



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

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

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

The Scottish Parliament returns from recess on 10 August. The UK Parliament will be in recess until 1 September 2020. The next issue of MEMO will be published on 31 August.

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-22327 Mary Fee (Labour): World Day Against Trafficking in Humans – That the Parliament recognises that 30 July 2020 is World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, which is an annual event that seeks to raise awareness of human trafficking; notes that the focus for this year is on the first responders to trafficking who work in a variety of sectors; understands that they work to identify, support, counsel and seek justice for victims and to challenge impunity of the traffickers; acknowledges that their roles have become more essential than ever during the COVID-19 crisis, where their ability to work has been made even more difficult by restrictions put in place; recognises that trafficking

is one of the worst global human rights violations; notes that people are trafficked for a number of different reasons, including sexual exploitation, forced labour and slavery; understands that women and girls make up 72% of all victims; realises that the share of people trafficked in their own country has doubled to 58% in recent years; commends the work of all first responders in tackling human trafficking, and endeavours to continue to do all it can to promote and protect the rights of people who have become victims of trafficking and to raise more awareness of victims

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-22327>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Immigrants: Employment

Bell Ribeiro-Addy (Labour) [75454] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many employers have used the digital checking service for right to work checks since the launch of that service.

Reply from Chris Philp: Statistics on use of the online right to work service are published as part of the Home Office's Transparency data. The most recent publication for online right to work statistics was in February 2020, covering the full year 2019:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/home-office-data-february-2020>.

The next publication of online right to work statistics will be released by the Home Office in due course, covering Q1 and Q2 2020.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-16/75454/>

Immigration: Health Insurance

Darren Jones (Labour) [76858] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will bring forward legislative proposals to remove the requirement for people with Settled Status to hold Comprehensive Sickness Insurance when applying for British citizenship.

Reply from Kevin Foster: To meet the statutory requirements for naturalisation, a person of any nationality must have been in the UK lawfully during the residential qualifying period.

EEA Regulations set out the requirements which EEA nationals needed to follow if they wished to reside here lawfully on the basis of free movement. In the case of students or the self-sufficient, but not those who were working here, the possession of comprehensive sickness insurance has always been a requirement. This position has not changed since the UK left the European Union

The British Nationality Act allows us to exercise discretion over this requirement in the special circumstances of any particular case.

There are no current plans to amend legislation in this respect given they reflect EEA rules on Freedom of Movement.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-20/76858/>

Health Services: Immigrants

Bell Ribeiro-Addy (Labour) [74738] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, (a) how much revenue has been raised by the Immigration Health Surcharge annually since its introduction and (b) how much of this revenue is paid into the NHS annually.

Reply from Edward Argar: The following table provides Immigration Health

Surcharge income figures for the financial years from 2015/16 to 2018/19 – the latest period available, taken from the Home Office’s Annual Accounts which is available at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/home-office-annual-report-and-accounts-2018-to-2019>

2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Total	
Income (£'000)	169,112	210,250	240,483	297,925	917,770

Prior to COVID-19, the Immigration Health Surcharge was forecast to generate over £400 million per year for the National Health Service.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-15/74738/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Deportation: Compensation

Vicky Foxcroft (Labour) [13050] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to her October 2019 report to the Home Affairs Select Committee, whether the families of the 14 Commonwealth citizens who have died after being removed from the UK since 2002 will be compensated.

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Vicky Foxcroft (Labour) [13051] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to her October 2019 report to the Home Affairs Select Committee, how many of the 42 overseas applicants to the Windrush scheme whose application was withdrawn died before the process could be completed.

Reply from Priti Patel: Representatives of the estate of affected individuals who have sadly passed away can claim compensation. Close family members of an eligible primary claimant, including in cases where the primary claimant has died, can also make a claim for compensation in their own right. Guidance and claim forms are available on GOV.UK

Of the 42 overseas cases reported as withdrawn in the October 2019 update to the Home Affairs Select Committee, the Home Office is aware of two individuals who had sadly passed away.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-05/13050/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-05/13051/>

The report referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/841185/Windrush_update.odt

The guidance and claim forms referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/windrush-compensation-scheme-claim-forms-and-guidance>

Windrush Lessons Learned Review

Beth Winter (Labour) [22057] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many versions of the Windrush Lessons Learned review his Department has received; and on which date those versions were received.

Reply from Priti Patel: The Independent Adviser, Wendy Williams, lead the Windrush Lessons Learned Review. In line with the published Terms of Reference for the review, information was provided to a small number of officials in the department to support due process with regard to Maxwellisation, defamation and GDPR, and any other HR and legal considerations; and to enable the department

to fact check the report.

This is common practice for this type of review. The processes associated with Maxwellisation and fact-checking were led by the Independent Adviser and were a matter for her. The Independent Adviser's conclusions remain a matter for the Independent Adviser. On 19 March 2020 we published the Windrush Lessons Learned immediately after we received the final version. We remain determined to right the wrongs experienced by the Windrush generation, and we have said we accept the findings of this important review, and that we agree with the recommendations. The Home Secretary will be setting out to Parliament before summer recess how this will be taken forward.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-07-21/debates/CF88BF2D-55E5-4672-8103-E28A1136C3F1/WindrushLessonsLearnedReview>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-27/22057/>

The review referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876336/6.5577_HO_Windrush_Lessons_Learned_Review_LoResFinal.pdf

Windrush Lessons Learned Review

Beth Winter (Labour) [22060] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether officials in her Department are fact-checking the Windrush Lessons Learned report.

Reply from Priti Patel: The Independent Adviser, Wendy Williams, lead the Windrush Lessons Learned Review. In line with the published Terms of Reference, information was provided to enable the department to fact check the report. This is common practice for this type of review. The Independent Adviser's conclusions remain a matter for the Independent Adviser.

On 19 March 2020 we published the Windrush Lessons Learned Review. We remain determined to right the wrongs experienced by the Windrush generation, and we have said we accept the findings of this important review, and that we accept the recommendations. The Home Secretary will be setting out to Parliament before summer recess how this will be taken forward.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-07-21/debates/CF88BF2D-55E5-4672-8103-E28A1136C3F1/WindrushLessonsLearnedReview>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-27/22060/>

The review referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876336/6.5577_HO_Windrush_Lessons_Learned_Review_LoResFinal.pdf

Windrush Lessons Learned Review

Bell Ribeiro-Addy (Labour) [37777] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent steps she has taken to implement the recommendations of the Windrush Lessons Learned Review Report.

Reply from Priti Patel: I was clear that when Wendy Williams published her lessons learned review that I would listen and act. I have heard what she said and I will be accepting the recommendations she has made in full.

I am committed to ensuring the Home Office delivers for each part of the community it serves and will update the House before summer recess on how we will be implementing the recommendation.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-07-21/debates/CF88BF2D-55E5-4672-8103-E28A1136C3F1/WindrushLessonsLearnedReview>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-04-20/37777/>

The review referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876336/6.5577_HO_Windrush_Lessons_Learned_Review_LoResFinal.pdf

Immigration: Windrush Generation

Bell Ribeiro-Addy (Labour) [27049] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department has taken to identify how many people who belong to the Windrush generation have been wrongly prevented from re-entry to the UK after an overseas visit.

Reply from Priti Patel: The Home Office is undertaking a significant programme of engagement and communication activity to raise awareness of the support available to members of the Windrush generation who have been impacted, including those who have been wrongly prevented from re-entry to the UK after an overseas visit.

We have hosted over 100 engagement and outreach events across the country and are undertaking a programme of online engagement events. More information can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/windrush-engagement-events>

We will shortly be launching a national advertising and grassroots campaign to encourage more people to come forward and have worked closely with a range of stakeholders with excellent community links to raise awareness. We are also developing plans with our British Embassies and High Commissions for additional bespoke activity in priority countries overseas.

Unfortunately, the Home Office does not hold data on the number of people who belong to the Windrush generation who have been prevented from re-entry to the UK after an overseas visit. However, the Department has conducted a historical review of Caribbean Commonwealth nationals, born before 1 January 1973, removed or detained since 2002, to identify those whose records indicate they came to the UK before 1973. The Home Office wrote to the Home Affairs Select Committee on 21 August 2018 with the initial findings of this review and has provided regular updates to the committee. This correspondence can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/correspondence-on-the-work-of-the-home-office-windrush>

Anyone who is a member of the Windrush generation and thinks they have been wrongly denied re-entry to the UK can apply to the Windrush Taskforce for a returning residents visa, and to the Windrush Compensation Scheme for compensation, should they wish to.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-09/27049/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Stuart C McDonald (SNP) [76758] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to improve the transparency of EU Settlement Scheme reporting.

Reply from Kevin Foster: Statistical information on the EU Settlement Scheme is published by the Home Office monthly and quarterly. The latest published information on applications received can be found on the Home Office's 'EU Settlement Scheme statistics' web page available at:

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

The monthly reporting on the EU Settlement Scheme has recently been changed to allow for more timely release of the figures on applications and outcomes, placed

on the GOV.UK website.

The quarterly publication will continue to provide more detailed breakdowns, including data on nationality, UK country of residence, age group, and regional and local authority numbers. In future, we also plan to include numbers of non-digital (paper) applications and further analysis of application outcomes, including those applicants for pre-settled status who subsequently apply for full status.

In line with the Code of Practice for Statistics, the Home Office openly invites feedback from users to continue developing the quality, usefulness and presentation of statistics on the EU Settlement Scheme. Feedback is continually sought across our suite of Home Office immigration statistics, alongside regular internal consultation, and external engagement through multiple stakeholder channels.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-20/76758/>

The EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at

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

Undocumented Migrants: France

Bell Ribeiro-Addy (Labour) [74744] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 17 March 2020 to Questions 27050 and 27051, how many Gendarmes reservists have been deployed; and how many small boat crossings have been prevented under the 2019 Small Boats Joint Action Plan.

Reply from Chris Philp: As noted in the Addendum to the Small Boats Joint Action Plan, signed in September 2019, the UK has since October 2019 funded deployments of 45 officers per day along the French coast to bolster existing French resources. These deployments have proven to be an effective method for detecting attempted crossings across the English Channel.

Over the course of April and May 2020, the French stopped over 1,000 migrants from making this perilous journey. They also prevented over 200 migrants from making the journey last week. The National Crime Agency, Immigration Enforcement, Border Force and the UK Police will continue to work closely with French authorities to crack down on the criminals who facilitate the crossings.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-15/74744/>

The answers referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-09/27050/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-09/27051/>

The action plan referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/773403/UK_France_declaration_24_Jan_13.00.pdf

and the addendum, referred to above, can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/839500/Small_Boats_Action_Plan_Addendum_-_26th_September_consolidated_text_2019.10.01_002.pdf

Undocumented Migrants: Financial Services

Bell Ribeiro-Addy (Labour) [75444] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have been identified as being unlawfully resident in the UK

as a result of status checks undertaken by banks and building societies under the terms of the Immigration Act 2014.

Reply from Chris Philp: Under the 2014 Immigration Act, banks and building societies are required to conduct an immigration status check against the Home Office disqualified person data before a current account is opened. Where this check confirms the applicant is a disqualified person, the bank or building society is prohibited from opening the account. There is no requirement for banks or building societies to notify the Home Office if they refuse to open an account.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-16/75444/>

Refugees: Crime and National Security

John Hayes (Conservative) [65936] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have had their refugee status revoked on the grounds that they committed a serious crime or posed a threat to national security in each of the last five years.

Reply from Chris Philp: Providing the information on the number of people that have had their refugee status revoked on the grounds of serious crime and are a danger to the community or because they are a danger to national security would require a manual check of individual records that can only be done at disproportionate costs.

Those who have committed a particularly serious crime and are a danger to the community or are a danger to national security are not granted refugee status in the UK. If a person has been recognised as a refugee and they subsequently commit a particularly serious crime and are assessed to be a danger to the community or are assessed as a danger to national security, their refugee status will be revoked as part of the deportation process. Where we cannot remove such an individual from the UK, due to obligations under the European Convention of Human Rights, revocation of leave to remain or indefinite leave to remain will still take place so that such individuals can no longer enjoy the benefits of such status.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-06-29/65936/>

Refugees: Evictions

Ruth Jones (Labour) [75441] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment her Department has made of implications for her policies of the refugee council statement of 30 June 2020 on refugee eviction during the covid-19 outbreak.

Reply from Chris Philp: During the Covid 19 outbreak we suspended cessations to cases where the asylum claim had been determined. We are resuming cessations in a careful, phased way. The decision to temporarily extend support was undertaken in consultation with Public Health Agencies across the UK.

We are continuing to work closely with Local Authorities, Other Government Departments and Stakeholders, which includes members of the voluntary and community sector to plan an appropriate resumption to termination of statutory support, taking full account of equalities duties and potential impacts on those Service Users.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-16/75441/>

Asylum: Brexit

Bell Rbeiro-Addy (Labour) [75455] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking with her EU counterparts to help ensure that take charge requests are submitted to the UK before its departure from the EU.

