced-australian-style/>

**Home Office lawyers routinely deploying 'legally unsound' arguments in court, say immigration solicitors**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-law-court-immigration-solicitors-ilpa-presenting-officers-a9292471.html>

**Immigration row: No 10 rebukes business leaders who seek unlimited EU workers**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/immigration-row-no-10-rebukes-business-leaders-who-seek-unlimited-eu-workers-g3sqkhtzz>

**Many EU citizens in Wales 'don't feel welcome' to stay after Brexit**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2020/jan/22/many-eu-citizens-in-wales-dont-feel-welcome-to-stay-after-brexit>

**UK-born children of migrants 'feel more discriminated against' than foreign migrants**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-51170406>

**Children of migrants more likely to feel they are victims of discrimination than their parents, study finds**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2020/01/20/children-migrants-likely-feel-victims-discrimination-parents/>

**Analysis: why do the UK-born children of migrants feel more discriminated against?**

<https://tellmamauk.org/analysis-why-do-the-uk-born-children-of-migrants-feel-more-discriminated-against/>

**What would the UK be like without immigration?**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-51170406>

**Planes to detect migrants crossing Channel to Britain**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/01/24/exclusive-planes-detect-migrants-crossing-channel-britain/>

**Migrants attempting to sail to Britain from Belgian beaches for the first time, in an attempt to avoid French police patrols**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/01/21/migrants-attempting-sail-britain-belgian-beaches-first-time/>

**Migrants try entering UK via Belgium**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/migrants-try-entering-uk-via-belgium-2vhxwwxxb>

**Are migrants who cross the Channel sent back?**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-50813246>

**How has immigration changed in your area?**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-51099579>

**Windrush scandal: 'A billion pounds can't buy back my happiness'**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-51185996/windrush-scandal-a-billion-pounds-can-t-buy-back-my-happiness>

TOP

## Equality

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

#### Travellers: Caravan Sites

**Stuart Anderson (Conservative)** [3892] To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, what steps his Department is taking to ensure that local and traveller communities are consulted on the designation of traveller transit sites.

**Reply from Luke Hall:** Local planning authorities are required to engage a wide section of the community in preparing local plans that designate new traveller transit sites. To support plan-making, the *Planning Policy for Traveller Sites* is clear that local authorities should pay particular attention to early and effective community engagement with both settled and traveller communities.

Where planning applications are submitted, there are opportunities for views to be expressed and influence decisions on proposals for future development. In reaching a decision, a council must take these views into account alongside the local plan

and all other relevant considerations.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-15/3892/>

*The Planning Policy referred to above can be read at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/457420/Final\\_planning\\_and\\_travellers\\_policy.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/457420/Final_planning_and_travellers_policy.pdf)

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

### Public Bodies: Travellers

**Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth (Conservative)** [HL 109] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to improve participation in public bodies by members of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.

**Reply from Viscount Younger of Leckie:** In June 2019, the Government announced that MHCLG would lead development of a cross-government strategy to improve outcomes for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. In developing the strategy, the Government will consider how best to encourage participation in civic and public institutions by members of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-01-07/HL109/>

*The announcement referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-national-strategy-to-tackle-gypsy-roma-and-traveller-inequalities>

## Press Release

**Committee of Ministers adopts new action plan for Roma and Traveller Inclusion**

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/committee-of-ministers-adopts-new-action-plan-for-roma-and-traveller-inclusion>

## News

**BAME foster care shortage in two-thirds of English councils**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-leeds-51136569>

**Minister criticises lack of senior black UK academics**

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2020/jan/23/minister-criticises-lack-of-senior-black-uk-academics>

**Only a handful of black academics in most senior positions in British universities, figures reveal**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/black-academics-uk-universities-higher-education-statistics-chris-skidmore-a9298876.html>

**No top jobs for black academics in Britain's universities**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/no-top-jobs-for-black-academics-in-britain-s-universities-73l2pbnt7>

TOP

# Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

## UK Parliament Debate

### Holocaust Memorial Day

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-23/debates/91823D04-BF3E-4AFE-B0DD-E4A907B577C5/HolocaustMemorialDay>

and

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-23/debates/3E8ADAB4-B5D4-46B0-BB5D-508488D4498C/HolocaustMemorialDay>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

