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 elections took place on 6 May 2021.
The new parliamentary session will begin on 13 May 2021.

The State Opening of the new UK parliamentary session will be on 11 May 2021.

Because of the Jewish festival of Shavuot, the next issue of MEMO will be published on Wednesday 19 May.

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### Immigration and Asylum

**UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers**

The following two questions both received the same answer

**Immigration: EU Nationals**

**John Redwood (Conservative) [187781]** To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office, how many EU citizens moved to live in the UK from
2012 to 2020.

**John Redwood (Conservative)** [187783] To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office, what proportion of migrants to the UK from 2012 to 2020 were from the EU.

**Reply from Chloe Smith:** The information requested falls under the remit of the UK Statistics Authority. I have, therefore, asked the Authority to respond. …

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) publishes estimates of the numbers of EU citizens migrating into the UK1. Table 1 shows the numbers of EU citizens the ONS estimates to have migrated into the UK from 2012 onwards. It also shows the proportion of migrants to the UK from the EU.

2019 is the latest full year for which data is available, though the ONS’ latest Long Term International Migration Estimates are until year ending March 20202. The ONS’ main source of international migration data has been the International Passenger Survey (IPS). The IPS operations were suspended in March 2020 so no data are available from the IPS after that date.

On 16 April 2021 the ONS published an update3 about developing international migration data from other sources.

**Table 1:** EU migrants to the UK 2012 to 2019, thousands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>All Immigration</th>
<th>EU Citizens</th>
<th>Proportion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>526</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>632</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>631</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>589</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>644</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>681</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


2 [https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/internationalmigration/datasets/estimatinglongterminternationalmigrationusingrapid](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/internationalmigration/datasets/estimatinglongterminternationalmigrationusingrapid)


[https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-22/185781](https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-22/185781) and

[https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-22/185783](https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-22/185783)

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**Migrants: Coronavirus**

**John Redwood (Conservative)** [185784] To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office, what his most recent estimate is of net migration into the UK since March 2020 and the introduction of covid-19 restrictions.

**Reply from Chloe Smith:** The information requested falls under the remit of the UK Statistics Authority. I have, therefore, asked the Authority to respond. …

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) published the last official estimates for International Migration in August 2020 for the year ending March 2020 and they showed 313,000 net migration1. Our next set of estimates, for the year ending June 2020, were due to be published in November, however in March 2020 the key data source, the international Passenger Survey (IPS), was suspended due to the pandemic.
The ONS have therefore published some early insights using statistical modelling. This latest analysis showed that, to the year ending June 2020, net migration was around 282,000, which largely reflects the pre-pandemic period. Looking specifically at the patterns following March 2020, we can see a notable change due to the impact of travel restrictions, with net migration for quarter 2 (April to June) at around -50,000. This compares to 19,700 in the corresponding quarter of 2019.

It is important to note that this early analysis is based on new methods. There is therefore uncertainty attached and the data will likely be subject to revision in the coming months, especially as more data becomes available and methods become more developed. In this respect they do not represent official migration estimates. As mentioned in the reply to your previous questions about EU migration into the UK, on the same day, 16 April 2021, the ONS also published an update about developing international migration data from other sources and our longer term plans to transform migration statistics.

1 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/internationalmigration/bulletins/migrationstatisticsquarterlyreport/august2020
2 https://www.ons.gov.uk/methodology/methodologicalpublications/generalmethodology/onsworkingpaperseries/usingstatisticalmodellingtoestimateukinternationalmigration
3 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/internationalmigration/articles/internationalmigrationdevelopingourapproachforproducingadminbasedmigrationestimates/2021-04-16
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-22/185784

British Nationality: Children

Chris Law (SNP) [188118] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 27 April 2021 to Question 185914 on British Nationality: Children, by what date she plans to have completed her review into fees for immigration and nationality applications in response to the recent Court of Appeal's ruling on citizenship application fees for children.

Reply from Kevin Foster: The Home Office has acknowledged the Court of Appeal’s judgment and has committed to reviewing the child citizenship registration fee in line with its duties under Section 55.

This review is on-going and the results will be published in due course
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-27/188118

The answer referred to above can be read at
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-22/185914

The judgement referred to above can be read at

Visas: Voluntary Work

Sarah Olney (Liberal Democrat) [188137] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reason people who enter the UK on a visitor visa are unable to volunteer.

Reply from Kevin Foster: Visitors to the UK can undertake a wide range of activities, including volunteering. The volunteering should last no more than 30 days in total and be for a charity registered with either the Charity Commission for England and Wales; the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland; or the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator.

Undertaking voluntary work for longer periods of time is provided for in the Temporary Worker – Charity Worker route of the points-based system.

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-27/188137
Windrush Generation: Compensation

Stuart C McDonald (SNP) [183168] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 15 April 2021 to Question 179170 on Windrush Generation: Compensation, notwithstanding that her Department does not routinely publish the information requested, how many applicants to the Windrush Compensation Scheme her Department is aware of who have died in the period between applying for and receiving compensation under that scheme.

Stuart C McDonald (SNP) [183169] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to her Answer of 15 April 2021 to Question 179171, on Windrush Generation: Compensation, if she will estimate the number of applications to the Windrush Compensation Scheme that remain outstanding more than (a) two years, (b) 18 months and (c) 12 months after the applicants first submitted those applications.