Reply from Chris Philp: The UK continues to meet its obligations under the Dublin III Regulation. It is for the requesting Member State to ensure timely submission of Take Charge Requests. We will continue to work closely with them to facilitate that process until the end of the Transition Period and will continue to process any Dublin family reunion cases that enter the system prior to 31 December.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-16/75455/>

Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre

Richard Fuller (Conservative) [74784] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people were detained at Yarl's Wood Detention Centre for each night from 1 March 2020 to 15 July 2020.

Reply from Chris Philp: The Home Office publishes statistics on people in detention in the 'Immigration Statistics Quarterly Release'

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

Data on people in detention under immigration powers as at 31 March 2020 by place of detention, are published in Table Det_03a of the 'Summary tables' (attached). The 'contents' sheet contains an overview of all available data on detention.

A report on Statistics relating to Covid-19 and the immigration system, May 2020

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/statistics-relating-to-covid-19-and-the-immigration-system-may-2020>)

released on 28 May 2020, provides further high-level information relating to immigration detention and the impact of Covid-19.

Figures on numbers in detention at 30 June 2020 will be published on 27 August 2020. 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?content_store_document_type=upcoming_statistics&organisations%5B%5D=home-office&order=release-date-oldest).

[Summary Tables](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-16/74784/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

English Language Learning

Baroness Verma (Conservative): To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to make learning (1) to speak, and (2) to read, English compulsory.

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office and Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (Lord Greenhalgh): English language requirements are already in place for individuals who are seeking to live, work or study in the UK. Where appropriate, all applicants for settlement and citizenship are required to pass the Life in the UK test and to have an English language speaking and listening qualification. This financial year, we are making over £7 million available for programmes, in addition to the adult education budget, to support the integration of migrants through improving their English language proficiency.

Baroness Verma: My Lords, does my noble friend agree that local authorities have a duty to ensure that, when public funds are provided for community groups and activities in areas that are predominantly populated with ethnic minority communities, they must demonstrate in an annual report what active engagement and measured outcomes have taken place in

learning the English language as part of any funding application? The Covid pandemic has shone a torch on this issue in my city of Leicester, where communities have failed to understand important government messaging due to language barriers. Many people in these communities have been here for many years, but they are being excluded from the available schemes and services and the wider opportunities just because they do not have English language skills.

Reply from Lord Greenhalgh: My Lords, a lack of English skills presents a clear barrier to social and economic mobility. As a Government, we will always focus on the practical solutions that can make a real difference to people's lives. However, voluntary and community sector funding by local authorities is a devolved matter and it is a matter of regret that Leicester did not want to engage in our integration programme.

Baroness Massey of Darwen (Labour): My Lords, the ability to speak and read English is key to social mobility and for social skills. Does the Minister agree that being able to write good English, with accurate spelling and grammar, is also important and valued by employers? This too should be compulsory. The subtleties of apostrophes and English spelling can be learned and become automatic, unless a child has specific difficulties, which of course would need other support.

Reply from Lord Greenhalgh: My Lords, we recognise that being able to read and write in English is vital to supporting integration. That is why the ESOL for Integration Fund supports learners across 30 areas with reading and writing as well as speaking and listening, whereas previous programmes focused predominantly on speaking and listening.

Baroness Falkener of Margravine (Non-affiliated): The Minister will know of the practice in other similar countries. He will know that both France and Germany have a mandatory requirement for newcomers to speak their respective languages fluently. The UK has myriad exceptions from this requirement. Will he look at making it mandatory for all those wishing to remain in the UK to have a level of proficiency such that they can integrate adequately?

Reply from Lord Greenhalgh: My Lords, there is a requirement for those applying for citizenship to demonstrate that they have appropriate English language speaking and listening qualifications and for those who wish to remain to have the requisite proficiency needed for what they are seeking to do in this country.

Lord Popat (Conservative): My Lords, does the Minister agree that English is key to helping communities to integrate in Britain and that the importance of learning English should be further emphasised as a precondition to granting British citizenship?

Reply from Lord Greenhalgh: My Lords, I thank my noble friend, who has written eloquently on the subject of the importance the English language to integration. Those applying for citizenship are required to demonstrate that they have an appropriate English language speaking and listening qualification.

Baroness Benjamin (Liberal Democrat): My Lords, the ability to communicate with others from different communities is vital, but those who are deaf are at a disadvantage because they cannot fully participate unless signing is provided, no matter what their culture. My experience as a past patron of Friends of the Young Deaf has taught me the importance of signing in breaking down language barriers. Do the Government plan to make provision for signing available to those with hearing impairment when they are learning English?

Reply from Lord Greenhalgh: My Lords, there is a clear requirement under the equalities Act to provide information in a way that is accessible to all, including to those who hard of hearing or deaf. There is a requirement in place to provide that.

Baroness Rawlings (Conservative): My Lords, I cannot believe that teaching English is not already compulsory in schools in this country. Not only English should be compulsory but clear, correct English; there would be far fewer misunderstandings. Does the Minister

agree that schools could follow the advice of Bernard Levin, one of our best modern writers of English prose: just read George Orwell and Jane Austen and you cannot go wrong?

Reply from Lord Greenhalgh: My Lords, I thank my noble friend for that excellent advice. Of course, good written English is very important. Being able to read will give people the joys of the English language.

Lord Alton of Liverpool (Crossbench): I have spoken to volunteers here in the north-west of England who have continued teaching refugees English virtually, with the assistance of Zoom, during lockdown. They say that patchy access to and knowledge of how to use the necessary technology is problematic. As language is key to integration and citizenship, will the Minister look at ways in which the necessary technology could be made available to those volunteer projects to sustain this vital work?

Reply from Lord Greenhalgh: My Lords, we recognise the important and valuable contribution that volunteers make to English speakers who speak other languages. A series of resource provisions has been made available and 500 volunteers continue to be engaged in providing those programmes, but I will take up the point the noble Lord makes.

Lord Kennedy of Southwark (Labour Co-op): ... It is important that everyone living in the United Kingdom learns to speak, read and write English. I endorse the comments of the noble Baroness, Lady Verma, and my noble friend Lady Massey of Darwen. But can the Minister say something about the importance of preserving our other native languages here in the UK—Welsh, Irish, Ulster Scots, Gaelic, Scots and Cornish?

Reply from Lord Greenhalgh: My Lords, I congratulate the noble Lord on his knowledge of Cornish. Of course, it is important to have language skills so that you can stay close to your community.

Lord Purvis of Tweed (Liberal Democrat): My Lords, the Government have made 154 statutory instruments on the coronavirus crisis, the vast majority under emergency legislation. How many of those have included an insistence that this emergency information, which is essential and life saving for our communities, is disseminated to those whose first language is not English or who have English language or other learning barriers, as my noble friend Lady Benjamin highlighted? How many of those emergency pieces of legislation have been able to be communicated clearly?

Reply from Lord Greenhalgh: My Lords, I will have to write to the noble Lord about the precise number. Where I have had a choice, we have made sure the provisions have been made available in numerous languages.

Baroness Redfern (Conservative): My Lords, the Government are committed to uniting and levelling up our country, and that means building a rich, vibrant and integrated society. With the announcement in March of the new £6.5 million English language programme for the 25 successful local authorities, will the Government request feedback at the end of the 12-month programme so that possible future bids can support our diverse communities and help deliver even better outcomes?

Reply from Lord Greenhalgh: My Lords, in fact 30 local authorities were successful for funding, and there will be a full evaluation of the programme's outcomes and impacts. A longitudinal study of longer-term benefits for learners is also planned.

Lord West of Spithead (Labour): My Lords, it is difficult to overestimate how important it is for an individual in this country to read and speak English. The dreadful manslaughter of Police Constable Andrew Harper throws a light on this issue in a slightly different way. The young men convicted, Henry Long, Albert Bowers and Jessie Cole, could not read or write. Their education from the age of 11 was only in the arena of crime, not at school. Does the Minister agree that all British citizens should speak and read our language if they are to thrive and become valued members of society? It is important to the fabric of our nation and their feeling of belonging to this nation. Not giving anyone the opportunity, and making that learning compulsory if necessary, is a failure of our system.

Reply from Lord Greenhalgh: My Lords, I agree with the noble Lord. The recent census showed that 770,000 people who live in England speak little or no English. We need to work hard to ensure that we provide them with those skills, so that they can benefit fully from life in this country.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-07-27/debates/C0EF98D7-3AB7-4317-883E-B7E7C477BF80/EnglishLanguageLearning>

Hong Kong British National (Overseas) Visa

Lord Balfre (Conservative): To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Ministerial Statement by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 22 July (HLWS415), what is their (1) upper, and (2) lower, estimate for the numbers of people who could participate in the new Hong Kong British National (Overseas) Visa; on what basis "there will be no skills tests or minimum income requirements, economic needs tests or caps on numbers"; and what assessment they have made of the impact of this decision on their wider immigration policies.

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Williams of Trafford): My Lords, the new Hong Kong BNO visa requirements reflect the unique and unprecedented circumstances in Hong Kong, and the UK's historic and moral commitment to British national (overseas) citizens. There is no quota on numbers, and we are working closely with the FCO to forecast how many people are likely to apply. The visa will not set a precedent for our wider immigration policies.

Lord Balfre: I remind the Minister of Auguste Comte, who said that "demography is destiny". We have had a population growth of 6.6 million in the last 20 years and are projected to grow by another 5.6 million in the next 20 years, making ours the fastest-growing population in Europe. The Migration Advisory Committee was consulted about the recent points system, limiting minimum salaries and the like. Has the MAC been consulted about the Hong Kong situation? Has it set down any guidance that should be followed and can we expect the 4 million to 5 million extra migrants that are predicted under this policy? Where does that leave the Conservative Party manifesto?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The BNO visa is a very generous offer indeed to BNO citizens, which is proportionate to the unique situation that has arisen. The new route will not set a precedent. In terms of the 4 million people who will possibly come over, we estimate that up to 2.9 million status holders are eligible for passports, and at the moment there are around 350,000 passport holders. In reality, a large number of those who are eligible will want to stay in Hong Kong or relocate to other countries in the region. It is not possible at this point to predict with accuracy the number of BNO citizens likely to choose to come to the UK.

Lord West of Spithead (Labour): ... Does the Minister agree that these loyal veterans who served in Her Majesty's Armed Forces deserve priority approval now? Has the wish of the 64 members of the Hong Kong Military Service Corps ... for a full British citizen's passport, which other corps veterans received before 1997, at long last been agreed to?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: ... The Government are giving careful consideration to the representations from those campaigning for that right of abode for former British Hong Kong servicemen. The new visa creates a pathway to citizenship, as he knows, and it will be available to those who elect to retain their ties to the UK through registering for BNO status. We expect that that will include the majority of Armed Forces veterans in Hong Kong.

Baroness Hamwee (Liberal Democrat): Applicants for the new visa will have to prove that they are ordinarily resident in Hong Kong and be able to support themselves independently in the UK. Are the Government not concerned that, without the co-operation of the Hong Kong authorities and others in Hong Kong, providing documentary proof of residence and transferring assets are both likely to be extremely difficult, if not impossible for some people?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I agree with the noble Baroness that this is a difficult situation. The Foreign Secretary said that we need to be honest about the situation that we are in. We cannot force China to let BNO citizens come to the UK if China chooses to put up barriers. But as China is a leading member of the international community it must be sensitive to its international reputation and the free will of BNO citizens in Hong Kong. We will continue to honour that commitment to those holding BNO status.

Lord Duncan of Springbank (Conservative): What engagement has my noble friend had with the devolved Administrations regarding participation in any future scheme?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: ... As the noble Lord will know, we consult and engage with the devolved Administrations through every part of our considerations on issues such as this.

Viscount Waverley (Crossbench): My Lords, is the Minister aware that Article 3 of the nationality law states that China does not recognise dual nationality, a situation not dissimilar to that of Iran? This seems potentially to conflict with Article 9, whereby Chinese nationals who obtain naturalisation in a foreign country will automatically lose their Chinese citizenship. Is this the case and, if so, what will HMG do to safeguard the interests of those concerned? Is it anticipated that the Chinese will introduce measures to counter the benefits being offered by the UK?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The noble Lord is right: there are countries that do not recognise dual nationality. The individuals concerned will have choices to make. We are quite clear that we will continue to honour the commitment we made to people who have BNO status.

Lord Rosser (Labour): The Written Ministerial Statement does not make clear whether British national (overseas) citizens who enter the UK on the Hong Kong British national (overseas) visa will have recourse to public funds. It simply says: "BN(O) citizens will need to support themselves independently while living in the UK." In some cases, the people of Hong Kong will not be able to bring money with them and could have their bank accounts frozen, so what recourse to public funds will be available to them?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The noble Lord is right that they will not have recourse to public funds. They will have to demonstrate that they can support themselves for the first six months. They can of course, from thereon in, apply for the visa when it comes into place in January.