### Justice System: Causes of Racism

**Angela Crawley (SNP):** What recent discussions [has the Minister] had with Cabinet colleagues on (a) tackling the causes of racism and racial disparities in the justice system and (b) promoting equality of opportunity. [900373]

**Kirsten Oswald (SNP):** What recent discussions [has the Minister] had with Cabinet colleagues on (a) tackling the causes of racism and racial disparities in the justice system and (b) promoting equality of opportunity. [900374]

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Justice (Wendy Morton):** We are working across Government and with partners to tackle the over-representation of black and Asian people and those from other ethnic minorities in the criminal justice system, which we know has deep-rooted causes. That work includes taking forward the recommendations of the extensive, independent review by the right hon. Member for Tottenham (Mr Lammy) and developing a number of interventions, and it is all aimed at reducing disproportionality.

**Angela Crawley:** The Home Office's proposals to strengthen police powers to tackle unauthorised encampments have rightly been condemned for discriminating against Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, and for effectively criticising and criminalising their way of life. Those who have condemned the proposals include the Scottish Government Minister for Older People and Equalities; Friends, Families and Travellers; and Liberty. The Women and Equalities Committee has also looked at this issue. Given those concerns, will the Minister commit to conducting and publishing an equality impact assessment of the proposals?

**Reply from Wendy Morton:** My Home Office colleagues are aware of this, and it is something they are considering.

**Kirsten Oswald:** The Home Secretary was recently quoted as saying: "I'm not in that category...where I believe there's racism at all. I think we live in a great country, a great society, full of opportunity, where people of any background can get on in life."

Does the Minister agree with the Home Secretary's statement that there is no racism at all? If she does not, will she condemn those who deny that racism and inequality of opportunity exist?

**Reply from Wendy Morton:** That is not my understanding of what the Home Secretary said, but let me be absolutely clear that this Government have regard to eliminating discrimination and advancing equality of opportunity in all our work. This approach informs regular engagement between Cabinet Ministers in relation to the justice system. This is something we take incredibly seriously.

**Anne McLaughlin (SNP):** ... It is not just the Home Secretary who is in denial about racism. The racism to which it is easiest for us all to turn a blind eye is the insidious type, where often even the perpetrator does not realise what lies behind it. Is the Minister open to working with people like me and, more particularly, with black, Asian and minority ethnic

MPs to raise awareness of unconscious racial bias and the devastating impact it has on the day-to-day lives of many of our citizens?

**Reply from Wendy Morton:** I think it is deeply unfair to lecture the Home Secretary on discrimination. Let us be absolutely clear that this Government are committed to closing the opportunity gap in our society. We are determined to implement the policies needed for the UK to succeed as a nation. I work very closely with the right hon. Member for Tottenham, and the Ministry of Justice takes the issue of racial disparity very seriously.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-23/debates/FCB58815-C2B2-4878-8AED-CEAAF616B3C4/JusticeSystemCausesOfRacism>

*The review referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/lammy-review-final-report>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

### Religious Hatred: Islam

**Neil Coyle (Labour)** [3768] To ask the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, what progress he has made on adopting the APPG for Muslims definition of Islamophobia.

**Reply from Luke Hall:** It is unacceptable for anyone to feel unsafe while practicing their religion, and this Government will never allow prejudice and discrimination of any kind against the Muslim community. We will continue to take a zero-tolerance approach to Anti-Muslim hatred.

The definition proposed by the APPG is problematic as it is not in line with the Equality Act of 2010 and could also have consequences for freedom of speech. We recognise the importance of this matter and will explore and interrogate the issue in further detail.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-15/3768/>

*Information about the APPG for Muslims definition of Islamophobia can be read at*

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/599c3d2febbd1a90cffdd8a9/t/5bfd1ea3352f531a6170ceee/1543315109493/Islamophobia+Defined.pdf>

### Islam: Religious Hatred

**Neil Coyle (Labour)** [3767] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, what plans her Department has to include steps to tackle Islamophobia in the forthcoming online harms Bill.