Reply from Priti Patel: The number of cases being worked through the Windrush Compensation Scheme as of 21 April are 1417. Of these 1417 cases:
- 281 have been in the process for 12-18 months;
- 214 have been in the process for over 18 months;
- 5 have been in the process for over 24 months.

Windrush Compensation Scheme staff continue to work hard to resolve these claims from the moment they are received and individuals are provided with an update on the progress of their claim on a monthly basis as a minimum, unless they have requested otherwise. A case is finally closed when an individual accepts a final offer or an application to the Scheme is unsuccessful as it does not meet the criteria. All claims will have been considered for a preliminary payment of £10,000 within 6 weeks of eligibility being confirmed under the terms of the Scheme, including these open applications. A preliminary payment is offered as soon as we receive the minimum level of information required to show that they will be entitled to compensation under the Scheme. Some of these people may also have received an urgent and exceptional payment. This policy remains available for those who have an urgent and exceptional need that cannot wait for a payment to be made under the Windrush Compensation Scheme. As of 25 March 2021, the Scheme had offered 362 preliminary awards (totalling £3,620,000); of which 255 (£2,550,000) had been accepted. 228 awards (£2,280,000) had been paid.

That said, each person’s claim is deeply personal and requires careful and detailed consideration to understand their individual circumstances and experiences. There are 13 different categories of claim and some individuals’ experiences are more complex than others and it is right we take the time to ensure these are considered carefully. We want people to receive the maximum compensation to which they are entitled and work closely with individuals, for example by contacting other government departments and third parties to help gather evidence to support their claim.

This holistic approach necessarily takes time but is ultimately beneficial to individuals.

Data on the number of claims received and the number of payments made is published as part of the regular transparency data release which can be found here:

Since April 2019 the Scheme has paid or offered £18 million. Of this, more than £6.1 million have been accepted and paid, an increase of £2 million in one month. We have made fundamental improvements to the Scheme to ensure people receive significantly more money, more quickly. We increased the value of awards for impact on life at every level so everyone will be paid more in this category, with the
maximum award increasing from £10,000 to £100,000 (with options for even higher awards in exceptional circumstances).
Within six weeks of these changes, we had offered more than we had in the first 19 months of the scheme (at the end of January we had offered £12m) and since the end of December we have more than doubled the amount of compensation paid to individuals (from £2.8m to £6.1m).
In December 2018, the Home Office established an Urgent and Exceptional Payments process for those members of the Windrush generation who had an urgent and exceptional need in advance of the Windrush Compensation Scheme. The process remains open for those who need it. The total value of the payments approved as of 29 March 2021 is £104,338.58.

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-19/183168
and
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-19/183169
The answers referred to above can be read at
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-12/179170
and
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-12/179171

**Immigration: EU Nationals**

**Stuart C McDonald (SNP) [187244]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether an employer conducting right-to-work checks after 30 June 2021 will be required to terminate the employment of an EU citizen where a EU citizen is unable to demonstrate proof of their status and has not applied to the EU Settlement Scheme.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** From 1 July right-to-work checks will change, and all EEA citizens will be required to demonstrate they have a right to work through evidence of their immigration status, rather than their nationality.
We will be updating our guidance and communicating with employers in the coming weeks to set out the support available and ensure they are clear on the steps they should take at the end of the grace period.

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-26/187244

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

**Immigration: EU Nationals**

**Rupa Huq (Labour) [187288]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if the Government will bring forward legislation to grant automatic settled status to (a) all EU nationals and (b) non-EU family members resident in the UK.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** A declaratory system, under which EU citizens and their family members automatically acquired an immigration status and right to stay by Act of Parliament, but without any record taken, would cause confusion and leave people struggling to evidence their or their parents’ status (where appropriate) in the future.
Employers and service providers would also struggle to identify those who benefit from residence rights under the Withdrawal Agreement from those moving to the UK after the end of the transition period who do not. This could lead to EU citizens and their family members who have made the UK their home struggling to prove their rights and entitlements here, which is not something we can allow to happen.
By contrast, the EU Settlement Scheme makes it easy for EU citizens resident in the UK by the end of the transition period and their family members to obtain the UK immigration status they need in order to remain here permanently, with the same rights to work, study and access benefits and services as they had before we
left the EU.
The latest published statistics for the scheme, to 31 March 2021, show it is performing well, with more than 5.3 million applications received and more than 4.7 million grants of status securing people’s rights in UK law. The status is underpinned in UK law by the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020, which protects the rights here of EU citizens in line with the Withdrawal Agreement. 
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-26/187288

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

Immigration: EU Nationals

Stephen Farry (Alliance) [187366] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of applications to the EU Settlement Scheme had a processing time of longer than a month.