Lord Thomas of Gresford (Liberal Democrat): My Lords, a week ago I suggested to the noble Lord, Lord Ahmad, that the suspension of extradition arrangements with Hong Kong might cause Britain to become a safe haven for Hong Kong criminals. I am told that extradition requests currently under way involve money laundering and drug offences, but nothing political. What checks for obtaining a visa are envisaged on the criminal records of Hong Kong residents with BNO passports who wish to come to this country? Do the Government expect the Hong Kong authorities to co-operate in providing such a record? Would a criminal conviction arising out of the recent protests in Hong Kong bar a Hong Kong resident with a BNO passport from obtaining a visa?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I shall not guess at the answer to the last question because I simply do not know. The usual checks when obtaining a visa will be made. The noble Lord will know that, from our point of view, the UK's extradition treaty with Hong Kong has been suspended indefinitely until the UK is sufficiently assured that the new NSA established by China in Hong Kong will not be able to initiate extradition requests to the UK and that extradition requests will not be sent in relation to the newly created offences under the national security law.

Lord Empey (UUP): By what authority did the Government unilaterally take a decision that could, in extremis, increase the population of this country by in excess of 3%? Have we learned nothing about the treatment of large-scale immigration measures that have coloured the debate on this matter for so many years?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, I think I explained at the beginning that this offer reflects the unique and unprecedented circumstances in Hong Kong and the UK's historic and moral commitment to BNO citizens. It is outside the normal immigration legislation that we have in place.

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-07-29/debates/4F188A1E-55E5-4271-8CCB-1456182FB887/HongKongBritishNational\(Overseas\)Visa](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-07-29/debates/4F188A1E-55E5-4271-8CCB-1456182FB887/HongKongBritishNational(Overseas)Visa)

The statement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Lords/2020-07-22/HLWS415/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Hong Kong: Immigrants

Lord Green of Deddington (Crossbench) [HL7139] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon on 21 July (HL6842), whether they will now answer the question put, namely, what estimate they have made of (1) the number of holders of British National (Overseas) status in Hong Kong, and (2) their dependants, who are expected to migrate to the UK in the next five years.

Reply from Baroness Sugg: As the Foreign Secretary said on 21 July, we constantly assess the numbers of those expected to take up the bespoke immigration route for British Nationals (Overseas) (BN(O)s) and their dependants. We estimate that there are 2.9 million eligible for BN(O) passports. Of those, there are around 350,000 passport holders. Many of those who may be eligible will want to stay in Hong Kong, or relocate temporarily. The UK will honour its historic and moral responsibilities to BN(O)s.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-22/HL7139/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-14/HL6842/>

The Home Secretary's announcement, referred to above, can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-announces-details-of-the-hong-kong-bno-visa>

Migrant Workers: Social Services

Lord Alton of Liverpool (Crossbench) [HL6655] To ask Her Majesty's Government how they intend to respond to the concerns raised by the Cavendish Coalition, on behalf of UK health and social care groups, that their current immigration proposals would not allow enough overseas workers to be recruited for the care sector; and how they intend to address any shortfall of such workers in the Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Bill.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government recognises the fantastic contribution made by those working in the social care sector and the need for roles in it to offer rewarding career opportunities. The independent Migration Advisory Committee has been very clear immigration is not the answer to the challenges faced in this sector, a view the Government shares.

The Minister for Future Borders and Immigration has met with the Cavendish Coalition to hear their thoughts about future immigration policy. In response he confirmed the Government would not be creating a migration route to allow some employers in the sector to permanently recruit at the legal minimum wage as an alternative to paying more competitive \rewarding salaries to their staff who

undertake such valuable work supporting the most vulnerable.

He also outlined how the groups represented by the Cavendish Coalition should in the first instance seek to engage with the Department for Work & Pensions about how they can work together to encourage more UK based jobseekers into rewarding careers in the Social Care Sector, rather than view immigration as the preferred option for addressing any shortfall in recruitment and as a way to ensure continued recruitment at the legal minimum wage. This is especially relevant when many UK based workers with the ability to make excellent social carer workers are looking for new employment due to the economic impact of Covid-19.

As we implement the new immigration system, we want employers to focus on investing in our domestic work force and offering rewarding packages to Social Care Workers, rather than view immigration as an alternative to doing this. In relation to roles within the sector where specific training is required the new skilled worker route will provide for a broader range of roles, including senior care workers to come to the UK.

The EU Settlement Scheme means all EU and EEA citizens, and their family members, currently working in social care can stay in the UK and we are encouraging them to do so.

The Government is supporting the Social Care sector in several ways, including through launching a national recruitment campaign and providing councils with access to an additional £1.5 billion for adults and children's social care in 2020-21.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-09/HL6655/>

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

Migrant Workers: Social Services

Lord Pendry (Labour) [HL6858] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the impact of their new post-Brexit fast track visa system on the availability of care workers in the UK; and what plans they have to ensure that those care workers currently resident in the UK who would not qualify for a visa under that system can continue to work in this country.

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL6868] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the impact of the new post-Brexit fast track visa system on recruitment in the care sector.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The social care sector is invaluable to our country. Social care workers have shown incredible dedication during this extraordinary time.

We truly value the work they are doing, which is why the Government set out steps in our Action Plan for Adult Social Care to support the workforce, ensuring we have the staff we need and that they feel both supported and valued.

However, the independent Migration Advisory Committee has been very clear that immigration is not the answer to the challenges in this sector. As we implement the new immigration system, we want employers to focus on investing in our domestic work force.

The Government is working with the sector in a number of ways to help support it during this difficult time and going forward, including extra funding and a national recruitment campaign.

Additionally, the EU Settlement Scheme means that all EU and EEA citizens, and their family members, already in the UK, many of them working in social care, can stay in the UK and we are encouraging them to do so.

We will keep labour market data under very careful scrutiny to monitor any pressures in key sectors, especially considering recent events.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-14/HL6858/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-14/HL6868/>

The action plan referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-adult-social-care-action-plan/covid-19-our-action-plan-for-adult-social-care>

The EU Settlement Scheme, referred to above, can be read at

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

Migrant Workers: Social Services

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL7028] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have, if any, to lower the income requirement for those from outside the UK seeking employment in the care sector.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: We very much value the role many who have come to this country play in our health and care sector, but we will not be introducing a general route for employers to seek cheaper labour from abroad. This follows advice from the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC).

The MAC is clear a solution to recruitment issues in social care cannot just be solved via the UK's immigration system. Employers need to invest in technology, innovation and their existing workforce, focusing on making jobs more attractive for UK workers, not just looking to the migration system instead.

The Government is supporting the sector in many ways, including through additional funding and launching a national recruitment campaign.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-20/HL7028/>

Visas: Voluntary Work

Baroness Jones of Moulsecoomb (Green) [HL7157] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the current Tier 5 Visa arrangements for non-EU citizens to be engaged as volunteers by registered sponsoring organisations for periods of up to a year will be extended to include EU citizens; and if not, what plans they have to put in place alternative arrangements to enable non-EU and EU citizens to volunteer in social care settings in the UK after 31 December.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The current Tier 5 charity visa enables people from outside the EU to come to the UK to undertake unpaid charity work. Migrants on this route are also permitted to undertake a second job in the same sector at the same level as their main job for up to 20 hours per week. These arrangements will be extended to EEA citizens as part of the future points-based migration system.

We very much value the role many who have come to this country play in our healthcare sector, but we will not be introducing a general route for employers to seek cheaper labour from abroad, be those employees or volunteers.

The Migration Advisory Committee is clear that a solution to recruitment issues in social care cannot just be solved via the UK's immigration system. Employers need to invest in technology, innovation and their existing workforce, focusing on making jobs more attractive for UK workers, not just looking to the migration system.

The Government is supporting the care sector in different ways, including through additional funding and launching a national recruitment campaign.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-22/HL7157/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Lord Bowness (Conservative) [HL7199] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the provisions of clause 5 of the Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Bill are planned to enable Ministers to make regulations which could result in EU citizens with EU settled status receiving less favourable social security benefits than UK citizens.

Reply from Baroness Stedman-Scott: The Withdrawal Agreement protects the rights of EU citizens living in the UK and UK nationals living in the EU by the end of the transition period.

The Government has been clear that changes made by regulations under Clause 5 of the Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination Bill cannot be used to remove rights guaranteed under the Withdrawal Agreement.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-23/HL7199/>

Undocumented Migrants: English Channel

Lord Marlesford (Conservative) [HL7235] To ask Her Majesty's Government under what circumstances migrants seeking to travel by sea from France to the UK who are picked up in distress from international waters by UK ships can be returned to France.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The decision as to where to take a person rescued in international waters is a matter for the Coastguard who are responsible for that rescue zone and the master of the ship which has picked them up.

Usually persons will be taken to the nearest safe Port or the home Ports of the rescuing vessel (particularly if a Lifeboat) but there are many factors which could come into play such as any immediate medical or welfare issues.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-23/HL7235/>

The following three questions all received the same answer

Refugees: Children

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL6847] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to ensure that child refugees in (1) Greece, (2) France, and (3) other European countries, who have relatives in the UK can reunite with their families in the UK.

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL6848] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans, if any, they have to offer unaccompanied child refugees currently in (1) Greece, (2) France, and (3) other European countries, the option to live in the UK.

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL6849] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of (1) the number of child refugees attempting illegal crossings to the UK from mainland Europe, and (2) the impact that providing safe and legal routes would have on this number.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: This Government is committed to the principle of family reunion and to supporting vulnerable children. The UK will continue to be bound by the Dublin Regulation provisions during the transition period, allowing us to continue to transfer family reunion cases to the UK throughout 2020, and we will continue to process all family reunion requests that have been submitted but not completed under Dublin before the end of the transition period.

The UK has presented a genuine and sincere offer to the EU on a future reciprocal arrangement for the family reunion of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children together with a draft legal text.

Protecting vulnerable children remains a key priority for the Government. In 2019 alone, the UK received more asylum applications from unaccompanied children than any country in the EU and accounted for approximately 20% of all reported asylum claims from unaccompanied children in the UK and the 27 EU Member States.

In 2016, the UK committed to a one-off relocation of 480 unaccompanied children from France, Greece and Italy to the UK under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016. On the 21st May we announced that 478 children had transferred under the scheme. The UK welcomes the pledges made by other countries to support Greece and stand ready to offer advice and guidance to those developing their own schemes.

The UK provides a safe and legal route to bring families of refugees together through its refugee family reunion policy. This route will not be affected when we leave the EU. In the year ending March 2020, over 7,400 Refugee Family Reunion visas were issued to partners and children of those previously granted asylum or humanitarian protection in the UK.

Additionally, Appendix FM to the Immigration Rules provides for family members wishing to enter or remain in the UK on the basis of their relationship with a family member who is a British citizen or settled in the UK, and those who are post-flight family of a person granted protection in the UK.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-14/HL6847/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-14/HL6848/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-14/HL6849/>

Asylum: Housing

Lord Beecham (Labour) [HL7075] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking in response to the £3.1 million in service credits charged to Mears Group between September 2019 and January 2020 for poor performance in its contract to provide accommodation to asylum seekers.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: We expect the highest standards from our providers and accommodation provided must be safe, habitable, fit for purpose and it is required to comply with the Decent Homes Standard in addition to standards outlined in relevant national or local housing legislation.

The AASC contracts have robust performance management system to which Providers are expected to deliver; where performance falls short of the required standard for each of the individual KPIs the failures are recorded and can result in the award of Points; which can result in a Service Credits being applied.

Mears performance is monitored closely with dedicated staff in each contract area who are in contact with the Provider on a daily basis. This is supplemented by a formal governance process which includes quarterly Strategic Review Management Boards and monthly Contract Management Groups. Service credits and subsequent improvement plans are discussed and monitored as part of this process.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-21/HL7075/>

Asylum: Children

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL6850] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans, if

any, they have to introduce a system of independent legal guardianship of unaccompanied migrant children in England and Wales similar to that which exists in Scotland and Northern Ireland; and what assessment, if any, they have made of the impact the introduction of such provisions would have on the system of independent advocates.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: This Government takes its responsibility for the welfare of migrant children very seriously and has stringent safeguards in place.

Local authorities are responsible for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all unaccompanied migrant children in their area. Unaccompanied migrant children looked after by local authorities are entitled to the same services as any other looked after child. Under these arrangements, they are assessed with regard to their individual needs and provided with access to education, accommodation and health services. They will be assigned a social worker; an independent reviewing officer responsible for overseeing their care arrangements; an independent advocate responsible for accurately representing the child's wishes and feelings; and, in many cases, they will also benefit from support from a foster carer.

In addition, unaccompanied asylum-seeking children can access legal advice from qualified legal representatives and, in England, independent advice and assistance on the asylum process and in their interactions with government agencies, is available from the Refugee Council's Children's Advice Project.

We are confident that these comprehensive arrangements ensure unaccompanied children are provided with the support and advice that they need. Consequently, the Government has no plans at present to introduce a system of independent legal guardianship for all unaccompanied migrant children in England and Wales.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-14/HL6850/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Human Trafficking: Children

Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative) [HL6778] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 10 March (HL1877), when the next evaluation of the Independent Child Trafficking Guardians will be published.

Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative) [HL6780] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many children have been referred to Independent Child Trafficking Guardians since 1 February 2019.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: An evaluation of the Independent Child Trafficking Guardians (ICTG) service within the early adopter sites was published in July 2019 and can be found here

(https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/819723/evaluation-independent-child-trafficking-guardians-final-horr111.pdf).

This evaluation was conducted on the service provided in the three initial sites of Greater Manchester, Hampshire and Wales between February 2017 and January 2019. Over this time period, 445 children were referred to the ICTG service.