**Matt Warman:** Anti-Muslim hatred is completely unacceptable and has no place in our society. The Online Harms White Paper will establish in law a new duty of care on companies towards their users, overseen by an independent regulator. Companies will be held to account for tackling harms occurring on their platforms, including hate crime. The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has the cross-government lead on countering anti-Muslim hatred, and we will continue to work with them closely on this policy. The Secretary of State is looking to bring forward online harms legislation as quickly as possible

We are also ensuring that the criminal law is fit for purpose to deal with online harms. The Department for Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport and the Ministry of Justice have now engaged the Law Commission on a second phase of their review of abusive and offensive online communications. The Law Commission will review existing communications offences and make specific recommendations about options for legal reform in a final report in 2021. The Law Commission is also looking

into the adequacy of protection offered by hate crime legislation. This strand of work is expected to report in 2021.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-15/3767/>

*The White Paper referred to above can be read at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/793360/Online\\_Harms\\_White\\_Paper.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/793360/Online_Harms_White_Paper.pdf)

*Information about the reviews referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/law-commission-to-undertake-phase-2-of-the-abusive-and-offensive-online-communications-project/>

*and*

<https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/project/hate-crime/>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

### Travellers: Hate Crime

**Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth (Conservative)** [HL385] To ask Her Majesty's Government what consideration they have given, if any, to the extension of legislation combating hatred to give specific protection to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.

**Reply from Viscount Younger of Leckie:** The Government takes all forms of hate crime, including that directed towards Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, very seriously. We have one of the strongest legislative frameworks in the world to protect all communities from hostility, violence and bigotry, and to deal with the perpetrators of hate crime. We have asked the Law Commission to undertake a full review of the coverage and approach of current hate crime legislative provisions. This will include a review of the existing range of protected characteristics, including race. The commission is due to open a public consultation in early 2020.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-01-14/HL385/>

*Information about the review referred to above can be read at*

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

### Religion: Freedom of Expression

**Lord Vinson (Conservative)** [HL187] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to ensure that criticism of any religion is not regarded as a hate crime.

**Reply from Viscount Younger of Leckie:** Freedom of expression is a fundamental human right. It is important that all have the right to speak freely, and make legitimate criticisms, and that a strong legal framework provides the appropriate space to do so. Equally, hatred or prejudice against an individual because of their religion will not be tolerated.

The Crown Prosecution Service uses definitions agreed with the National Police Chiefs' Council to identify religiously motivated incidents/crimes: "Any incident/crime which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated by a hostility or prejudice based on a person's religion or perceived religion." This allows space for legitimate criticism.

Under the Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006, which covers the offences of stirring up religious hatred, there is a freedom of expression defence contained in Section 29J, which confirms that nothing in the Act "... prohibits or restricts discussion, criticism or expressions of antipathy, dislike, ridicule, insult, or abuse of particular religions, or the beliefs or practices of its adherents."

The Government will continue to protect people's legitimate rights and freedoms

whilst also remaining committed to tackling hate crime.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-01-07/HL187/>

### **Football: Racial Discrimination**

**Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL428]** To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to work with the Football Association to combat racism in football.

**Reply from Baroness Barran:** Racism or any form of discrimination has no place in football or society, and we must confront this vile behaviour.

Together with the Minister for Sport, I met with the FA last week and discussed their action on discrimination. Whilst progress has been made, there is still more to do and we will be calling in all the footballing authorities for a further update about their work on this important issue.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-01-14/HL428/>

## **Press Releases**

**LGBT+ bullying and hate crime schools pack launched**

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/cps/news/lgbt-bullying-and-hate-crime-schools-pack-launched>

**International Holocaust Remembrance Day 27 January 2020: Commemorating 75 years since the liberation of Auschwitz, UN experts call for urgent action to combat antisemitism**

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25492&LangID=E>

## **News**

**Auschwitz: Prince Charles warns world leaders over 'hatred'**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-51219034>

**Prince Charles: lessons of Holocaust still 'searingly relevant'**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jan/23/prince-charles-lessons-of-holocaust-still-searingly-relevant>

**Holocaust is no mere 'fact of history': Prince Charles stands with world leaders against rise of anti-Semitism**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/royal-family/2020/01/23/prince-charles-warns-holocaust-legacy-remains-searingly-relevant/>

**75 years on, Britons must never forget the horrors of the Holocaust**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/holocaust-memorial-day-auschwitz-poland-a9299376.html>

**Labour frontbencher took six months to remove anti-Semitic posts from his Facebook despite saying he was 'mortified' by them**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2020/01/25/labour-frontbencher-took-six-months-remove-anti-semitic-posts/>

**MP booted out SNP for 'antisemitism' is being asked back by supporters**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/mp-booted-out-snp-for-antisemitism-is-being-asked-back-by-supporters-1-5078406>