Reply from Kevin Foster: Our aim is to process all applications to the Scheme as quickly as possible. The majority of applications are concluded within 5 working days, but cases may take longer dependent on the circumstances of the case, for example if the applicant is facing an impending prosecution or has a criminal record. The following link lists the expected processing times for EU Settlement Scheme applications, based upon current performance:

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-26/187366

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

The following three questions all received the same answer

Immigration: EU Nationals

Stephen Farry (Alliance) [187367] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to her Department's guidance, EU Settlement Scheme: EU, other EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members, version 11.0, published for Home Office staff on 6 April 2021, what immigration enforcement steps she plans to take in response EU citizens and non-EU family members who do not apply to the EU Settlement Scheme by the deadline for receipt of applications to that scheme of 30 June 2021 in cases where those citizens or family members (a) are deemed not to have reasonable grounds for a late application to that Scheme and (b) fail to make a late application to that Scheme within the 28 day notice period as set out in that guidance.

Stephen Farry (Alliance) [187368] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to her Department's guidance, EU Settlement Scheme: EU, other EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members, version 11.0, published for Home Office staff on 6 April 2021, what form of immigration status and rights EU citizens and non-EU family members who do not apply to the EU Settlement Scheme by the deadline for receipt of applications to that scheme of 30 June 2021 will have (a) during the 28 day notice period granted to make a late application to that scheme as set out in that guidance and (b) after the 28 day notice period for making a late application to that scheme in the event that those citizens or family members did (i) not make a late application to that scheme during that notice period and (ii) make a late application to that scheme during that notice period and are waiting for the outcome of that late application.

Stephen Farry (Alliance) [187369] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department has (a) recruited additional immigration enforcement officers and (b) allocated additional funding towards immigration enforcement to anticipate
potential increases in the number of undocumented EU citizens being in the UK as a result of those citizens failing to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme by the deadline of 30 June 2021.

Reply from Kevin Foster: Our primary focus is on ensuring all eligible for status under the EU Settlement Scheme make an application before the 30 June 2021 deadline for the status they deserve under UK law. Those who apply before the deadline, but whose application is not decided until after it, will have their rights protected pending the outcome of their application and of any appeal.

In line with the Citizens’ Rights Agreements, the UK Government has made clear where a person eligible for status under the EU Settlement Scheme has reasonable grounds for missing the 30 June 2021 deadline for applications by those resident in the UK by the end of the transition period, they will be given a further opportunity to apply.

Where a person with reasonable grounds for missing the deadline applies to the EU Settlement Scheme after it, including where they do so after being given a 28-day notice, and is granted status under the scheme, they will, consistent with the Citizens’ Rights Agreements, enjoy the same rights from the time they are granted status as someone who applied before the deadline.

Where a person does not have reasonable grounds for applying to the EU Settlement Scheme after the deadline or fails to make an application within the 28-day period, any immigration enforcement taken will be based on consideration of the circumstances of their case.

Immigration Enforcement will continue to keep its operational priorities under constant review in the light of the latest intelligence and deploy resources accordingly.


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


The following two questions both received the same answer

Immigration: EEA Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [188097] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when her Department plans to update the guidance, EU Settlement Scheme: EU, other EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members, which was last published on 6 April 2021.

Immigration: EU Nationals

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [188098] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether EU citizens who miss the EU Settlement Scheme deadline of 30 June 2021 because they are unaware of the scheme or that deadline but have no additional vulnerabilities will be eligible for late application.

Reply from Kevin Foster: In line with the Citizens’ Rights Agreements, the Government has made clear where a person eligible for status under the EU Settlement Scheme has reasonable grounds for missing the 30 June 2021 deadline for applications by those resident in the UK by the end of the transition period, they will be given a further opportunity to apply.
Non-exhaustive guidance on what constitutes reasonable grounds for missing the deadline can be found at pages 26 to 44 of the caseworker guidance, EU Settlement Scheme: EU, other EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members, which is available here:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-caseworker-guidance

This includes where there are compelling practical or compassionate reasons why a person may have been unaware of the requirement to apply to the scheme by the deadline or may have failed to do so, or where a person with a residence document issued under the EEA Regulations was not aware they needed to apply to the scheme.

The guidance will be kept under ongoing review and updated as appropriate. It will underpin a flexible and pragmatic approach to considering late applications under the scheme, in light of the circumstances of each case.

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-27/188097

and

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-27/188098

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

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

Immigration: EU Nationals

Peter Grant (SNP) [187267] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the potential merits of including a downloadable paper application form for the EU Settlement Scheme on the Government website.

Reply from Kevin Foster: Where a person needs to apply to the scheme using a paper application form, this can be obtained from the EU Settlement Resolution Centre. This is open seven days a week to provide assistance to applicants over the telephone and by email, including in ensuring they can easily obtain the paper application form appropriate to their circumstances where they need one.

Assistance for applicants to the EU Settlement Scheme is also available via a network of 72 organisations across the UK, for which £22 million in grant funding has been made available by the Home Office, and via the Assisted Digital service, which can provide help over the telephone or in person in completing an application online.

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-26/187267

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

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

Immigration: EU Nationals

Peter Grant (SNP) [187268] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the level of need to provide physical documentation to prove someone has Settled Status, particularly for people who do not have access to IT equipment or their digital documents.

Reply from Kevin Foster: As part of the development of the EU Settlement Scheme, including the policy to provide those granted status with online evidence of immigration status instead of a physical document, consideration was given to the impact on those who may have limited digital skills or access to IT equipment.