Later this year the Home Office will publish its next evaluation of the ICTG service, which will have a particular focus on the role and impact of the Regional Practice Co-Ordinator and will provide further updates on outcomes of the service including the number of children it supports.

In 2019, the Independent Review of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, made a number of recommendations about ICTGs. In-line with the Government's response

(https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/815410/Government_Response_to_Independent_Review_of_MS_Act.pdf)

We are considering these recommendations, alongside evaluation outcomes, which will feed into our future plans for ICTGs.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-13/HL6778/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-13/HL6780/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-02-25/HL1877/>

Human Trafficking: Children

Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative) [HL6779] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 11 March (HL1941), how much money has been allocated to fund Independent Child Trafficking Guardians for this (1) financial year, and (2) the next two financial years.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Last year, the Government successfully rolled out Independent Child Trafficking Guardians (ICTGs) to one third of local authorities in England and Wales.

The continued national roll-out of ICTGs will be progressed as part of the recently established NRM Transformation Programme, which is designed to make sure we have a system that effectively identifies and delivers needs-based support for child and adult victims of modern slavery, is legally robust, sustainable and resilient to misuse. We will continue to review how the needs of individual children are best met at local level through the programme.

This financial year, the Home Office has allocated approximately £1.6m to the provision of Independent Child Trafficking Guardians (ICTGs) in the existing six early adopter sites. Home Office budget allocations for 2021/22 and 2022/23 will be determined in the next Spending Review.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-13/HL6779/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-02-26/HL1941/>

Human Trafficking

Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative) [HL6781] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 11 March (HL1946), whether they will now answer the question put, namely how many (1) non-EEA, and (2) non-UK national victims of trafficking with a positive conclusive grounds decision have received support following a recovery needs assessment.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The information requested on RNA data does not currently form part of the published NRM statistics. The Home Office publishes quarterly statistics regarding the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) which can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-referral-mechanism-statistics>.

The UK Annual Report on Modern Slavery can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2019-uk-annual-report-on-modern-slavery>.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-13/HL6781/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

Human Trafficking: Victim Support Schemes

Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative) [HL6782] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have (1) to update the guidance on the recovery needs assessments, and (2) to publish an evaluation of the first nine months of the recovery needs assessment.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: This Government is committed to providing victims with the support that they need to help re-build their lives.

Since the roll-out of the Recovery Needs Assessment (RNA) in September 2019, we have worked collaboratively with The Salvation Army (TSA), TSA's subcontracted support providers and wider stakeholders to implement this new process and gather wider feedback from frontline staff on aspects of the published guidance.

An updated version of the guidance will be published later in 2020, alongside the introduction of a restructured RNA form which will be amended to reflect feedback from support workers using the form on the front line..

The 2020 Modern Slavery Annual Report, due for publication in October 2020, will include further information about the roll-out of the RNA over the past year.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-13/HL6782/>

Human Trafficking: Victims

Lord McColl of Dulwich (Conservative) [HL6783] To ask Her Majesty's Government what estimate they have made of the number of victims of human trafficking that have lost Government support and assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Support provided to victims of modern slavery through the Victim Care Contract (VCC) is available to potential and confirmed victims for as long as they have an identified recovery need that cannot be met by alternative services.

A confirmed victim will only be exited from Victim Care Contract (VCC) support where the Recovery Needs Assessment (RNA) process finds that there is no longer an ongoing recovery need for VCC support or that the confirmed victim has access to alternative support services to meet their recovery needs, such as local authority housing or mainstream benefits. This process ensures that ongoing support is tailored to the victim's individual recovery needs arising from their modern slavery experiences.

Contingency planning has, and continues to, ensure essential services and support for all victims of modern slavery is available throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and as lockdown begins to ease. Through the RNA process, we also consider the impact the pandemic is having on access to alternative services which may impact on a victim's ability to move on from VCC services.

On 6 April, in line with Public Health England guidance, we announced that all individuals accommodated by the VCC would not be required to move on from their Government-funded accommodation for a period of three months. This has now been extended and the policy will remain in place until 6 August 2020.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-13/HL6783/>

Press Releases

Updated Guidance: Coronavirus (COVID-19): advice for UK visa applicants and temporary UK residents

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-for-uk-visa-applicants-and-temporary-uk-residents>

Action needed to protect against Covid-19 second wave infection risk in asylum accommodation

<https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/83/home-affairs-committee/news/147622/action-needed-to-protect-against-covid19-second-wave-infection-risk-in-asylum-accommodation/>

Home Secretary appoints small boat commander

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-appoints-small-boat-commander>

Eleven arrested linked with illegally facilitating Channel crossings

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/eleven-arrested-linked-with-illegally-facilitating-channel-crossings>

Two charged in small boat people smuggling investigation

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/two-charged-in-small-boat-people-smuggling-investigation>

New Publications

Home Office preparedness for COVID-19 (Coronavirus): institutional accommodation

<https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/2171/documents/20132/default/>

Updated Guidance: Coronavirus (COVID-19): advice for Tier 2, 4 and 5 sponsors

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-for-tier-2-4-and-5-sponsors>

Windrush Compensation Scheme data: July 2020

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/904961/Windrush_Compensation_Scheme_Q2_2020.ods

News: Channel Migrants

MPs launch inquiry into increase in Channel migrant crossings

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-53685918>

MPs to investigate surge in migrants crossing Channel in small boats

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/aug/06/mps-investigate-surge-migrants-channel-small-boats>

Ministers demand French get tough on Channel migrants

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2020/08/07/ministers-demand-french-get-tough-channel-migrants/>

We intend to return as many illegal migrants who have arrived as possible

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2020/08/07/intend-return-many-illegal-migrants-have-arrived-possible/>

Home Office seeks military help over migrant crossings

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-53704809>

MoD considering request to deploy navy to stop Channel migrants

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/aug/08/alarm-fingerprinting-custody-channel-migrants-uk>

Migrant boats may be blocked in Channel

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/migrant-boats-to-be-pushed-back-before-they-reach-british-waters-v69c9dk9f>

Migrants at risk of drowning if Priti Patel sends Navy warships to Channel, warns ex-home secretary

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/migrant-channel-crossings-france-navy-priti-patel-home-secretary-a9660846.html>

UK plan to use navy to stop migrant crossings is unlawful, lawyers warn

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/aug/07/uk-plan-to-use-navy-to-stop-migrant-crossings-is-unlawful-lawyers-warn>

'Inappropriate and disproportionate': Priti Patel suggestion to use navy to combat migrant crossings attacked by MoD

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/priti-patel-migrants-channel-royal-navy-record-a9659346.html>

Navy could be asked to stem flow of migrants after record number cross Channel in one day

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/08/06/migrant-crossings-investigated-mps-100-cross-channel/>

Sending in the navy to tackle migrants is a 'potty' idea, Ministry of Defence source says

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/sending-in-the-navy-to-tackle-migrants-is-a-potty-idea-ministry-of-defence-source-says-0svwpfz2r>

Analysis shows 7,500 illegal Channel migrants could reach UK by Christmas

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/08/07/7500-illegal-channel-migrants-could-reach-uk-christmas-ministers/>

At least 151 migrants land on Kent beaches

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-kent-53707524>

Channel migrants: 235 people in 17 vessels stopped in one day

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-53678928>

Record migrant numbers cross English Channel in small boats

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-53600477>

English Channel Migrants: Calls for Royal Navy patrols as new record set for migrant crossings

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/english-channel-migrants-calls-royal-navy-patrols-new-record-set-migrant-crossings-2935521>

Record 202 migrants reach the UK after crossing the Channel

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/07/31/record-202-migrants-reach-uk-crossing-channel/>

120 Channel migrants intercepted as Priti Patel plans tougher asylum rules

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/120-channel-migrants-intercepted-as-priti-patel-plans-tougher-asylum-rules-gptsw3cvq>

UK border: 13 boats carrying over 130 migrants intercepted on English Channel

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/uk-border-migrant-boat-english-channel-immigration-home-office-a9660566.html>

Dozens of migrants in small boats head for UK one day after record Channel crossing numbers

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/migrants-channel-cross-france-uk-dover-kent-border-force-a9649006.html>

Border Force picks up 277 migrants in the Channel

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/border-force-picks-up-277-migrants-in-the-channel-06zzkligk>

Footage of migrants crossing the English Channel

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-england-kent-53600871>

Migrants make dash for UK as smugglers warn door is closing

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/migrants-make-dash-for-uk-as-smugglers-warn-door-is-closing-6nxfwpdwz>

Channel crossings: more safe and legal routes required urgently

<https://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/channel-crossings-more-safe-and-legal-routes-required-urgently/>

Migrants pictured drying on Kent bench after dumping their stolen dinghy

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/07/30/migrants-pictured-drying-kent-bench-dumping-stolen-dinghy/>

Ex-Border Force chief warns migrant Channel crisis could repeat 2,000-a-night attempts of two decades ago

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/08/01/ex-border-force-chief-warns-migrant-channel-crisis-could-repeat/>

Five migrant children rescued in Channel as number of UK arrivals soars

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jul/30/five-migrant-children-rescued-in-channel-as-number-of-uk-arrivals-soars>

Latest migrant arrivals take this year's total to twice that of 2019

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/latest-migrant-arrivals-take-this-years-total-to-twice-that-of-2019-xkbv76tkp>

Illegal migrants are being offered passage across the Channel in small boats for as little as £500, reveals National Crime Agency

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/08/04/illegal-migrants-offered-passage-across-channel-small-boats/>

Refugees tell of brutality as people-smuggling across Channel booms

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/aug/06/refugees-tell-of-brutality-as-people-smuggling-across-channel-booms>

'He held a gun to my head': savage stories of Channel people-smuggling

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/aug/06/he-held-a-gun-to-my-head-surviving-the-brutal-tactics-of-the-traffickers>

Good Morning Britain presenter explains why he didn't help migrants crossing Channel in plastic boat

<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/tv/news/good-morning-britain-channel-boat-migrants-jonathan-swain-a9656821.html>

News: Other Immigration and Asylum

Home Office drops 'racist' algorithm from visa decisions

<https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-53650758>

Home Office to scrap 'racist algorithm' for UK visa applicants

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/aug/04/home-office-to-scrap-racist-algorithm-for-uk-visa-applicants>

Home Office agrees to scrap 'racist' visa application algorithm

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-visa-application-algorithm-racist-a9654016.html>

Home Office to drop 'racist' visa approval algorithm

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/2020/08/04/home-office-drop-racist-algorithm-used-visa-approval-system/>

Coronavirus: Safety fears over lack of translated virus advice

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-53537062>

MPs urge Home Office to grant refugee status to all Uighurs arriving in UK

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/aug/07/mps-urge-home-office-to-grant-refugee-status-to-all-uighurs-arriving-in-uk>

Record number of unaccompanied children reach UK

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-53697517>

Home Office restarts deportation of asylum seekers despite coronavirus fears

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/home-office-asylum-seekers-deportation-coronavirus-a9657761.html>

Refugee status should be an opportunity to rebuild a shattered life – not to face destitution

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/refugee-home-office-uk-asylum-seekers-universal-credit-housing-a9652056.html>

'Completely dehumanising': Nigel Farage describes group of children and adults landing in Kent as 'invasion'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/nigel-farage-kent-beach-invasion-video-anti-migrant-immigration-a9658246.html>

The luxury living I saw migrants getting on arrival shows the scale of the scandal
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2020/07/31/luxury-living-saw-migrants-getting-arrival-shows-scale-scandal/>

What is the true story behind Nigel Farage's claim that 'illegal' immigrants are staying in hotels?
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/nigel-farage-illegal-immigrants-hotels-worcestershire-a9648746.html>

Coronavirus: Asylum seeker 'went without food' in lockdown
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-53568465>

Action needed to protect people in hotels and asylum accommodation during pandemic
<https://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/action-needed-to-protect-people-in-hotels-and-asylum-accommodation-during-pandemic/>

Hundreds of Glasgow asylum seekers still in 'untenable' hotel accommodation
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jul/26/hundreds-glasgow-asylum-seekers-untenable-hotel-accommodation>

Rise in self-harm incidents at immigration detention centres criticised
<https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/uk/rise-in-self-harm-incidents-at-immigration-detention-centres-criticised-39379513.html>

The refugee and migrant crisis is getting worse. Our approach has to change if we want everyone to thrive
<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/migrant-crisis-boats-population-ageing-economy-demographics-brexite-a9642266.html>

Europe treats undocumented children with less care than livestock
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/commentisfree/2020/aug/07/europe-undocumented-children-young-people-europe-border-migration-policies>

Allowing asylum seekers to work could raise £100m in tax revenues, report finds
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/news/asylum-seekers-working-ban-tax-report-a9643701.html>

Don't celebrate falling immigration — it's a sign of economic weakness
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/dont-celebrate-falling-immigration-its-a-sign-of-economic-weakness-mpcz853kj>

TOP

Community Relations

New Publications

Islam and Muslims on UK University Campuses: perceptions and challenges
<https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/transformation/limits-inclusivity-islamophobia-higher-education/>

Opinion Poll: British Muslim Attitudes

<https://comresglobal.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Final-Henry-Jackson-Society-Muslims-on-Antisemitism-Tables-040820.pdf>

Beyond Banglatown Continuity, change and new urban economies in Brick Lane

<https://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/publications/pdfs/RunnymedeBanglatownReport.pdf>

News

Integration could reduce tensions between Muslim and Jewish communities, study shows

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/08/03/integration-could-reduce-tensions-muslim-jewish-communities/>

TOP

Equality

Scottish Parliament Written Answer

Police Scotland

S5W-30662 Linda Fabiani (SNP): To ask the Scottish Government what percentage of (a) Police Scotland officers and (b) Scottish Police Authority staff are from ethnic minority groups, broken down by rank and grade respectively.