**Most black and minority ethnic teachers say they face covert racism in schools**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/black-teachers-racism-schools-microinsults-nasuwt-poll-a9292036.html>

**Racism in the foster care system is depriving kids of support – and I've seen it up close**  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/foster-care-racism-adoption-ethnicity-bame-sandeep-reena-mander-a9298391.html>

**Church of England urged to apologise for Windrush racism**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jan/24/church-of-england-urged-to-apologise-for-windrush-racism>

**New faith schools will create more division**  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/new-faith-schools-will-create-more-division-jk8g6q32d>

**We need to calm down and discuss the big issue – is Britain racist?**  
<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18174462.andy-maciver-right-talk-race/>

**I'd never heard of Laurence Fox until he started lecturing us about racism**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/commentisfree/2020/jan/20/id-never-heard-of-laurence-fox-until-he-started-lecturing-us-about-racism>

**Vanessa Nakate: Climate activist hits out at 'racist' photo crop**  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-51242972>

**FA dismisses charge against Mark Sampson over alleged racist remark**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2020/jan/20/fa-dismisses-charge-mark-sampson-alleged-racist-remark-stevenage>

**FA dismisses Mark Sampson charge over alleged racist remark**  
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2020/01/20/fa-dismisses-mark-sampson-charge-alleged-racist-remark/>

**Cardiff City fans get racism warning**  
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/sport/cardiff-city-fans-get-racism-warning-dlnjnqglc>

TOP

## Other UK Parliament and Government

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

#### Forced Marriage: Prosecutions

**Ruth Jones (Labour)** [2607] To ask the Attorney General, what steps the CPS is taking to improve the prosecution rate of people responsible for forced marriages.

**Reply from Michael Ellis:** The CPS takes the prosecution of forced marriage seriously. Each CPS Area has a lead prosecutor on forced marriage who works closely with the police and other prosecutors. The CPS's legal guidance on forced marriage assists prosecutors and is reviewed regularly. For example, it was revised last year to address cases where the victim lacks capacity to consent to marriage. Since April 2019, the joint police and CPS forced marriage working group has

developed training for prosecutors and agreed a protocol for the investigation and prosecution of forced marriage. The CPS is also working with stakeholders to identify and address the obstacles to the prosecution of forced marriage.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-01-13/2607/>

## Press Release

**Prime Minister Boris Johnson signs the Withdrawal Agreement: 24 January 2020**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-boris-johnson-signs-the-withdrawal-agreement-24-january-2020>

## New Publications

**Guidance: Mandatory reporting of female genital mutilation: procedural information**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/573782/FGM\\_Mandatory\\_Reporting\\_-\\_procedural\\_information\\_nov16\\_FINAL.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/573782/FGM_Mandatory_Reporting_-_procedural_information_nov16_FINAL.pdf)

**Updated Guidance: Operation Limelight: instructions to police and Border Force staff**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/860625/operation\\_limelight\\_instructions.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/860625/operation_limelight_instructions.pdf)

**Updated: Female genital mutilation: lesson plan for Key Stage 3 students**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/860679/KS3\\_FGM\\_lesson\\_plan.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/860679/KS3_FGM_lesson_plan.pdf)

**Updated: Female genital mutilation: 'I have rights'**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/860591/i\\_have\\_rights\\_leaflet.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/860591/i_have_rights_leaflet.pdf)

**Letters from the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union to the Scottish and Welsh Governments on the EU (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill**

**Letter to Mike Russell MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Government, Business and Constitutional Relations, Scottish Government**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/859145/2020-10-20\\_Letter\\_to\\_Michael\\_Russell\\_MSP.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/859145/2020-10-20_Letter_to_Michael_Russell_MSP.pdf)

**Letter to Jeremy Miles AM, Counsel General and Brexit Minister, Welsh Government**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/859146/2020-10-20\\_Letter\\_to\\_Jeremy\\_Miles\\_AM.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/859146/2020-10-20_Letter_to_Jeremy_Miles_AM.pdf)

## News

**Brexit: Boris Johnson signs withdrawal agreement in Downing Street**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-51244126>

TOP

## Other News

### **Sex and religious education to be compulsory in Wales**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-51177649>

### **Children to be taught sex education and religious studies even if parents object, Welsh government rules**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/sex-education-class-school-wales-lgbt-religious-studies-parents-lessons-a9296026.html>