The Policy Equality Statement for the scheme can be found at:


Since the launch of the scheme, we have continued to assess the needs of users, and take steps to ensure those who may be less able to interact digitally are not disadvantaged. This has included making information about an individual's
immigration status available automatically through system to system checks, at the point at which they seek to access the public services. Such checking services are already live for HM Revenue & Customs, the Department for Work and Pensions and NHS England, and will reduce the occasions on which an individual has to use the online service to prove their status. We would be pleased to work with NHS Scotland to implement a similar checking service there relating to services which are the devolved responsibility of the Scottish Government if they wish to do so. The UK Government has also put in place additional support services, to help those who require assistance to use the online immigration status service. We have a dedicated phone helpline (the Settlement Resolution Centre) where call operators can support users through the online journey, help them to access or recover their online account, help them to update their personal details and where necessary, share status on their behalf if they are unable to do so themselves. The Settlement Resolution Centre will also be able to assist those who are experiencing technical issues with their online immigration status, and if necessary, enable an individual’s status to be verified through alternative means.

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-26/187268

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

Refugees: Eritrea

Tim Farron (Liberal Democrat) [185827] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to support Eritrean refugees with acute mental distress.

Reply from Kevin Foster: Refugees can access the same NHS health services as UK citizens, including mental health services.

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-22/185827

Detention Centres: Hassockfield

Mary Kelly Foy (Labour) [187326] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department has plans for work to be used as a form of recreation for women detained at the proposed Hassockfield Immigration Removal Centre.

Reply from Chris Philp: Paid activities are provided in immigration removal centres in accordance with Rule 17 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001 to meet the recreational and intellectual needs of detained individuals. Paid activities are entirely voluntary and are offered in addition to a range of recreational activities, such as educational opportunities, access to a library and gymnasium and religious services.

Hassockfield immigration removal centre (IRC), due to open in autumn 2021 for around 80 women, will offer services and recreational opportunities focused on the specific needs of women and akin to those available at Yarl’s Wood IRC.

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-26/187326

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Migrant Workers: Domestic Service

The Lord Bishop of Bristol [HL15280] To ask Her Majesty’s Government how many bids were received from organisations to provide information sessions on employment rights for overseas domestic workers; whether any of the bids have been successful; and when they expect the sessions to begin.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Following extensive market engagement, a full commercial tender exercise was conducted, which attracted
only two bids to provide the information and advice sessions for Overseas Domestic Workers. Neither bid was successful. All domestic workers are though provided with an information leaflet explaining their rights and how to access help should they need it. Further help and information is also available online at: 
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-27/hl15280

Immigration: EU Nationals

Lord Green of Deddington (Crossbench) [HL15245] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many of the 2.2 million EU citizens now granted pre-settled status will be able to switch to settled status in (1) 2021, and (2) each of the next five calendar years.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: A person granted pre-settled status can apply for settled status as soon as they qualify for this. They will be eligible for settled status once they have completed five years’ continuous residence or where other criteria for eligibility for settled status without that length of continuous residence are met. The Home Office cannot assess a person’s eligibility for settled status until they make an application to the scheme.

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-26/hl15245

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

Asylum: Napier Barracks

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL15077] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they made of the advice from Public Health England about the use of dormitory accommodation at Napier Barracks and its suitability for use during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Napier is providing safe, coronavirus (COVID-19)-compliant conditions, in line with the law and Public Health England (PHE) guidance on social distancing requirements, including recommendations when using dormitories. The accommodation has been adapted to ensure social distancing can be maintained and occupancy in dormitories is limited to ensure a minimum distance between beds of at least two metres. This is complemented by a range of additional safety measures including increased cleaning, availability of personal cleaning products and hand sanitisers, twice weekly lateral flow tests for all residents, staff and visitors and a track and trace system. Our service providers have robust plans in place to minimise the risk of an outbreak of COVID-19 and an action plan should a COVID-19 outbreak occur. We have established links to the appropriate leads from the local authority, PHE and statutory bodies and are committed to working with them to support the people who we accommodate and the communities where they live. Regular Multi-Agency Forums are held to ensure concerns are understood, so issues are managed and resolved accordingly.

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-19/hl15077

Migrants: Detainees

Lord Scriven (Liberal Democrat) [HL14981] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many people have been held for 28 days or longer in immigration detention in the last year.

length of detention of people in detention on the last day of each quarter are published in table Det_03c. Data on the length of detention of those leaving detention throughout the year, are published in Table Det_04b of the ‘Detention summary tables’ (See attached copy of the Detention Summary and Detention data sets)

Further breakdowns can be found in the Immigration detention detailed datasets Returns and detention datasets - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Figures on people in detention at the end of March 2021 will be published on 27 May 2021.