Reply from Humza Yousaf: The Scottish Government does not collect data on the ethnicity of Police Officers, Police Staff or Scottish Police Authority (SPA) staff. This is a matter for Police Scotland and the SPA.

Both Police Scotland and the SPA publish equality and diversity mainstreaming reports and these can be found at the links below:

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/assets/pdf/138327/243045/mainstreaming-report-2017-2019?view=Standard>

<http://www.spa.police.uk/assets/128635/397026/551770>

The Scottish Government supports Police Scotland and the SPA in their recognition that they need to have workforces that are valued, respected and more reflective of the communities they serve.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-30662>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Ethnic Groups: Equality

Naz Shah (Labour) [71078] To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities, what recommendations (a) the Government has adopted and (b) are outstanding from the 2017 Equality and Human Rights Commission's report entitled A roadmap to race equality.

Reply from Kemi Badenoch: The recommendations of the 2017 Equality and Human Rights Commission's report refer to action in the areas of employment, education, house, health and criminal justice. That same year the Government launched The Race Disparity Audit (RDA) to drive change by publishing authoritative data and analysis about the variances in treatment or outcome affecting people of different ethnicities in those areas and others.

Since October 2017, the Government has used RDU data and analysis to support

and launch a number of initiatives including:

- Department of Health and Social Care's independent review of mental health legislation and practice to tackle the issue of mental health detention.
- New powers for the Office for Students to hold Universities to account for how well their students do; and independent university league tables agreed to highlight progress made on reducing student disparities. The Sunday Times Good University Guide is now including ethnic minority attainment gaps as part of theirs.
- The allocation of £90m of dormant assets to the creation of a new, independent organisation - Youth Futures Foundation (YFF). YFF aims to overcome the barriers to training and employment opportunities that young people from an ethnic minority background experience.
- Established a new Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities to examine all aspects of continuing racial and ethnic inequalities in Britain. It will build on the work of the Race Disparity Unit. The Commission will carry out a deeper examination of what the causes of these disparities are, and seek to establish what works to address them effectively.
- Implemented 16 recommendations from the Lammy Review, to improve the treatment and outcomes of BAME people in the criminal justice system, and have committed to enacting a further 17.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-08/71078/>

The report referred to above can be read at

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/race-strategy-roadmap-to-race-equality.pdf>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Equality: Ethnic Groups and Gender

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL7186] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made, if any, of the recent Higher Education Statistics Agency statistics which suggest that gender and race inequalities are established immediately after university graduation.

Reply from Baroness Berridge: It is disappointing to see the disparities shown in the HESA Graduate Outcome Data publication, but it highlights why collecting this information is so important. To tackle these gaps the Government is focused on ensuring equality of opportunity exists for everyone.

To help us do this the Government has established an independent Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities, which will examine ethnic inequalities across the whole population in the UK, and report by the end of this year.

To tackle income and employment disparities we are ensuring more women are equipped to enter STEM careers, where some jobs have higher than average wages, and we are encouraging flexible working, so parents are not held back. The Government is also doubling the number of front line staff at job centres, providing an extra £32m to recruit extra careers advisers and providing £17m for work academies in England to help make sure those looking for employment are offered the support they need to fulfil their potential.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-22/HL7186/>

Criminal Proceedings: Ethnic Groups

Baroness Whitaker (Labour) [HL7036] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the reply by Lord Keen of Elie on 15 July (HL Deb, cols 1659–61), how the situation of Black and other minority ethnic defendants, including those from Gypsy, Traveller and Roma communities, will be taken into account in (1) the membership, and (2) the terms of reference, of the Royal Commission on criminal justice.

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: The Government is committed to a justice system that is fair, open and accessible to all.

In defining the terms of reference and membership of the Royal Commission, we are taking into account the need for the Commission to understand effectively the experiences of all those that engage with the criminal justice system. This will of course need to include taking account issues of race and the experiences of Black and other minority ethnic people, including those from Gypsy, Traveller and Roma communities.

Further details will be announced in due course.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-20/HL7036/>

The reply referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2020-07-15/debates/9174B853-0E3D-4724-8286-CE27E3D6F0F8/RoyalCommissionOnCriminalJustice>

Film: Ethnic Groups

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL6909] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the report by Clive James Race and ethnicity in the UK film industry: an analysis of the BFI diversity standards, published on 15 July.

Reply from Baroness Barran: The Government's aim is to see a UK cultural and creative sector that is strong, vibrant and inclusive, which can only be achieved through a diverse and representative workforce. We recognise there is still much to be done to improve diversity and inclusion across both the film and wider creative industries workforce and are working with industry - including the BFI and Creative Industries Council - on a range of measures to ensure the sector better reflects the diversity of the UK.

Whilst DCMS has made no assessment of Dr Nwonka's report, the Diversity Standards are an important part of the BFI's work, and as an arm's-length body of DCMS, the department works closely with them to ensure that they are as effective as possible in driving change.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-15/HL6909/>

The report referred to above can be read at

<https://www.bfi.org.uk/sites/bfi.org.uk/files/downloads/bf-report-race-and-ethnicity-in-the-uk-film-industry-2020-07-15.pdf>

New Publication

Civil society organisations and international human rights

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/civil-society-organisations-and-international-human-rights.pdf>

News

Coronavirus: Bame communities could be disproportionately hit by economic fallout of pandemic, Doreen Lawrence warns

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/coronavirus-bame-economy-covid-baroness-doreen-lawrence-a9659656.html>

Met Police 'four times more likely' to use force on black people

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-london-53407560>

Police in England and Wales 'twice as likely' to fine young BAME men during lockdown

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jul/27/police-in-england-and-wales-twice-as-likely-to-fine-young-bame-men-during-lockdown>

Met uses software that can be deployed to see if ethnic groups 'specialise' in areas of crime

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jul/27/met-police-use-software-ethnic-groups-specialise-profile>

Youth Justice Board chair aims to tackle racial disparities in criminal justice system in England and Wales

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jul/27/youth-justice-board-chair-aims-to-tackle-racial-disparities-in-criminal-justice-system-in-england-and-wales>

BAME representation at the bar

<https://ukhumanrightsblog.com/2020/08/05/bame-representation-at-the-bar/>

Sharp drop in BAME leaders in English FE colleges spurs call for action

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2020/aug/06/sharp-drop-in-bame-leaders-in-englands-fe-colleges-spurs-call-for-action>

The assistant headteachers aiming to increase BAME representation

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/education-53559906/the-assistant-headteachers-aiming-to-increase-bame-representation>

Proportion of black school leavers going to university in England falls

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2020/jul/30/proportion-of-black-school-leavers-going-to-university-in-england-falls>

Black pupils face trebled exclusion rate in some areas of England

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-53516009>

'Tone-deaf' ministers reject BAME review of English curriculum

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2020/jul/30/exclusive-tone-deaf-ministers-reject-bame-review-of-english-curriculum>

TOP

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Police: Racial Discrimination

Sarah Olney (Liberal Democrat) [56104] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will launch an inquiry into racism within the police force.

Reply from Kit Malthouse: Racism, in any form, is abhorrent and has no place in our society.

In this country, the power of the police to fulfil their duties is wholly dependent on their ability to secure public support for their actions and behaviour and to maintain public respect. Police forces that reflect the communities they serve are crucial to tackling crime and maintaining public trust and confidence in a modern diverse society. The police have worked hard to improve equality and diversity in policing - the workforce is more diverse than ever before, but there is still much more to be done.

We continue to work with the College of Policing to support forces in their efforts to address under-representation in the recruitment, retention and progression of officers, including those from BAME backgrounds. Our drive to recruit 20,000 officers over the next three years gives us a significant opportunity to attract a wide range of people into a career in policing and support the police to achieve this aim. We have also ensured that there is greater transparency and accountability in many areas of policing and continue the drive for improvements. If there is a death or serious injury following contact with the police, or if there are allegations of racially aggravated misconduct, these matters must be referred to the independent police "watchdog", the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC). In February of this year, the Government implemented reforms to provide the IOPC with a power to investigate serious police conduct matters on its own initiative.

However, we know that we cannot be complacent and we continue to work across policing to ensure that those we trust to protect us meet the high standards of professional conduct expected by the public.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-06-08/56104/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Police: Training

Baroness Greengross (Crossbench) [HL6969] To ask Her Majesty's Government what discussions they have had with police forces in England and Wales about ensuring that all police officers undertake unconscious bias training.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The public rightly expect police officers to meet high standards of professional conduct. In this country, the power of the police to fulfil their duties is wholly dependent on public approval of their existence, actions and behaviour and on their ability to secure and maintain this public respect.

The College of Policing, which sets and maintains training standards for policing, published the Code of Ethics in 2014. This includes a set of principles for policing, including that all officers and staff should take active steps to oppose discrimination and make their decisions free from prejudice. This is a cornerstone of police training and development.

The College of Policing's foundation training for all those entering the service includes substantial coverage of police ethics and self-understanding, including the

effects of personal conscious and unconscious bias. Initial training covers hate crimes, ethics and equalities, and policing without bias.

Forces also provide local training and development at several different levels ranging from initial entry, leadership and ongoing development to reflect and reinforce organisational values.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-17/HL6969/>

The Code of Ethics referred to above can be read at

https://www.college.police.uk/What-we-do/Ethics/Ethics-home/Documents/Code_of_Ethics.pdf

Hate Crime and Theft: Prosecutions

Lord Pearson of Rannoch (Non-affiliated) [HL6904] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many (1) hate incidents, and (2) cases of burglary and theft, have been recorded by the police in each of the last five years; and how many of the cases of burglary and theft have resulted in a successful prosecution.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Home Office routinely publishes data on the number of hate crimes burglary and theft offences recorded by the police in England and Wales.

This is published as part of the 'Police recorded crime and outcomes open data tables', which can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-recorded-crime-open-data-tables>

The Ministry of Justice is responsible for prosecutions data and publishes information on the number of prosecutions, and the number of these which resulted in a conviction by offence types, including theft and burglary. These can be found here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/888344/HO-code-tool-principal-offence-2019.xlsx

Information on the number of hate crimes that have been prosecuted are published by the Crown Prosecution Service and can be found here:

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/cps/publication/hate-crime-data>

[PPRC user guide](#)

[HO code tool principal offence 2019](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-15/HL6904/>

Local Education Authorities and Schools: Racial Discrimination

Lord Lucas (Conservative) [HL6777] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to ensure that schools and local education authorities have available to them best-practice guides on (1) race issues, and (2) the Black Lives Matter campaign, so that they do not have to rely on advice from third parties; and what assessment they have made of reports of pressure groups with divisive philosophies seeking to provide schools with educational materials on these subjects.

Reply from Baroness Berridge: The Department for Education is committed to an inclusive education system which recognises and embraces diversity, and supports all pupils and students to tackle racism and have the knowledge and tools to do so. We want to support all young people to be happy, healthy and safe. We also want to equip them for adult life and to make a positive contribution to society. That is why we are making Relationships Education compulsory for primary school-age pupils, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) compulsory for secondary school-age pupils and Health Education compulsory for pupils in all state-funded schools, from September 2020.

The statutory guidance sets out that as part of Relationships Educations, all primary-

aged pupils will be taught the importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them, or make different choices or have different preferences or beliefs. Pupils will also be taught what a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive. As with other aspects of the curriculum, schools will have flexibility over how they deliver these subjects, so they can develop an integrated approach that is sensitive to the needs and background of their pupils. The statutory guidance can be accessed via the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>.

The statutory guidance sets out clear advice on choosing resources. Schools should assess each resource they intend to use to ensure that it is appropriate for the age and maturity of pupils, and sensitive to their needs. These resources must be factually accurate. We also expect schools to consult with parents on these matters and to make reasonable decisions about the content of their curriculum. Schools should also ensure that, when they engage parents, they provide examples of the resources they plan to use, for example the books or materials they will use in lessons.

In Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education and Citizenship Education, pupils can develop their understanding of the diverse national, regional, religious and ethnic identities in the United Kingdom and the need for mutual respect and understanding.

Schools are required to actively promote fundamental British values, including democracy as well as the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faith and beliefs. The Department for Education has published advice for schools on promoting these values, and has made resources available through the 'Educate Against Hate' website. This website provides teachers, school leaders and parents with the information, guidance and support they need to challenge radical and discriminatory beliefs. Schools should also be aware of duties regarding impartiality and balanced treatment of political issues in the classroom to ensure content is handled in an appropriate way.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-13/HL6777/>

Social Media: Regulation

Baroness Kennedy of Cradley (Non-affiliated) [HL7371] To ask Her Majesty's Government what discussions they have had with (1) Google, (2) Twitter, (3) Facebook, and (4) other social media sites, about (a) the action, and (b) the time, those companies take to remove (i) racist, (ii) anti-Semitic, (iii) abusive, (iv) criminal, and (v) illegal, content online.