TOP

## 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>

Stage 1 Report, Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee

<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdneq.azureedge.net/published/DPLR/2020/1/17/Civil-Partnership--Scotland--Bill--Stage-1/DPLRS052020R4.pdf>

#### **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>

Proposed amendments

[https://www.parliament.scot/S5\\_Bills/Female%20Genital%20Mutilation%20\(Protection%20and%20Guidance\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/SPBill47MLS052020.pdf](https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/Female%20Genital%20Mutilation%20(Protection%20and%20Guidance)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/SPBill47MLS052020.pdf)

Bill as amended at Stage 2

[https://www.parliament.scot/S5\\_Bills/Female%20Genital%20Mutilation%20\(Protection%20and%20Guidance\)%20\(Scotland\)%20Bill/SPBill47AS052020.pdf](https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Bills/Female%20Genital%20Mutilation%20(Protection%20and%20Guidance)%20(Scotland)%20Bill/SPBill47AS052020.pdf)

### **UK Parliament**

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

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

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

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

Report Stage, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-20/debates/396570D8-4F9D-431B-B907-3CE6AEE077F1/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-20/debates/396570D8-4F9D-431B-B907-3CE6AEE077F1/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

and

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-21/debates/EE4D93F9-2E96-4491-B70E-10EF7A648601/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-21/debates/EE4D93F9-2E96-4491-B70E-10EF7A648601/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

and

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-21/debates/0B422782-6258-4FF1-B915-3BA5D6A494A8/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-21/debates/0B422782-6258-4FF1-B915-3BA5D6A494A8/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

Third Reading, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-21/debates/84B94A0E-5545-44CD-8055-32CE232201FC/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-21/debates/84B94A0E-5545-44CD-8055-32CE232201FC/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

House of Commons consideration of House of Lords Amendments

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-22/debates/7D35E1A9-CB17-4503-A8AF-8E8E30169A95/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-22/debates/7D35E1A9-CB17-4503-A8AF-8E8E30169A95/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

House of Lords consideration of House of Commons Amendments

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-22/debates/09CDAC60-2C06-47CB-A373-99C52693E758/EuropeanUnion\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-22/debates/09CDAC60-2C06-47CB-A373-99C52693E758/EuropeanUnion(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

Royal Assent

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-23/debates/14692F26-1508-41E7-A595-0C6A9ED58FC7/RoyalAssent>

Written Statement

**The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (Michael Gove):** [HCWS60] This Government was elected with a clear mandate to deliver the result of the 2016 referendum, and to ensure that the UK ratifies the deal reached by the Prime Minister, before the UK leaves the European Union on the 31 January.

The Government have sought, in line with the Sewel convention, legislative consent from the devolved legislatures of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland for the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill.

It is important to note that despite the argument of some, the devolved legislatures have not been asked to consent to Brexit overall. In line with the devolution settlements, they have been asked to consent to the specific parts of the Bill that fall within devolved competence, or otherwise engage the legislative consent process.

It is therefore disappointing that the three devolved legislatures have refused to agree a legislative consent motion (LCM) for the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill.

We recognise that taking the Bill to Royal Assent without the consent of the devolved legislatures is a significant decision and it is one that we have not taken lightly. However, it is in line with the Sewel convention. It is also necessary in order to ensure that all parts of the UK have the powers required to meet our obligations in the withdrawal agreement. These include important protections for EU and UK citizens' rights as we leave the EU.

The Sewel convention—to which the Government remain committed—states that the UK Parliament “will not normally legislate with regard to devolved matters without the consent” of the relevant devolved legislatures. The circumstances of our departure from the EU, following the 2016 referendum, are not normal; they are unique.

At every stage of the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill, the UK Government have demonstrated their enduring commitment and respect for the Sewel convention and the principles that underpin our constitutional arrangements.

The practices and procedures that have developed to deliver the Sewel convention encourage the UK Government to consult with the devolved administrations on legislation at an early stage to ensure their views are taken into account.

Through extensive consultation and engagement it has respected the spirit and the letter of the devolution settlement. Changes have been made to recognise the valid concerns of our partners in the Scottish and Welsh Governments. We have also, during the absence of the Executive, worked closely with the Northern Ireland civil service.

Despite the Government's efforts, it is unfortunate that common ground could not be found

on all elements.