Information on future Home Office statistical release dates can be found in the ‘Research and statistics calendar’. immigration - Research and statistics - GOV.UK

Detention Summary Tables
Detention Data Sets
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-15/hl14981

Press Release

Fast track immigration route opens for prestigious award winners

New Publication

Letter from Kevin Foster MP to Yvette Cooper MP regarding the British Nationality Act 1981 (Immigration Rules Appendix EU) (Amendment) Regulations 2021
http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2021-0382/Kevin_Foster_to_HASC_Chair.pdf

News

Judge criticises Priti Patel over policy for asylum seekers in pandemic

Patel's asylum plans ‘pose serious threat’ to rule of law and ‘undermine access to justice’, warns Law Society

Elite award-winners allowed fast-track route into UK
https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/may/05/elite-award-winners-allowed-fast-track-route-into-uk

Top award winners to be eligible for fast-track migration to UK
https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/05/05/top-award-winners-eligible-fast-track-migration-uk/

Windrush victim wins court fight over application fees for family


The Joint Committee Report, referred to above, can be read at https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/3376/documents/32359/default/

Childbirth: Ethnic Groups

Andrew Rosindell (Conservative) [185811] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps his Department is taking to reduce disparities in childbirth outcomes between different ethnic minority groups.

Reply from Nadine Dorries: We have established the Maternity Inequalities Oversight Forum to bring together experts to address the inequalities for women and babies from different ethnic backgrounds and socio-economic groups. Additionally, the Chief Midwifery Officer for England is leading work to understand why mortality rates are higher, consider evidence on what will reduce these rates and take action to improve equity in outcomes and experience of care for mothers and their babies.

Under measures set out in the 2021/22 Planning Guidance, most women from black, Asian and mixed ethnicity backgrounds will be placed on a continuity of carer pathway by March 2022. This will ensure that thousands of women receive safe and personal maternity care, improve outcomes for both mother and baby and reduce health inequalities.

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-22/185811


News

Black female barristers are paid the least and are offered less lucrative work https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/black-female-barristers-are-paid-the-least-and-are-offered-less-lucrative-work-mqj82xvw2

Akala: Why we need more black, working class period drama https://www.bbc.com/news/newsbeat-56894080
Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

**New Publication**

**Appeal Court Decisions**
Appeal Court rulings that a magistrate who was removed from office, and whose position as a non-executive director of an NHS Trust was not renewed after he publicly expressed faith-based objections to same-sex couples becoming adoptive parents, was not subjected to unlawful discrimination or victimisation. The Court decided that his rights to freedom of religion and expression under Articles 9 and 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights had not been breached.

*To read the full judgements see*

**News**

‘You are a racist’: Sturgeon clashes with ex-Britain First deputy
[https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2021/may/06/you-are-a-racist-sturgeon-clashes-with-ex-britain-first-deputy](https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2021/may/06/you-are-a-racist-sturgeon-clashes-with-ex-britain-first-deputy)

Sturgeon confronted by Britain First candidate
[https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/sturgeon-confronted-by-britain-first-candidate-ksrg6mdmr](https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/sturgeon-confronted-by-britain-first-candidate-ksrg6mdmr)

Humza Yousaf confronted at Scottish elections count by anti-vaxxers making straight arm salutes

How Is Institutional Racism Causing COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy in Britain?

Alleged neo-Nazi accused of setting up website recruiting ‘soldiers for race war’ in UK
[https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/neo-nazis-race-war-andrew-dymock-srn-b1843332.html](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/neo-nazis-race-war-andrew-dymock-srn-b1843332.html)

Politics student promoted neo-Nazi group that called for a race war, court hears
[https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/05/06/politics-student-promoted-neo-nazi-group-called-race-war-court/](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/05/06/politics-student-promoted-neo-nazi-group-called-race-war-court/)

Met officer faces no penalty after racially profiling Black man during stop-and-search
[https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/met-police-iopc-racial-profiling-b1842563.html](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/met-police-iopc-racial-profiling-b1842563.html)

Met detective built shrine on Muslim colleague’s desk in ‘attempt at joke’

Art historian in racism row over ‘dreaded Meghan’ jibe
[https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/art-historian-in-racism-row-over-dreaded-meghan-jibe-gph9nh9md](https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/art-historian-in-racism-row-over-dreaded-meghan-jibe-gph9nh9md)
Football’s social media blackout is a start but we must do more to stamp out online racism
https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/footballs-social-media-blackout-is-a-start-but-we-must-do-more-to-stamp-out-online-racism-j69mcm96w

Raheem Sterling racially abused on social media days after boycott
https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2021/05/05/raheem-sterling-racially-abused-social-media-days-boycott/

Raheem Sterling racially abused online 48 hours after social media boycott
https://www.theguardian.com/football/2021/may/05/raheem-sterling-racially-abused-online-after-manchester-citys-glory-night

Former Arsenal goalkeeper Jens Lehmann loses Hertha Berlin board role over ‘token black guy’ text message

Jens Lehmann sacked by Hertha Berlin for ‘token black guy’ comment
https://www.theguardian.com/football/2021/may/05/jens-lehmann-sacked-hertha-berlin-for-token-black-guy-comment-dennis-aogo

RFL accused of ‘empty gestures’ after Tony Clubb ban for racist abuse

Todd Kane: QPR defender banned for seven matches for using ‘discriminatory’ language to Sergi Canos
https://www.independent.co.uk/sport/football/todd-kane-ban-qpr-language-b1843992.html

Sorry, Wisden, but cricket's racism fight will not be won by divisive gestures like 'taking a knee'
https://www.telegraph.co.uk/cricket/2021/05/03/sorry-wisden-crickets-racism-fight-will-not-won-divisive-gestures/