Reply from Baroness Barran: Ministers and officials have regular meetings and discussions with social media platforms such as Google, Twitter and Facebook on a range of issues, including hate speech, abusive and illegal online content. Details of Ministerial meetings are published quarterly on the Gov.uk website.

We are aiming to publish the full government response to the Online Harms White Paper consultation later this year which will outline the detailed proposals for keeping users safe online. We will continue to engage with industry representatives as we finalise proposals and move towards legislation.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-27/HL7371/>

Roma Holocaust Memorial Day

Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth (Conservative) [HL6994] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to mark Roma Holocaust Memorial Day on 2 August.

Reply from Lord Greenhalgh: Every year we honour the memory of the Roma and Sinti population murdered by the Nazis at the annual Holocaust Memorial Day commemorations on 27 January. The 2nd of August marks the liquidation of the Gypsy Family camp' at Auschwitz-Birkenau and this year due to the restrictions on gatherings brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic we will be honouring the memory of the Roma and Sinti men, women and children murdered by the Nazi's on social media.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-20/HL6994/>

Press Releases

Antisemitic Incidents Report January-June 2020

<https://cst.org.uk/news/blog/2020/07/30/antisemitic-incidents-report-january-june-2020>

Secretary General honours Roma Holocaust victims

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/secretary-general-honours-roma-holocaust-victims>

OSCE/ODIHR calls for remembrance of and education about Roma genocide as key to avoiding recurrence of past atrocities

<https://www.osce.org/odihr/458635>

Roma Holocaust remembrance has lessons for Europe today

<https://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2020/roma-holocaust-remembrance-has-lessons-europe-today>

New Publication

Antisemitic Incidents Report January-June 2020

<https://cst.org.uk/public/data/file/c/5/Incidents%20Report%20Jan-Jun%202020.pdf>

News: Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Bill

SNP MPs 'voted against Westminster hate crime wording' amid calls to overhaul Holyrood proposals

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18623527.snp-mps-voted-westminster-hate-crime-wording-amid-calls-overhaul-holyrood-proposals/>

The problem with Scotland's Hate Crime Bill – Murdo Fraser MSP

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/opinion/columnists/problem-scotlands-hate-crime-bill-murdo-fraser-msp-2926770>

New Scottish hate crime laws 'could devastate legitimacy of police'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-53567229>

Police union warns SNP's hate crime Bill will 'paralyse freedom of speech'

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18612640.police-union-warns-snp-hate-crime-bill-will-paralyse-freedom-speech/>

Rank and file police body warns of 'dangers' of proposed hate crime law

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/crime/rank-and-file-police-body-warns-dangers-proposed-hate-crime-law-2926072>

Scotland's police officers warn SNP hate crime bill could criminalise private conversation

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2020/07/28/scotlands-police-officers-warn-snp-hate-crime-bill-could-criminalise/>

Lawyers warn of 'chilling effect' on debate in hate crime law proposals

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/lawyers-warn-of-chilling-effect-on-debate-in-hate-crime-law-proposals-5zttdt5rt>

Catholic Church fears Bible could fall foul of new hate crime legislation

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18614349.catholic-church-fears-bible-fall-foul-hate-crime-legislation/>

Bishops fear owning a Bible could be hate crime offence under new Scots law

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/bishops-fear-owning-bible-could-be-hate-crime-offence-under-new-scots-law-2927927>

Scotland's Catholic bishops warn Bible could fall foul of SNP hate crime law

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2020/07/29/scotlands-catholic-bishops-warn-bible-could-fall-foul-snp-hate/>

Alexander McCall Smith: The risk to authors under new Scottish hate crime law

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/opinion/columnists/alexander-mccall-smith-risk-authors-under-new-scottish-hate-crime-law-2932699>

Comedy at Edinburgh Fringe 'could fall foul of new hate crime legislation'

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18631138.comedy-edinburgh-fringe-could-fall-foul-new-hate-crime-legislation/>

Scottish Government's illiberal hate crime bill must be sent to the knackers yard

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18622850.scottish-governments-illiberal-hate-crime-bill-must-sent-knackers-yard/>

Hate speech law puts fundamental freedoms at risk

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/hate-speech-law-puts-fundamental-freedoms-at-risk-87665rqn2>

Consultation on Scottish hate crime bill 'a sham'

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/consultation-on-scottish-hate-crime-bill-a-sham-0m6xssplt>

News: Antisemitism on Social Media

Huddersfield MP apologises for alleged anti-Semitic tweet

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-leeds-53628761>

Boris Johnson criticises Wiley's antisemitic comments as 'abhorrent' and condemns Twitter's response

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/boris-johnson-wiley-antisemitism-twitter-response-jewish-community-a9640146.html>

Twitter and Instagram must explain why rapper's "abhorrent" anti-Semitic posts were left up for so long, says Priti Patel

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/07/26/twitter-instagram-must-explain-rappers-abhorrent-anti-semitic/>

Twitter's failure to pull rapper Wiley's anti-Semitic rant 'amounts to complicity', says Chief Rabbi

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/07/27/twitters-failure-pull-rapper-wileys-anti-semitic-rant-amounts/>

Inaction makes you complicit, Chief Rabbi tells social media giants

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/inaction-makes-you-complicit-chief-rabbi-tells-social-media-giants-q8wl8rqt2>

Wiley's MBE is under review after antisemitic rant, Cabinet Office confirms

<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/music/news/wiley-antisemitism-rant-twitter-mbe-cabinet-office-a9657411.html>

Emma Barnett: Why Wiley's anti-Semitic tweets 'burn deep'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-53559160/emma-barnett-why-wiley-s-anti-semitic-tweets-burn-deep>

BBC radio host Emma Barnett issues powerful condemnation of Wiley antisemitism: 'Those words burn'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/music/news/wiley-antisemitism-twitter-bbc-radio-dj-emma-barnett-a9640246.html>

Twitter boycott: why politicians and celebrities are taking part in a 48-hour social media walkout following Wiley's antisemitic tweets

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/crime/twitter-boycott-why-politicians-and-celebrities-are-taking-part-48-hour-social-media-walkout-following-wileys-antisemitic-tweets-2925108>

It will take more than a boycott to fix Twitter's anti-Semitism blindspot

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/07/29/will-take-boycott-fix-twitters-anti-semitism-blindspot/>

Facebook left up Wiley's anti-Semitic posts for 12 hours as he baited Jewish personalities

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/07/28/facebook-leaves-wileys-anti-semitic-posts-12-hours-despite-social/>

Rap music and anti-Semitism: how Wiley's tweets draw on a long and ugly history

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/music/news/rap-music-anti-semitism-wileys-tweets-draw-long-ugly-history/>

Wiley refuses to withdraw antisemitic Twitter comments

<https://www.theguardian.com/music/2020/jul/29/twitter-permanently-suspends-wiley-apologises-antisemitic-attack>

Twitter apologises for slow action on anti-Semitism after suspending Wiley

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/2020/07/29/twitter-apologises-slow-action-anti-semitism-suspending-wiley/>

Wiley banned from Facebook and Instagram over antisemitic posts

<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/music/news/wiley-antisemitic-facebook-instagram-ban-jewish-racism-twitter-a9642331.html>

Wiley permanently suspended from Twitter over antisemitic posts

<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/music/news/wiley-twitter-antisemitic-account-suspended-racism-a9643446.html>

Wiley's Facebook and Instagram accounts deactivated after antisemitic remarks

<https://www.theguardian.com/music/2020/jul/28/wileys-facebook-and-instagram-accounts-deactivated-after-antisemitic-remarks>

Rapper Wiley is banned from Facebook after defending antisemitic rant

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/rapper-wiley-is-banned-from-facebook-after-defending-antisemitic-rant-99vmbjpkp2>

Wiley accused of ongoing 'anti-Semitic rant' as YouTube faces pressure to close his account

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/07/30/wiley-accused-ongoing-anti-semitic-rant-youtube-faces-pressure/>

Wiley anti-Semitism: 'How it feels to be black and Jewish'

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/newsbeat-53560074>

Wiley apology for tweets 'that looked anti-Semitic' after Twitter ban

<https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-53581771>

Wiley responds to his antisemitic comments after Twitter ban: 'I'm not a racist'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/music/news/wiley-antisemitism-twitter-apology-racism-a9644301.html>

Wiley's racism flowed because social media is a petri dish of hate

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/jul/27/wiley-racism-social-media-hate-rapper-antisemitism-twitter-instagram>

Tackling racism on social media is just the tip of the iceberg

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/jul/29/twitter-boycott-racism-social-media-wiley-newspapers>

Wiley antisemitism: Mark Ronson clashes with black newspaper

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/wiley-antisemitism-mark-ronson-clashes-with-black-newspaper-85q5w5t8p>

Antisemitism thrives while the government sleeps on social media regulation

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/antisemitism-thrives-while-the-government-sleeps-on-social-media-regulation-5k87pjlr>

News: Other Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Anger as Boris Johnson's Tory racism inquiry yet to start eight months after he launched it

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/tory-racism-inquiry-boris-johnson-conservative-delay-a9659371.html>

Twitter needs to act over racist abuse, says David Lammy

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-53643893>

Pembrokeshire councillor denies making racist Facebook posts

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-53612519>

Shaun Bailey: Tory candidate for mayor of London hits out at racist abuse from left and right

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/shaun-bailey-london-mayor-candidate-abuse-tories-sadiq-khan-a9655271.html>

Government 'failing to prioritise tackling racism', says watchdog boss

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-53556519>

Government 'dragging its feet' over racism, says rights commission chairman

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2020/07/28/government-dragging-feet-racism-says-rights-commission-chairman/>

Racism is stopping Bame workers getting top jobs – and the government isn't doing enough to help them

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/racism-bame-top-jobs-government-uk-a9642566.html>

90% of racism complaints against Met get nowhere

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/90-of-racism-complaints-against-met-get-nowhere-hzh8ks9xw>

Bristol prison race failings led to attack on inmate, says report

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/aug/05/bristol-prison-race-failings-led-to-attack-on-inmate-says-report>

I was an EHRC commissioner. It needs to start taking racism seriously

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/aug/01/britains-equality-watchdog-needs-to-start-taking-racism-seriously>

BBC apologises over racial slur used in news report

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-53715814>

BBC receives 18,600 complaints over use of racial slur in news report

<https://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-53676557>

BBC receives 18,600 complaints for use of n-word in news report

<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/tv/news/bbc-n-word-racism-bristol-complaints-a9657586.html>

Sideman quits Radio 1Xtra over BBC's use of racial slur

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-53708991>

I made a BBC presenter apologise for the use of the N-Word in 2014. It was wrong then, and it's wrong now

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/bbc-n-word-lamdin-worsley-apology-racism-black-a9652876.html>

Charities body NCVO guilty of racism, admits boss

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/charities-body-ncvo-guilty-of-racism-admits-boss-2gzhb3lt9>

Tate removes reference to 'amusing' restaurant after racist images in mural draw anger
<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2020/aug/04/tate-removes-reference-to-amusing-restaurant-after-racist-images-in-mural-draw-anger>

Tate Britain will make dining room featuring mural depicting slaves 'more welcoming'
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/08/04/tate-britain-will-make-dining-room-featuring-mural-depicting/>

Online anti-semitism hits record levels as racists exploit lockdown, Jewish charity figures reveal
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/07/30/online-anti-semitism-hits-record-levels-racists-exploit-lockdown/>

Churches issue statement on racial justice
<https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/news/2020/churches-issue-statement-on-racial-justice>

Met Police PC dismissed for racist and homophobic comments
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-london-53708533>

Coronavirus: 'Institutional racism left minorities exposed'
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-53539577>

Black Lives protests are a distraction, says head teacher Katharine Birbalsingh
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/katharine-birbalsingh-blm-distracting-us-from-helping-children-says-head-zn60v355q>

Coronavirus: British Asians 'fear backlash' over virus spread as Eid approaches and racist slurs surface
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/coronavirus-british-asians-eid-al-adha-racism-blackburn-bradford-a9645356.html>

Roma still victims of hate crimes, decades after mass killings, says UN expert
<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=26135&LangID=E>

K-Dogg: Arrests made over Bristol race attack on NHS worker
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-bristol-53624134>

Bristol race attack victim K-Dogg 'glad to be alive'
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-bristol-53598758>

NHS worker 'lucky to be alive' after being hit by car in 'racist attack'
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/racist-attack-hit-and-run-car-bristol-racially-aggravated-assault-nhs-a9643621.html>

BBC presenter uses n-word in report on 'racially motivated' Bristol hit-and-run on NHS worker
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/bbc-n-word-racist-nhs-hit-run-bristol-attack-a9644001.html>

Health worker hit by car in racist attack
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/health-worker-hit-by-car-in-racist-attack-8wcs3lr3p>

Salman Rushdie appeals to Twitter over fake Islamophobic tweet

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2020/aug/07/salman-rushdie-appeals-to-twitter-over-fake-islamophobic-tweet>