We will continue to respect and uphold the Sewel convention and the devolution settlements going forward. We will also continue to engage with the Scottish and Welsh Governments, as well as the newly formed Northern Ireland Executive, as we negotiate our future relationship with the EU.

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-23/debates/20012313000012/EU\(WithdrawalAgreement\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-01-23/debates/20012313000012/EU(WithdrawalAgreement)Bill)

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

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

First Reading, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-22/debates/74E1942E-64DF-4537-A41B-9659C8F440C6/ImmigrationControl\(GrossHumanRightsAbuses\)Bill\(HL\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-01-22/debates/74E1942E-64DF-4537-A41B-9659C8F440C6/ImmigrationControl(GrossHumanRightsAbuses)Bill(HL))

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

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

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

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

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

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

TOP

## **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>

**\*\* Defamation and Malicious Publications (Scotland) Bill** (closing date 13 March 2020)

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/114208.aspx>

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

<https://tinyurl.com/sxarzv4>

**\*\* Harassment and sexual misconduct in higher education** (closing date 27 March 2020)

<https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/media/76f6bdd3-bb14-4956-b089-cd1598323d55/consultation-on-harassment-and-sexual-misconduct-in-higher-education.pdf>

**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>

TOP

## **Job Opportunities**

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

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

TOP

## **Events, Conferences, and Training**

\*\* new or updated this week

**\*\* this week!**

### **Tackling Hate Together**

29 January 2020 in Glasgow (6.00-8.00)

Interfaith Scotland & the Scottish Jewish Archives Centre interfaith dialogue in collaboration with Remembering Srebrenica Scotland. For information contact Maureen Sier [maureen@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:maureen@interfaithscotland.org)

### **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>

### **Forced Marriage Training**

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 see <https://tinyurl.com/t9twmd8>

### **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/>

### **Evidencing and Mainstreaming Equality Data**

12 February 2020 in Kirkcaldy (9.30–4.00)

Fife Centre for Equalities training for service providers wishing to improve the quality and usage of their data as a resource to actively promote equality. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/smzko4q>

### **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)

### **The Gathering**

19 and 20 February in Edinburgh

Scotland's largest free voluntary sector event in the UK, a place for everyone working in the sector to network, showcase what they do and learn from each other. For information see <https://scvo.org/the-gathering-2020>

### **Strengthening Scotland's charity sector**

19 February 2020 at the Gathering in Edinburgh (10.00–11.00)

Discussion with the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government, Maureen Mallon OSCR and Anna Fowlie SCVO about how, together, we can strengthen the brand of charity, its role and potential in an ever changing world. For information see <https://scvo.org/the-gathering-2020/event-programme/strengthening-scotlands-charity-sector/>

### **Counting Scotland: the census, the population and the future**

19 February 2020 at the Gathering in Edinburgh (2.00–3.00)

National Records of Scotland presentation to highlight how Scotland's population is changing; how we think it will change further and the implications this has for the third sector and others. We will be highlighting the various statistical information we publish, free of charge, which is available to the third sector. For information see <https://scvo.org/the-gathering-2020/event-programme/counting-scotland-the-census-the-population-and-the-future/>

### **Brexit & the voluntary sector**

20 February 2020 at the Gathering in Edinburgh (9.30–10.30)

Civil Society Brexit Project session to provide insight into the main changes, challenges & concerns around Brexit for organisations in Scotland. For information see <https://scvo.org/the-gathering-2020/event-programme/brexit-the-voluntary-sector/>

### **Telling your charity's story with impact**

20 February 2020 at the Gathering in Edinburgh (11.15–12.15)

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator event to explore the benefits of a good trustee annual report and how charity trustees can plan for and prepare an excellent report that helps the charity in many ways. For information see <https://scvo.org/the-gathering-2020/event-programme/telling-your-charitys-story-with-impact/>

### **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)

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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 politics. For information see <http://www.imigmob2020.org/home>

[TOP](#)

## Useful Links

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**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>

TOP



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



***BEMIS** is the Scottish national Ethnic Minorities led umbrella body, supporting, empowering, and building the capacity of minority third sector community organisations. As a strategic partner with Government, it is proactive in influencing the development of race equality policy in Scotland, and helps develop and progress multicultural Scotland, active citizenship, democracy, and Human Rights Education at the Scottish, UK, and European levels. (Scottish Charity, no. SC027692) <http://www.bemis.org.uk/>*



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

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