Scottish Parliament Elections

Overall Results

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Turnout</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNP</td>
<td>64 seats (+1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td>31 seats (no change)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labour</td>
<td>22 seats (–2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green</td>
<td>8 seats (+2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberal Democrat</td>
<td>4 seats (–1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
New Publication

The Prime Minister's Correspondence with the First Minister of Scotland

News

Scottish Parliament election 2021 – full results

Scottish election 2021: Results in maps and charts

Scottish election 2021: Key points on the Holyrood vote

Scottish election 2021: First women of colour elected to Holyrood

Kaukab Stewart: 'I may be the first, I will not be the last'

Kaukab Stewart makes history by becoming first woman of colour to serve as an MSP

Pam Duncan-Glancy first wheelchair user elected to Holyrood

Other UK Parliament and Government

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Homicide

Philip Davies (Conservative) [187180] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many (a) male and (b) female victims of murder were killed in a (a) public and (b) private place, by ethnicity in each of the last three years.

Reply from Kit Malthouse: Information on homicide, including the sex and ethnicity of the victim and the location of the offence, is held in the Home Office Homicide Index, a record level dataset of homicides recorded by the police in England and Wales. The requested information is given in Annex A.

This information is correct as at 15 December 2020; figures are subject to revision as cases are dealt with by the police and by the courts, or as further information becomes available.

Information on homicide
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-26/187180
Ministers of Religion: Islam

Lord Pearson of Rannoch (Non-affiliated) [HL15174] To ask Her Majesty's Government, in pursuit of their anti-terrorism policies, what is their estimate of the number of Imams preaching in the UK; and what is the estimate of the proportion of Imams who cannot speak English.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: HMG has made no assessment of the number of Imams present in the UK as part of the Government’s Counter-Terrorism Strategy CONTEST, nor of their language skills. As outlined in our previous response. The Immigration Rules governing T2 Minister of Religion roles require applicants to demonstrate a strong command of the English language in order to qualify for a visa.

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-21/hl15174

There is no indication as to which is the “previous response” referred to above.

New Publication

Updated Guidance: Forced marriage
https://www.gov.uk/guidance/forced-marriage

Health Information: Coronavirus (COVID-19)

NHS

Coronavirus helpline
People living in Scotland who don’t have any symptoms but are looking for general information can call the coronavirus helpline. If you’re a non-English speaker you can still use this service. Phone 0800 028 2816, tell the call handler that you need an interpreter, give the name of your preferred language and you will be connected to a Language Line interpreter. You will not have to pay for this.

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

Protect-Scot contact tracing app
https://protect.scot/how-it-works

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/

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Coronavirus: Vaccination
Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi (Labour) [181386] To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities, with reference to the Department of Health and Social Care’s press release on uptake of covid-19 vaccinations within the Black community published on 30 March 2021, what steps she is taking to tackle low levels of trust in institutions and authorities within the Black community; and what information her Department holds on levels of trust amongst the Black community in those institutions and authorities.

Reply from Kemi Badenoch: The Government has access to, and regularly monitors, data with breakdowns by ethnicity on trust in public institutions, trust in government, attitudes towards the vaccine programme and wider government policy on COVID-19. The Government also carefully monitors data on vaccine uptake, intention to take a vaccine and reasons for hesitancy. This is from a number of sources, including data from the ONS and other surveys. There is a significant cross-government programme of work underway to increase confidence in the vaccination programme and to drive uptake among ethnic minority groups. This includes hosting vaccination centres in places of worship, tackling misinformation through the Counter Disinformation Unit and, through the Government's Community Champions scheme, using trusted local voices to encourage uptake. There is also a wider government communications campaign using media medics and recognised voices across ethnic minority and faith communities to build trust and encourage vaccine uptake.

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-15/181386
The press release referred to above can be read at

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

The following two questions both received the same answer

Coronavirus: Vaccination
Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth (Conservative) [HL14703] To ask Her Majesty's Government what arrangements are they putting in place for COVID-19 vaccinations for Muslims during Ramadan
Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth (Conservative) [HL14704] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they have considered night clinics for the vaccination of Muslims during Ramadan.

Reply from Lord Bethell: The Government and NHS England and NHS Improvement have been working closely with local vaccination providers and system partners to put arrangements in place to help support Muslims to receive their vaccination, particularly if they are invited during Ramadan. We have ensured through key messaging from scholarly leaders and the British
Islamic Medical Association that it is permissible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine while fasting during Ramadan. We have provided advice and reassurances on questions and concerns around vaccination and Ramadan and we are working closely with local authorities, charities, faith and community groups to ensure these messages are disseminated widely. Effort has been made to promote key messages in faith-based radio stations, TV channels and multi-lingual messages developed by clinical and faith leaders.

We have issued guidance to our local partners on actions they should consider with reference to the needs of their local Muslim population during Ramadan which includes:
- Extending vaccination sites opening hours during twilight hours in places with high Muslim populations;
- Supporting pop-up/roving/temporary vaccination sites in areas with a high Muslim population;
- Allowing greater flexibility in booking schedules for later appointments;
- Outreach into homes to support those who are housebound and for women; and
- Flexibility to vaccinate where needed across Muslim groups, such as vaccinating members of multi-generational households on single visits.