Salman Rushdie asks Twitter to remove Islamophobic comments falsely attributed to him

<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/books/news/salman-rushdie-twitter-muslim-islamophobia-a9657766.html>

Music stars including Lewis Capaldi and Rita Ora call for end to racism

<https://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-53624613>

Bristol's artists get racist abuse for 'joyful' project

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-bristol-53607434>

'I helped Black Lives Matter without protesting'

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-england-53599404>

'We couldn't be silent': the new generation behind Britain's anti-racism protests

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jul/29/new-generation-behind-britain-anti-racism-protests-young-black-activists-equality>

Black Lives Matter: 'I've had to walk away from friends'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-wales-53612121/black-lives-matter-i-ve-had-to-walk-away-from-friends>

Amazon removes shoe description following complaint from MP David Lammy

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/amazon-racism-david-lammy-shoe-complaint-broque-a9652416.html>

Judge's claim he was victim of 'sub-conscious' racial discrimination has case against MoJ dismissed

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/08/06/judges-claim-victim-sub-conscious-racial-discrimination-has/>

Kieron Dyer: Two men released over alleged racist abuse

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-suffolk-53650887>

Players will get longer bans for racism – but FA criticised for sparing clubs

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/player-punishments-for-racism-increased-but-fa-criticised-for-sparing-clubs-8kzhl8bbs>

English hockey has an 'endemic race issue' from top to bottom, clubs claim

<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2020/aug/03/english-hockey-has-an-endemic-race-issue-from-top-to-bottom-clubs-claim>

England Hockey to review talent identification and access after second letter reports experience of racism

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/hockey/2020/08/04/england-hockey-review-talent-identification-access-second-letter/>

'Racist' artificial intelligence is 'painting world white'

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/08/05/racist-artificial-intelligence-painting-world-white/>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Release

First Minister's Eid message

<https://twitter.com/ScotGovFM/status/1288912247499001856>

New Publication

Parent Club – Mental health support for new mums

Parent Club is a website from the Scottish Government that offers help and support for children's health and wellbeing. It has lots of tips and advice from parents and carers, as well as up to date information to help you look after yourself and your family.

<https://www.parentclub.scot/articles/mental-health-support-for-new-mums>

News

Douglas Ross confirmed as Scottish Conservative leader

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-53655975>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Forced Marriage

The Lord Bishop of St Albans [HL7246] To ask Her Majesty's Government in how many cases the Forced Marriage Unit provided advice or support related to possible forced marriage (1) to a person aged under 16, (2) to a person aged between 16 and 18, and (3) to a person aged between 18 and 20, in (a) 2014, (b) 2015, (c) 2016, (d) 2017, (e) 2018, and (f) 2019.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Information on Forced Marriage Unit statistics, including age breakdowns, can be found at this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/forced-marriage-unit-statistics>

Providing the complete information requested would exceed the word limit for responses to written parliamentary questions so I have attached the following publication from the Forced Marriage Unit Statistics Unit.

I would also like to correct my response to the Lord Bishop's question HL16427, from the 2017-19 session. This stated that in 2018 the Forced Marriage Unit gave advice or support related to a possible forced marriage in 1,764 cases via its public helpline and email inbox. The correct figure was 1,507.

[Forced Marriage Stats - 2019](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-07-23/HL7246/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2019-06-17/HL16427/>

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Health Information: Coronavirus (COVID-19)

NHS

NHS Inform (Scotland)

Latest guidance about COVID-19 from NHS Scotland and the Scottish Government, including social distancing and stay at home advice.

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus>

Healthcare for overseas visitors

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/care-support-and-rights/health-rights/access/healthcare-for-overseas-visitors>

Healthcare for refugees and asylum seekers

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/care-support-and-rights/health-rights/access/healthcare-for-refugees-and-asylum-seekers>

NHS Near Me (Scotland)

Near Me is a video consulting service that enables people to have health and social care appointments from home or wherever is convenient. All you need is a device for making video calls like a smartphone and an internet connection. Near Me is a secure form of video consulting approved for use by the Scottish Government and NHS Scotland.

<https://www.nearme.scot/>

NHS (England and Wales)

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Scottish Parliament Written Answers

COVID-19: BAME people

S5W-30068 Sarah Boyack (Labour): To ask the Scottish Government, in light of death rates from COVID-19 being lower in many countries with a predominantly Asian or Black population, what information it has on the reasons why (a) Bangladeshi and (b) other BAME people are reportedly more at risk of dying from COVID-19 in the UK; what its position is on whether any increased risk is the result of structural racism, and which groups in Scotland have been identified as most at risk.

Reply from Jeane Freeman: The Scottish Government is deeply concerned by reports from England and Wales suggesting that minority ethnic communities are disproportionately affected by COVID-19.

To ensure we better understand the risks and impacts of Covid-19 on ethnic minority communities, work is already underway to improve the data and wider evidence including the recent analyses from [National Records of Scotland](#) and [Public Health Scotland](#).

Additionally we have set up an Expert Reference Group (ERG), chaired by Ima Jackson (Senior Lecturer in the School of Health and Life Sciences at Glasgow Caledonian University) and Vittal Katikireddi (Senior Clinical Research Fellow at the University of Glasgow and honorary Consultant at Public Health Scotland).

We want to ensure that we have an accurate understanding of the impact of COVID-19 on minority ethnic communities in Scotland, and that our policy responses reflect this. In this respect, there is also a need to work on improving existing systems and processes, and analysing what we know. At the same time, we know that COVID-19 has exposed and highlighted the deep-rooted health and socio-economic

inequalities that minority ethnic communities face, and the systematic failures to address these issues. The Government recognises that we have an opportunity to make fundamental and lasting changes to address these inequalities. We have asked the ERG to provide their advice and recommendations on these issues to the Government quickly.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-30068>

Communal Worship

S5W-30500 Oliver Mundell (Conservative): To ask the Scottish Government whether its decision not to allow communal worship as a result of COVID-19 was based on specific scientific advice.

Reply from Aileen Campbell: Our guidance on safe use of places of worship reflects evolving scientific and health advice and has been developed in close collaboration with our faith communities. On the 9 July, the First Minister announced that the reopening of places of worship would be brought forward to 15 July. As such, since that date, places of worship have been able to open for congregational services and life event ceremonies.

I recognise how difficult it has been for Scotland's faith communities to be unable to come together in places of worship at this challenging time, and understand the important role of congregational worship in supporting spiritual wellbeing. We do not want any restrictions to this to last any longer than is necessary but must ensure that people who enter places of worship to undertake congregational activities will be safe. We will continue to work closely with those communities as we move towards fully reopening places of worship as soon as it is safe to do so.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-30500>

The announcement referred to above can be read at

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12728&i=115096&c=2265675#ScotParlOR>

Reopening of Places of Worship

S5W-30594 Elaine Smith (Labour): To ask the Scottish Government on what date places of worship can open fully for communal services, for example Mass.

Reply from Aileen Campbell: I refer the member to the answer to question S5W-30266 on 13 July 2020. ...

On Thursday 9 July, the First Minister announced that places of worship would be able to re-open for congregational worship and communal prayer or contemplation from 15 July, subject to 2 metre physical distancing and hygiene safeguards. We will consider how to allow places of worship to fully reopen within the public health requirements advised as we move through Phase 3 and into Phase 4 of our route map. Any decisions on further relaxations will be in line with medical and scientific advice.

Guidance for the safe opening of places of worship at phase 3 of the route map is available on the Scottish Government website.

The Scottish Government will continue to engage closely with faith communities as we move through the easing of the lockdown.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-30594>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-30266>

The announcement referred to above can be read at

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12728&i=115096&c=2265675#ScotParlOR>

Coronavirus: Gypsy/Traveller communities

S5W-30530 Mary Fee (Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what support it has provided to Gypsy/Traveller communities during the COVID-19 crisis.

Reply from Christina McKelvie: From the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Scottish Government recognised that Gypsy/Travellers may be at higher risk and took swift action to protect and support the community. We published a joint framework with COSLA to advise local authorities on how to support Gypsy/Travellers during the pandemic, and committed over £150,000 to provide enhanced sanitation facilities to Gypsy/Travellers and to put in place specialist services to support the specific needs of the community.

The sanitation included providing portable toilets with running water to both private and public sites, as well as roadside camps across Scotland. We also provided shower facilities to a roadside camp, accommodating a number of families. The specialist services included a dedicated telephone counselling service; tailored educational support; a financial resilience helpline and health boxes to Gypsy/Travellers who were shielding. Together with a range of statutory and third sector partners we have also supported a dedicated Covid-19 themed Facebook page for the community, where we have delivered updates in an accessible and culturally sensitive way.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-30530>

Coronavirus: wedding ceremonies

S5W-30726 Liam McArthur (Liberal Democrat): To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on when it will publish updated guidance for wedding ceremonies and receptions in phase 4 of the route map out of lockdown.

Reply from Ash Denham: On 15 July 2020, the Scottish Government published guidance on small wedding ceremonies and civil partnership registrations during Phase 3. This followed an announcement by the First Minister that, as from that date, only up to 20 people should attend a marriage ceremony or civil partnership registration, wherever it is taking place, subject to physical distancing requirements. She also committed to a review of this limit again at the end of July.

We will continue to consider how to permit all marriage ceremonies and civil partnership registrations to take place, with improved hygiene and other precautions, during Phase 4 of our route map, taking account of medical and scientific advice.

Our published guidance in this area will also be kept under review and updated as necessary.

Receptions and other celebrations related to a marriage or civil partnership must comply with the continuing restrictions on public gatherings. During Phase 4 we anticipate that further relaxations on gatherings of family and friends will be possible.

<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-30726>

The phase 3 guidance referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-small-marriages-and-civil-partnership-registrations/>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Coronavirus: Ethnic Groups

Clive Lewis (Labour) [52268] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps his department is taking to ensure that its review into the effect of covid-19 on BAME communities engages with (a) stakeholders and (b) people with lived experience.

Reply from Jo Churchill: Public Health England (PHE) published its review report 'Disparities in the risk and outcomes of COVID-19' on 2 June. The review looked at different factors including ethnicity. The report can be viewed at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-review-of-disparities-in-risks-and-outcomes>

The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care has announced that the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Equalities (Kemi Badenoch MP) will be leading on next steps, working with PHE and others.

Professor Kevin Fenton from PHE has been engaging with a significant number of individuals and organisations within the black, Asian and minority ethnic community over the past couple of months, to hear their views, concerns and ideas about the impact of COVID-19 on their communities. The valuable insight he has gathered will inform the work the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Equalities is now taking forward.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-06-01/52268/>

Ethnic Groups and Females: Coronavirus

Mark Hendrick (Labour Co-op) [68669] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what steps he took to ensure that (a) women and (b) ethnic minorities were represented in shaping the Government's covid-19 response (i) planning and (ii) decision-making.

Reply from Penny Mordaunt: The Government's COVID-19 response has been a cross-Government effort, involving thousands of people who have worked tirelessly as the UK faces unprecedented challenges. Planning and decision making has touched almost all of Government, with women and ethnic minorities represented at all levels.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-03/68669/>

Coronavirus: Minority Groups

Gill Furniss (Labour) [75412] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what assessment he has made of the implications for his policies on charging for NHS services of the report by Doctors of the World, An unsafe distance: the impact of the covid-19 pandemic on excluded people in England, published in May 2020.

Reply from Edward Argar: Regulations came into force on 29 January 2020 to add Novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) (now known as COVID-19) to Schedule 1 of the National Health Service (Charges to Overseas Visitors) Regulations 2015. This means there can be no charge made to an overseas visitor for the diagnosis, or treatment, of COVID-19. Patients that are known to be undergoing testing and treatment for coronavirus only are not subject to Home Office status checks.

This information has been widely communicated to NHS staff and the public, including a message published on Public Health England's Migrant Health Guide, which has been translated into 40 languages.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-16/75412/>

The report referred to above can be read at

The following two questions both received the same answer

Coronavirus: Protective Clothing

Janet Daby (Labour) [73082] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps have been taken to provide appropriate personal protective equipment to NHS staff with religious beards.

Janet Daby (Labour) [73083] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps he has taken to provide personal protective equipment for NHS staff with (a) turbans and (b) other religious head coverings.

Reply from Jo Churchill: We are clear frontline staff should have the equipment they need to do their job safely. The National Medical Director and Chief Nursing Officer of NHS England and NHS Improvement wrote on 24 April 2020 to NHS Chief Executives, Chief Nurses and Medical Directors, emphasising the importance of proper fit testing of disposable sessional personal protective equipment (PPE) face masks (such as FFP3 masks). The Government is dedicated to providing appropriate fitting PPE for all frontline staff, including those with religious beards, turbans and other religious head coverings.

We are also working to secure products for specific groups of patients and staff, for example, having 2,000 powered respirators that Sikh male doctors or others who cannot fit test well against masks will be able to use.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-13/73082/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-13/73083/>

The following two questions both received the same answer

Music: Coronavirus

Thangam Debbonaire (Labour) [73889] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, what steps is taking to enable singing in (a) choirs, (b) audiences, and (c) congregations as covid-19 lockdown restrictions are eased.