We have been working closely with our system partners to support these actions and many are already being implemented. Additionally, we have also been supporting the organisation of women’s only vaccine clinics.

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-12/hl14703
and
https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-12/hl14704

Scottish Government Publications

Coronavirus (COVID-19): daily data for Scotland

Coronavirus (COVID-19): trends in daily data

UK Government Press Releases

Two-thirds of UK adults receive first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine

50 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine administered in UK

Statement on AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine following JCVI update

UK Government Publication

The R value and growth rate
https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-r-value-and-growth-rate
Other Organisations

Office for National Statistics
Coronavirus and the social impacts on Great Britain
https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthandwellbeing/bulletins/coronavirusandthesocialimpactsongreatbritain/7may2021/pdf

The Lancet
Ethnic differences in SARS-CoV-2 infection and COVID-19-related hospitalisation, intensive care unit admission, and death in 17 million adults in England: an observational cohort study using the OpenSAFELY platform
https://www.thelancet.com/action/showPdf?pii=S0140-6736%2821%2900634-6

News

South Asians in UK at greater risk from Covid

TOP

Other News

Welsh election 2021: First woman of colour elected to Welsh Parliament

Government has ‘washed its hands’ of teacher who showed Mohammed pictures
https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/05/03/government-has-washed-hands-teacher-showed-mohammed-pictures/

New avoidable plastics project celebrates diversity

Coronavirus: Why some mosques are closed to women during Ramadan

Mosques shut out women for Ramadan prayers
https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/05/03/uk-mosques-closed-women-ramadan-prayersinvestigation-finds/

TOP

Bills in Progress    ** new or updated this week

UK Parliament

** Asylum Seekers (Accommodation Eviction Procedures) Bill
The Bill failed to complete its passage through Parliament before the end of the session. This means the Bill will make no further progress.
https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2699
** Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) Bill
The Bill failed to complete its passage through Parliament before the end of the session. This means the Bill will make no further progress. https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2638

** Asylum Support (Prescribed Period) Bill
The Bill failed to complete its passage through Parliament before the end of the session. This means the Bill will make no further progress. https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2535

** European Citizens’ Rights Bill
The Bill failed to complete its passage through Parliament before the end of the session. This means the Bill will make no further progress. https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2704

** Illegal Immigration (Offences) Bill
The Bill failed to complete its passage through Parliament before the end of the session. This means the Bill will make no further progress. https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2660

** Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill
The Bill failed to complete its passage through Parliament before the end of the session. This means the Bill will make no further progress. https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2574

** Immigration (Health and Social Care Staff)
The Bill failed to complete its passage through Parliament before the end of the session. This means the Bill will make no further progress. https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2770

** Marriage (Approved Organisations) Bill
The Bill failed to complete its passage through Parliament before the end of the session. This means the Bill will make no further progress. https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2537

** Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill
The Bill failed to complete its passage through Parliament before the end of the session. This means the Bill will make no further progress. https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2538

** Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (Legal Advice and Appeals) Bill
The Bill failed to complete its passage through Parliament before the end of the session. This means the Bill will make no further progress. https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2611
Consultations ** new or updated this week

** The role of volunteering and the third sector response to covid-19  
(closing date 23 May 2021)  
https://response.questback.com/scottishgovernment/VolunteeringC19survey

Patient Safety Commissioner role for Scotland  
(closing date 28 May 2021)  

Evidence for Equality National Survey (EVENS)  
(closing date 30 June 2021)  
https://evensurvey.co.uk/

** Protect Duty  
(closing date 2 July 2021)  
https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/protect-duty

Possible changes to the immigration and asylum rules in relation to tribunal reform  
[in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland]  
(closing date 14 July 2021)  

Black Lives in Scotland  
(closing date not stated)  
https://blacklivesinscotland.typeform.com/to/YFrnnHSC

Social Distance, Digital Congregation: British Ritual Innovation under COVID-19  
(closing date not stated)  
https://bric19.mmu.ac.uk/take-the-survey/

Experiences of people with refugee status who are renting private property in Scotland  
(closing date not stated)  
https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/YDR67MN

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

Job Opportunities

Click here to find out about job opportunities.

Click here to find out about Graduate, Modern, and Foundation Apprenticeship opportunities.
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

** closes this week!
Equality and Human Rights Fund
Closing date 14 May 2021
Scottish Government funding to support work which advances human rights, promotes equality and tackles discrimination around age, sex, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, disability and race. Grants will support projects over the next three years, and there is no minimum or maximum amount that can be applied for. For information and to apply see https://www.inspiringscotland.org.uk/what-we-do/our-funds/equality-and-human-rights/
Short one-to-one surgery sessions will be available every Wednesday afternoon until 28 April. This is an opportunity to speak with one of the Equality and Human Rights Fund team and ask any questions specific to your organisation and proposed application. See https://www.picktime.com/a7e36ee9-56cd-4891-8179-262758c331a7 to book an appointment.