Thangam Debbonaire (Labour) [73891] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, on what date he plans to enable singing in (a) choirs, (b) audiences and (c) religious congregations as covid-19 lockdown restrictions are eased.

Reply from Caroline Dinéage: We are committed to getting the performing arts sector fully back up and running as soon as it is safe to do so. It is a priority of my department to work with the arts and cultural sectors to address the challenges of reopening. We have released guidance to support the performing arts sector resume activity in line with the roadmap announced by the Secretary of State last month. In addition, the Government is supporting a number of studies that are currently underway to understand more about the risks associated with these activities. The findings from these studies will inform further changes in the guidance.

Singing, especially in groups, such as in choirs or in audiences - in religious settings or otherwise, is considered a higher risk activity because of the potential for aerosol production and the absence presently of developed scientific analysis to assess this specific risk. The evidence is being developed rapidly. Whilst further evidence is being developed, we advise that non-professional groups should not sing in at this stage and should only do activities in line with government guidance on social mixing.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-14/73889/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-07-14/73891/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

The following three questions all received the same answer

Coronavirus: Death

Baroness Uddin (Non-affiliated) [HL3099] To ask Her Majesty's Government what data they are collecting on the numbers of COVID-19 deaths broken down by (1) age, (2) occupation, (3) gender, (4) ethnicity, and (5) religion.

Coronavirus: Ethnic Groups

Baroness Crawley (Labour) [HL4313] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to shield the BAME community from COVID-19.

Coronavirus: Minority Groups

Baroness Lawrence of Clarendon (Labour) [HL4511] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the statement by the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that "data suggests a disproportionate burden of illness and death among racial and ethnic and minority groups" from COVID-19; and whether the CDC study has direct implications for the control of the virus in the UK.

Reply from Lord Bethell: To provide a more comprehensive response to a number of outstanding Written Questions, this has been answered by an information factsheet *Science of Covid-19 note for House of Lords*, which is attached due to the size of the data. A copy has also been placed in the Library.

[Science of COVID-19 information factsheet](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-04-22/HL3099/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-05-12/HL4313/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-05-14/HL4511/>

Coronavirus: Ethnic Groups

Baroness Coussins (Crossbench) [HL5291] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the impact of the lack of COVID-19 information and advice in relevant languages on the death rate among BAME communities.

Reply from Lord Bethell: We have not made such an assessment. The Government has provided a wide range of guidance to support the country in tackling COVID-19 and considerable efforts are now underway to address that including work with stakeholder groups to help ensure messages are disseminated into different communities in culturally appropriate ways. For example, in Leicester, assets have been translated into 12 different languages, and a range of local community voices, such as faith leaders and local general practitioners, are engaged in supporting the campaign.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-06-04/HL5291/>

Coronavirus: Minority Groups

Baroness Whitaker (Labour) [HL4544] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of (1) reports that 58 per cent of Roma, and 43 per cent of

Travellers, who have been tested for COVID-19 in Ireland have had a positive result, and (2), plans by the government of the Republic of Ireland to set up a mobile unit to test and treat marginalised groups in inner cities, with rapid delivery of test results; and whether they have any plans to set up similar facilities in the UK.

Reply from Lord Bethell: We are keen to learn from examples of best practice wherever they exist and the Department will continue to work with other countries throughout the crisis and beyond.

We are developing “prototypes” to pilot equal access to testing using existing local authority networks. The learning from these pilots will be disseminated to all local authorities in order to establish a national framework to support groups such as the Roma, Gypsy and Traveller communities.

We are also setting up a series of local testing sites to make testing easier to access for those without digital or vehicle access. 11 are operational as at 14 July 2020.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2020-05-14/HL4544/>

Scottish Government Press Releases

Importance of self-isolation

<https://www.gov.scot/news/importance-of-self-isolation/>

Hospitality rules tightened: Face coverings to be mandatory across more indoor public premises.

<https://www.gov.scot/news/hospitality-rules-tightened/>

Scottish Government Publications

Coronavirus (COVID-19): trends in daily data

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-trends-in-daily-data/>

Coronavirus (COVID-19) update: First Minister's speech 7 August 2020

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-update-first-ministers-speech-7-august-2020/>

Scotland's route map through and out of the crisis: Phase 3 Update

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/covid-19-framework-decision-making-scotlands-route-map-through-out-crisis-phase-3-update-30th-july-2020/>

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Phase 3: updated guidance for the safe use of places of worship

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-phase-3-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-places-of-worship/>

Scottish Government COVID-19 research panel

Scottish Government researchers are recruiting people to help better understand and predict the next stages of the COVID-19 epidemic in Scotland. You can register if you live in Scotland and are 18 or over. As a member of the panel, you will be sent a survey every two weeks by email. Each survey will ask questions about the number of people you've come into contact with recently, as well as your experiences with COVID-19.

For more information, and to register for the panel, see <https://tinyurl.com/y2f9row3>

UK Government Press Release

Prime Minister's statement on coronavirus (COVID-19): 31 July 2020

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/prime-ministers-statement-on-coronavirus-covid-19-31-july-2020>

News

Coronavirus: Ministers aim for UK-wide virus co-operation pledge

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-53566212>

Covid studies to examine virus link with ethnicity

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-53565655>

Coronavirus: Ethnic minorities 'over-exposed' to Covid-19

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-53651954>

Coronavirus: Young ethnic minority men 'more likely to get Covid fines'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-53556514>

Coronavirus: Face covering use expanded in England and Scotland

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-53702291>

Craig Whittaker: MP defends saying some Muslims not taking covid seriously

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-53612230>

Calls for action against MP who said Muslims and BAME people 'not taking virus seriously'

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/18620632.calls-action-mp-said-muslims-bame-people-not-taking-virus-seriously/>

England lockdown: Tory MP blames ethnic minorities and immigrants for new coronavirus outbreak

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/coronavirus-outbreak-north-england-lockdown-whittaker-ethnic-minorities-a9647706.html>

Charlie Elphicke: Former Tory MP may face jail after being found guilty of three sexual assaults

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/charlie-elphicke-sexual-assault-trial-court-guilty-tory-mp-a9645786.html>

Tory MP condemned for claim BAME people breaching lockdown most

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jul/31/tory-mp-craig-whittaker-condemned-claim-bame-people-most-covid-19-lockdown-breaches>

Muslim Eid celebrations not being targeted by household gatherings ban, Matt Hancock says

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/north-england-lockdown-muslim-eid-leicester-yorkshire-hancock-a9647286.html>

Coronavirus: 'The spirit of Eid has gone but celebrations continue'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-leeds-53606190>

Coronavirus: The brothers who died with Covid-19

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-wales-53631215/coronavirus-the-brothers-who-died-with-covid-19>

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Other News

BAME people set to feature on British notes and coins

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-53547483>

Cocoa Girl: 'We made the first UK black girls' magazine'

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-53561028/cocoa-girl-we-made-the-first-uk-black-girls-magazine>

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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>

Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Bill

<https://beta.parliament.scot/bills/hate-crime-and-public-order-scotland-bill>

Post-mortem Examinations (Defence Time Limit) (Scotland) Bill

<https://beta.parliament.scot/bills/post-mortem-examinations-defence-time-limit-scotland-bill>

UK Parliament

Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) Bill

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

Asylum Support (Prescribed Period) Bill

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

European Citizens' Rights Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-21/europeancitizensrights.html>

Illegal Immigration (Offences) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-21/illegalimmigrationoffences.html>

Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2019-21/immigrationandsocialsecuritycoordinationeuwithdrawal.html>

Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill

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

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>

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (Legal Advice and Appeals) Bill

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

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Independent Review of Complaints Handling, Investigations and Misconduct Issues in Relation to Policing (closing date 14 August 2020)

Dame Elish Angiolini has been asked by the Scottish Government to conduct an Independent Review of Complaints Handling, Investigations and Misconduct Issues in Relation to Policing. She is gathering further evidence and is interested in learning more about the experience of minority ethnic communities in their interactions with Police Scotland or with the Police Investigations and Review Commissioner (PIRC), particularly in relation to the police complaints system. Evidence should be sent to secretariat@independentpolicingreview.scot

COVID-19 Police powers review (closing date 1 September 2020)

<https://covid19iag.citizenspace.com/>

**** Impact of Covid-19 on People of Colour and Migrant Front Line Workers**

(closing date 1 September 2020)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/YCSSQM7>

Black people, racism and human rights (11 September 2020)

<https://committees.parliament.uk/call-for-evidence/208/black-people-racism-and-human-rights/>

**** Channel crossings, migration and asylum-seeking routes through the EU** (closing date 14 September 2020)

<https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/83/home-affairs-committee/news/147672/channel-crossings-migration-and-asylum-seeking-routes-through-the-eu-inquiry/>

Your Police 2020-2021 (closing date 31 March 2021)

Police Scotland recognise the importance of understanding the views and priorities of Scotland's diverse communities. This is especially important during the ongoing Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. This survey is an opportunity for you to give your views and opinions during these challenging times, and beyond.

<https://consult.scotland.police.uk/surveys/your-police-2020-2021/>

Equality and human rights impact of Covid-19 (closing date not stated)
<https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/114975.aspx>

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>

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Job Opportunities

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

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

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Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

Grants online: Coronavirus

A number of Community Foundations and other organisations have launched funding programmes to assist local organisations in responding to the challenges of the Coronavirus Pandemic. To read a list of organisations and the types of funding they have made available, see <https://www.grantsonline.org.uk/coronavirus.html>

Third Sector Resilience Fund

Closing date not stated

Scottish Government grants and loans from £5,000 to £100,000 for the Third Sector in response to the Coronavirus pandemic. The Third Sector Resilience Fund is an emergency fund for charities, community groups, social enterprises and voluntary organisations working in Scotland. The fund will support organisations that already deliver services and products but find themselves in financial difficulties directly as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. The primary intention of the fund is to help third sector organisations to stabilise and manage cash flows over this difficult period. For information and to apply see <https://scvo.org/support/coronavirus/your-funding/for-organisations/third-sector-resilience-fund/>

Covid-19 Transition Fund

Closing date not stated

Ethnic Minority National Resilience Network funding for organisations to respond to the changing needs of their members in a sustainable way. Funding priorities will be to ensure that community organisations can:

- set up sustainable networks that support access to food and sustenance needs initially up until August 2020
- support their communities to be connected to services, information and communication
- provide services to tackle isolation, such as online events and befriending

For information and to apply see
<https://bemis.org.uk/emnrrn/transition-fund/>

Covid-19 Rapid Response Fund

Closing date not stated

This small grant fund has been established by the William Grant Foundation, Faith in Community Scotland and the National Lottery Community Fund so that Scotland's network of local faith groups and related community organisations can provide immediate support for individuals and families. For information and to apply see

<https://www.faithincommunity.scot/covid19info>

Fife Centre for Equalities Diversity Week Activity Fund 2020

Closing date not stated

Grants of up to £100 for charities, community and voluntary groups, sporting groups, and informal groups to host a one-off activity celebrating the diverse population of Fife during Fife Centre for Equalities Diversity Week 7-13 September 2020. For information and to apply see <https://tinyurl.com/stbmu24>

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Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

Parent Club Consultation: plans for the return to schools and early learning and childcare settings

10 August 2020 online (11.00–11.30)

11 August 2020 online (11.00–11.30)

12 August 2020 online (11.00–11.30)

BEMIS/Parent Club consultations to support ethnic minority communities to reduce any stress, confusion, and anxiety around the Scottish Government announcement about reopening schools, and early learning and childcare settings. To participate contact Sue Sue.Barnes@bemis.org.uk.

**** this week!**

Ethnic Minority National Resilience Network

10 August 2020 online (10.00–12.00)

The Ethnic Minority National Resilience Network, facilitated by BEMIS, provides a peer to peer support service during the covid-19 pandemic, and opportunities to share best practice from local community responses. To participate in the meeting contact communitysupport@bemis.org.uk

**** this week!**

Interpreting culture – improving cross-cultural communication

13 August 2020 online (11.00–3.00)

Interfaith Scotland course to explore how culture forms a lens through which we interpret each other's behaviour, and learn how to improve our inter-cultural communication. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yyljshpy> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

Working with People from Diverse Religion & Belief Identities

9 September 2020 online (11.00–3.00)

Interfaith Scotland course to improve confidence in discussing and responding to the

religion and belief of those we work with, learn about the core beliefs and cultural practices of the main faiths, and the individual needs that may arise from a person's faith or belief identity. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y4epg4hx> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

**** Holocaust Memorial Day 2021 Resources Launch**

15 September 2020 online (4.00–5.30)

The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust will explore the importance of marking Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD), and showcase new resources to enable groups of all kinds to mark HMD 2021. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y5pwqro5>

3 Mottos to Guide our Approach to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

29 September 2020 online (1.00–4.30)

Interfaith Scotland course considering diversity in its widest sense, and looking at three models which provide insight on our experience of difference: the role of the dominant identity and the idea of 'human neutral', why some people ignore or deny the disadvantages that others experience; and how to respond to misunderstandings or offence. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/y3d47pyr> or contact Jamie Spurway jamie@interfaithscotland.org

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Useful Links

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Volunteer Scotland Disclosure Services

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

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

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*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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