New Scots Refugee Integration Delivery Project
Closing date 22 May 2021
Scottish Government funding for organisations and community groups across Scotland involved in supporting refugees and people seeking asylum. Projects will enable refugees in Scotland to live in safe, welcoming and cohesive communities where they are able to build diverse relationships and connections; understand their rights, responsibilities and entitlements and exercise these to pursue full and independent lives; access well-coordinated services, which recognise and meet their rights and needs; and ensure their rights, needs and aspirations inform the policy, strategic planning and legislation which impacts upon them. For information see https://www.gov.scot/publications/new-scots-refugee-integration-delivery-fund-guidance/pages/background/

Adapt and Thrive
Running until June 2021
This programme, which is part of the Scottish Government Community and Third Sector Recovery Programme, offers grants of up to £75,000, loans, and specialist advice to organisations across the third sector to adapt to the challenges presented by COVID-19 and build back better to thrive in the future. For information see https://scvo.scot/support/coronavirus/funding/scottish-government/community-recovery/atf

Vaccine Information Fund
Running until August 2021
Grants of up to £1,000 are available to eligible organisations to create appropriate resources and activities to ensure that all people in Scotland have informed and equal access to information about the vaccine. For information see https://bemis.org.uk/vif/
** this week!
Racial Disparities in Mental Healthcare
11 May 2021 (online, 7.00–8.15)
Stuart Hall Foundation/Centre on the Dynamics of Ethnicity conversation to explore the racial inequalities and injustices that surround mental health in the UK. For information see [https://tinyurl.com/tm5ba95e](https://tinyurl.com/tm5ba95e)

** this week!
Scotland’s Human Rights Report Card Session 2: Drafting a report for the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) - guidance and top tips
12 May 2021 (online, 10.30–12.30)
Scottish Human Rights Commission session focussing on the importance of building coalitions to send out strong messages, guidance and top tips on writing a report for consideration in the UPR process, and how to use UPR recommendations to create policy change. For information contact [events@scottishhumanrights.com](mailto:events@scottishhumanrights.com)

** next week!
What Went Wrong? COVID-19, Accountability and Building Back Better
17 May 2021 (online, 10.00–3.00)
Amnesty International in Scotland / Human Rights Consortium Scotland event to reflect on the experience of human rights during the pandemic in Scotland. It will also address the future – what should COVID recovery look like if human rights protection is central to this? What about human rights accountability? For information see [https://tinyurl.com/2jdn38f2](https://tinyurl.com/2jdn38f2)

Windrush engagement event
25 May 2021 (online, 5.00–6.00)
Home Office events to raise awareness of the Windrush Compensation Scheme and the work of the Windrush Taskforce. For information see [https://www.gov.uk/guidance/windrush-engagement-events](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/windrush-engagement-events)

Rights and Entitlements of EEA Nationals
9 June 2021 (online, 10.30–12.30)
4 August 2021 (online, 10.00–12.30)
6 October 2021 (online, 10.00–12.30)
12 January 2022 (online, 10.30–12.30)
2 March 2022 (online, 10.00–12.30)
PAiH training on fundamental issues of housing, homelessness and welfare entitlements of EEA nationals, and look at how service users might prepare themselves to avoid the threats of Brexit. For information see [https://tinyurl.com/24ba4stk](https://tinyurl.com/24ba4stk)

Rights of Refugees and Asylum Seekers
16 June 2021 (online, 10.00–12.30)
18 August 2021 (online, 10.00–12.30)
20 October 2021 (online, 10.00–12.30)
19 January 2022 (online, 10.00–12.30)
9 March 2022 (online, 10.00–12.30)
PAiH course to explore how the asylum system works from the perspective of a claimant and the process involved in making a claim for asylum. The course will also explore the barriers faced by both refugees and asylum seekers building a new life in Scotland and their respective entitlement to services. For information see [https://tinyurl.com/24ba4stk](https://tinyurl.com/24ba4stk)
No Recourse to Public Funds
30 June 2021 (online, 10.30–12.30)
27 October 2021 (online, 10.30–12.30)
26 January 2022 (online, 10.00–12.30)
PAiH workshop to help frontline workers identify a tenant’s current status, clarify what this means in terms of access to public funds and plan effective support where difficulties arise. For information see [https://tinyurl.com/24ba4stk](https://tinyurl.com/24ba4stk)

Scottish Interfaith Week 2021
31 October to 7 November 2021 (Scotland-wide)
Scottish Interfaith Week will coincide with COP26 (United Nations Climate Change Conference 2021). The theme for 2021 is Together for Our Planet and individuals, faith communities and organisations across Scotland will be encouraged to host climate-related events for the week. For information see [https://scottishinterfaithweek.org/](https://scottishinterfaithweek.org/) or sign up to the [Scottish Interfaith Week newsletter](https://scottishinterfaithweek.org/).

Useful Links

- GovUK (links to UK Government Departments)  [https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations)
- Scottish Refugee Council  [http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk)
- Refugee Survival Trust  [https://www.rst.org.uk/](https://www.rst.org.uk/)
- Freedom from Torture  [https://www.freedomfromtorture.org/](https://www.freedomfromtorture.org/)
- Interfaith Scotland  [https://interfaithscotland.org/](https://interfaithscotland.org/)
- SCVO  [https://scvo.org.uk/](https://scvo.org.uk/)
- Volunteer Scotland  [https://www.volunteerscotland.net/](https://www.volunteerscotland.net/)
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/